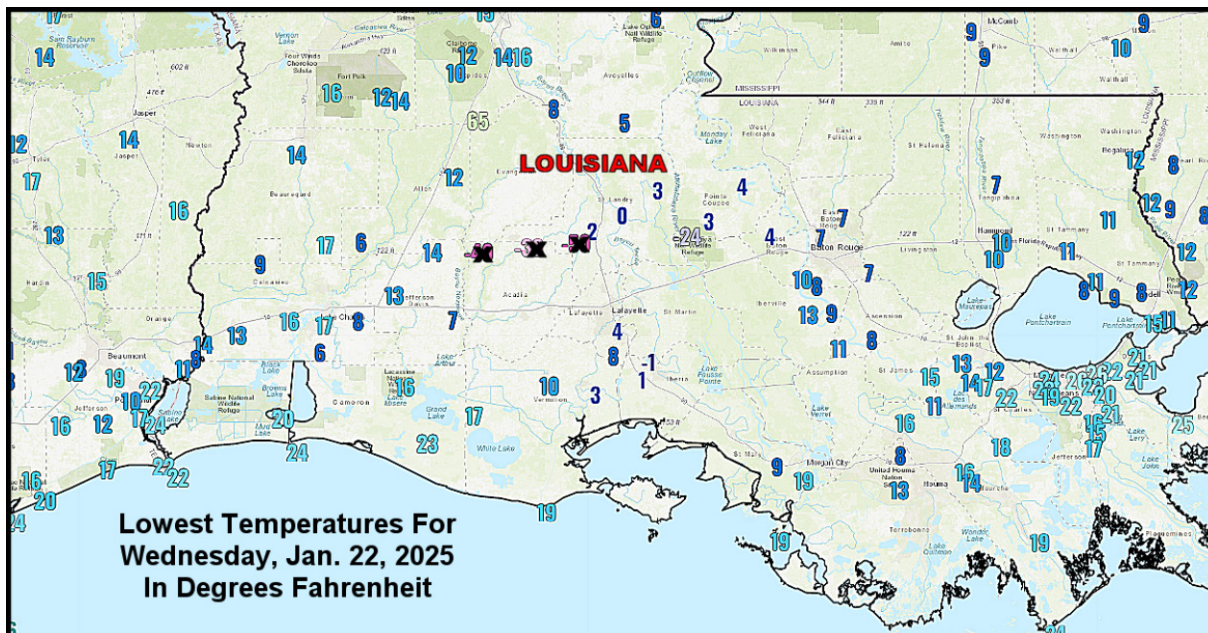


Louisiana Sugarcane, Much of South U.S. Cold Damaged

By Drew Lerner

Kansas City, January 22 (World Weather Inc.) – *Incredibly cold temperatures occurred this morning in the Deep South of the United States as well as northeastern Mexico. Hard freezes occurred as far south as southern Texas, northeastern Mexico and the entire central U.S. Gulf of Mexico coast causing damage to crops and property. The most damaging conditions were noted in fruit and vegetable areas of southern Texas, northeastern Mexico and in portions of southern Georgia and northern Florida. Sugarcane areas in southern Louisiana experienced the coldest temperatures on record with readings in the single digits Fahrenheit and a couple of extremes near and lightly below zero.*



