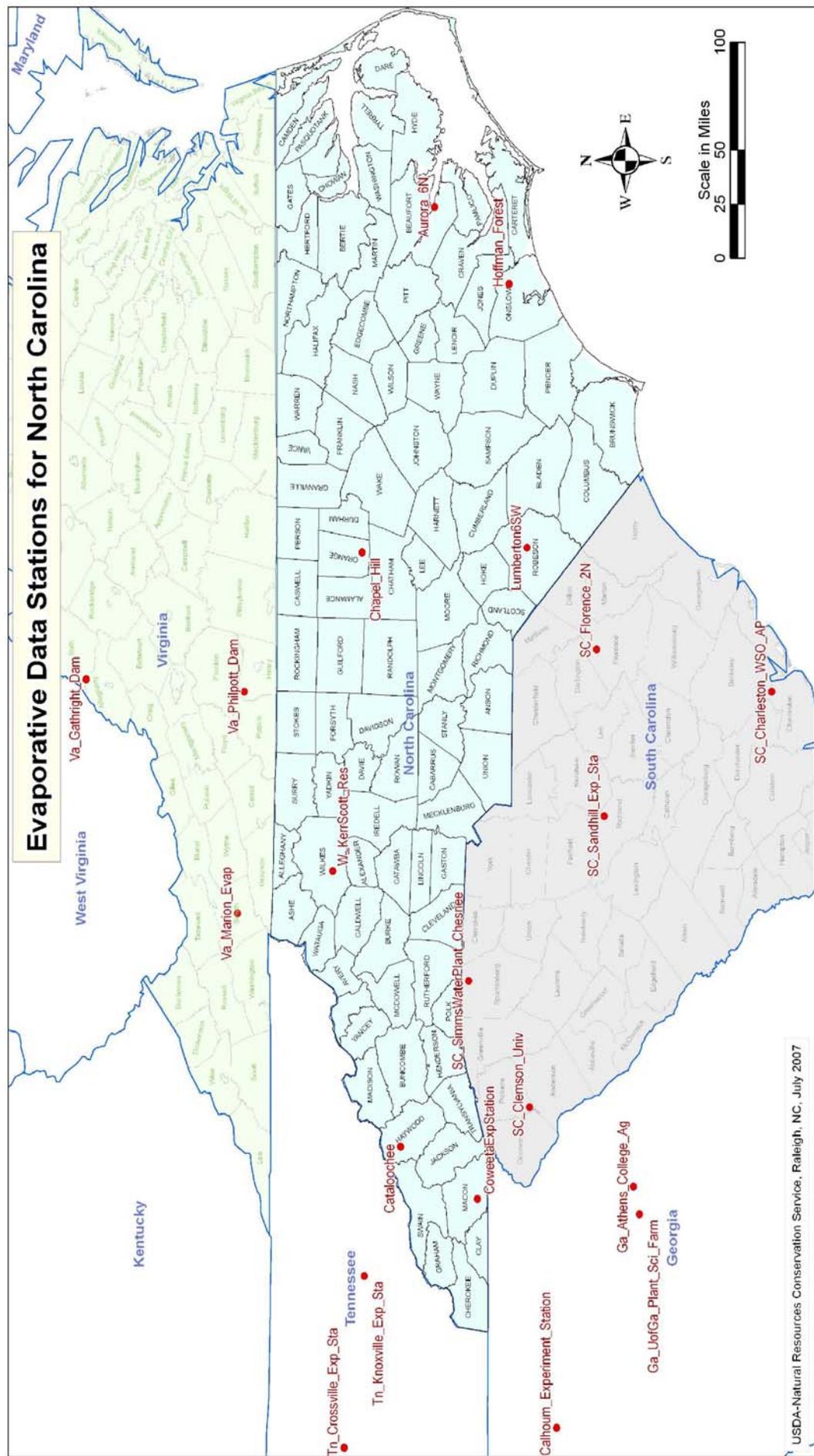