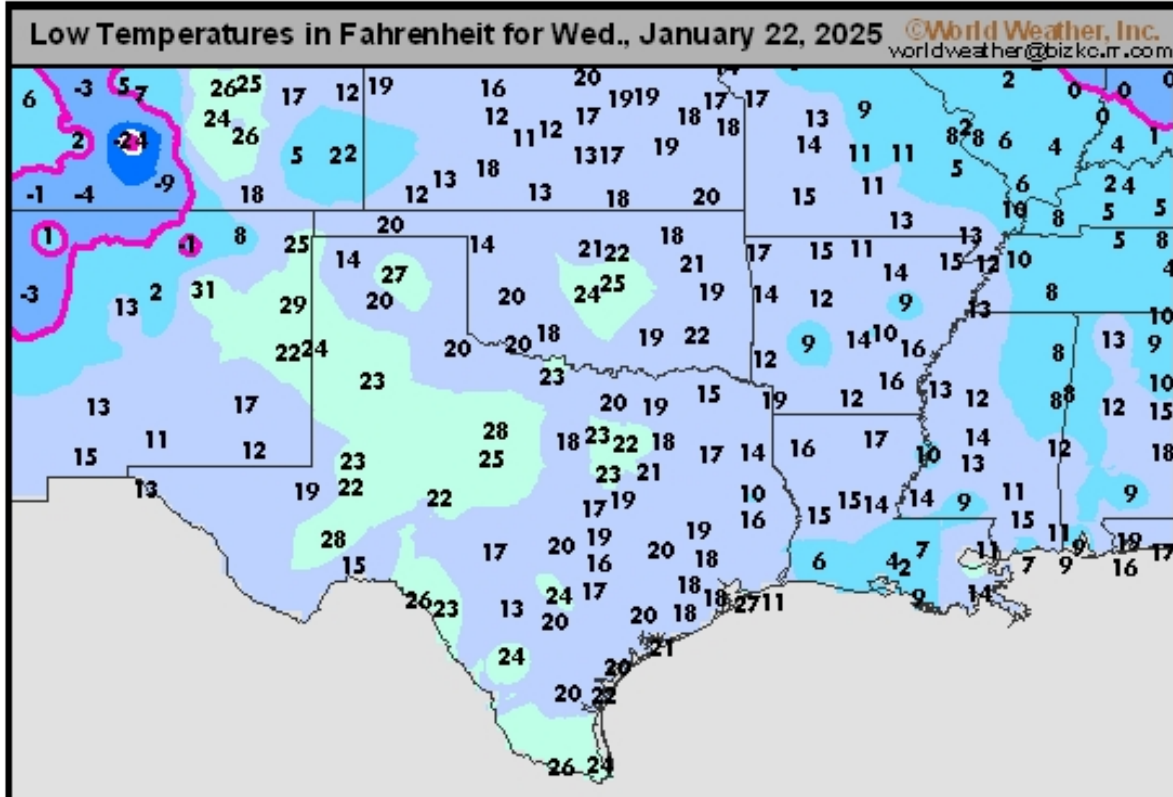
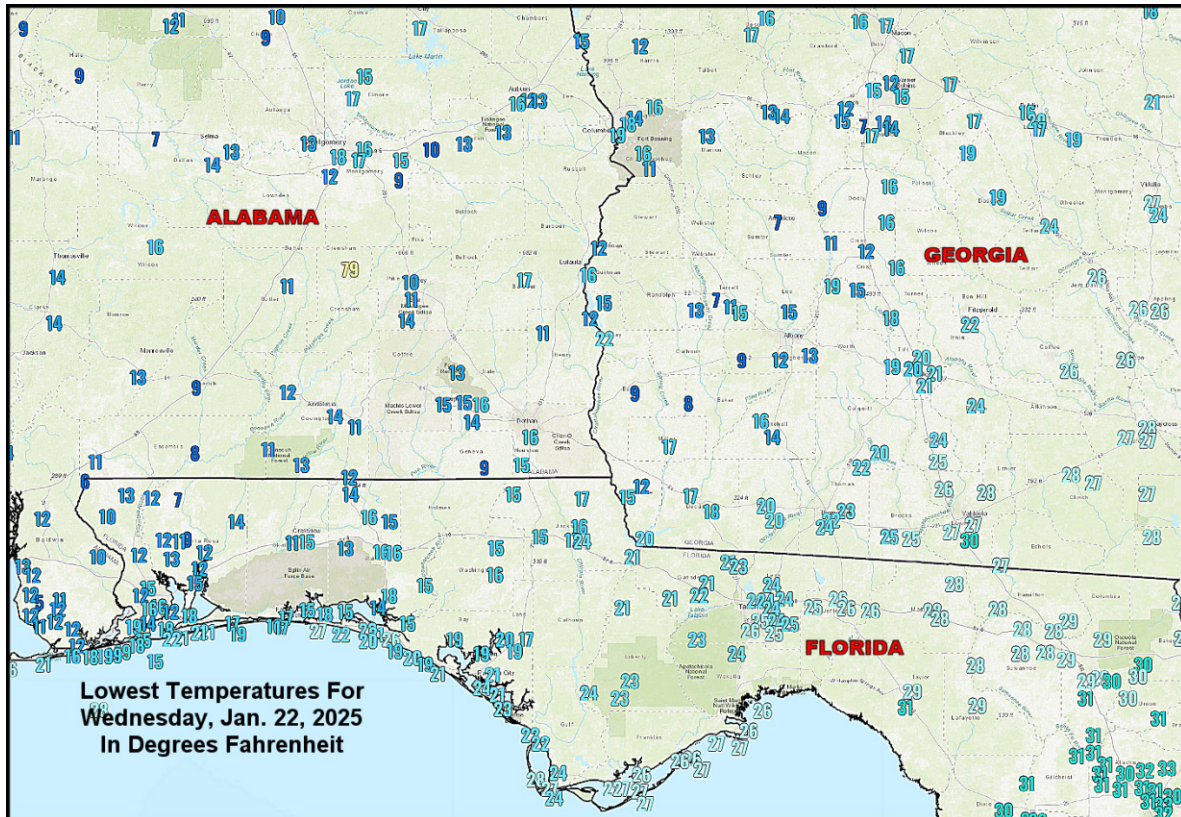
The only potential saving grace for sugarcane is the heavy snowfall that occurred Tuesday. Accumulations across southern Louisiana ranged from 4 to 10 inches which should have helped to protect the crown of the sugarcane plant and may help it survive the cold; however, single digit temperatures will destroy all of the vegetative growth and set the crop back in a serious manner resulting in notable declines in production potential. A better assessment of the impact on sugarcane will come after the region warms up, but the true impact may not be known until the harvest September through December.

In the meantime, *damaging conditions occurred in other agricultural areas from southern and eastern Texas to northern Florida and Georgia where hard freezes were also noted.* Lows in southern Texas slipped to the teens and 20s and portions of southwestern Georgia, and parts of southern Alabama were in the upper single digits and teens. *Fruit and vegetable crops in the region should be damaged with the bigger losses coming from southern Texas and northeastern Mexico.*

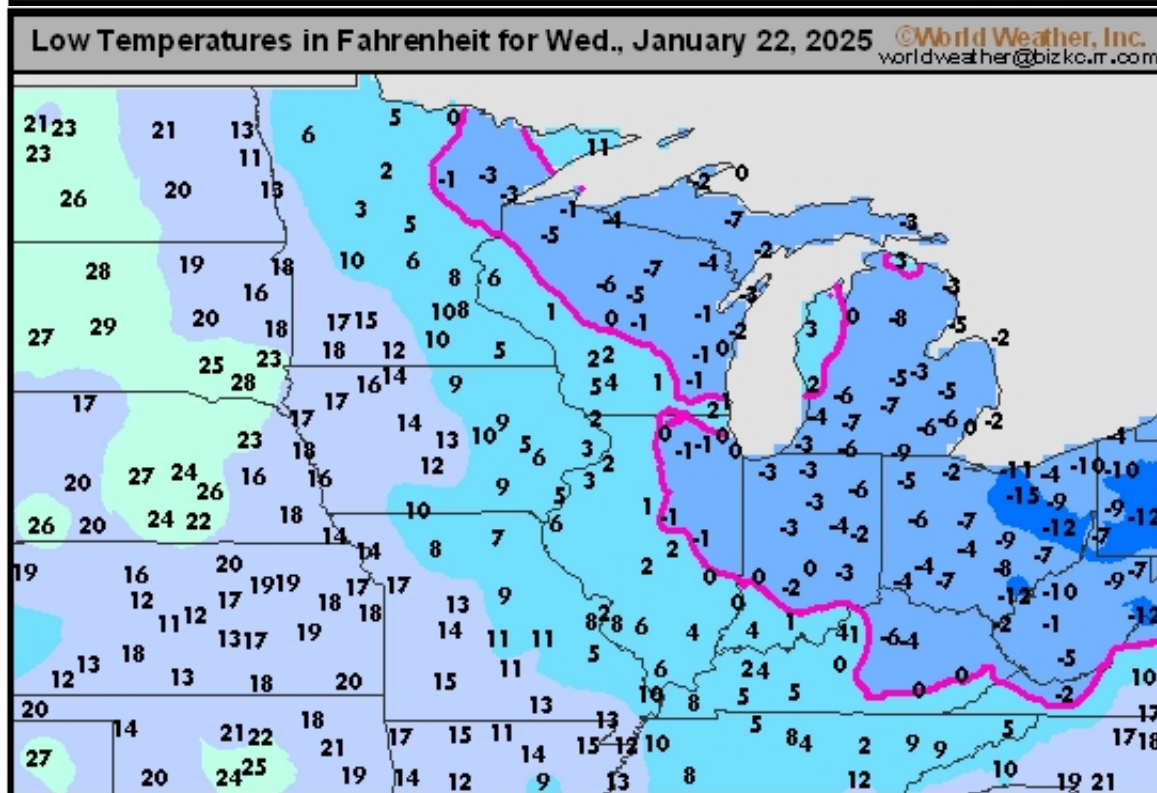
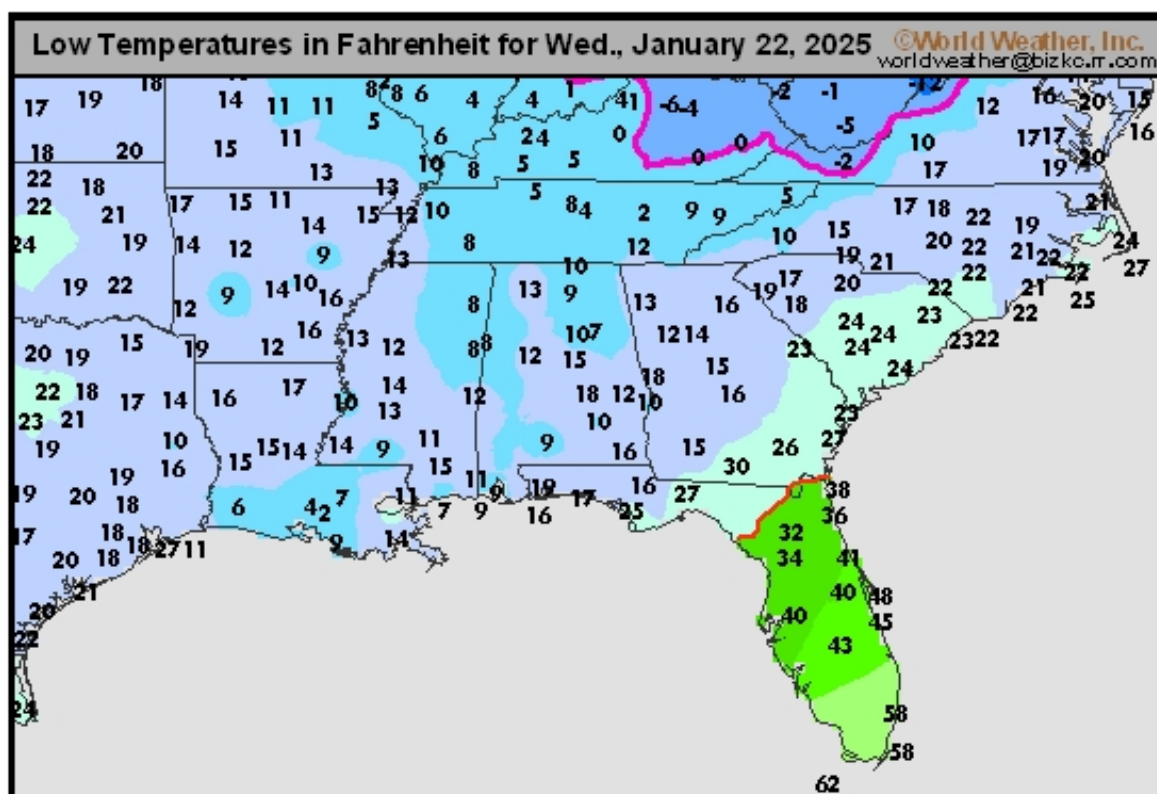
Temperatures were also bitterly cold in other areas from the southern Plains through the mid-south region of the United States into a part of the southeastern states where lows were in the teens and a few single digits. The cold may have had some negative impact on

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recent wheat development, but most of it should not have a serious impact on 2025 production potential.



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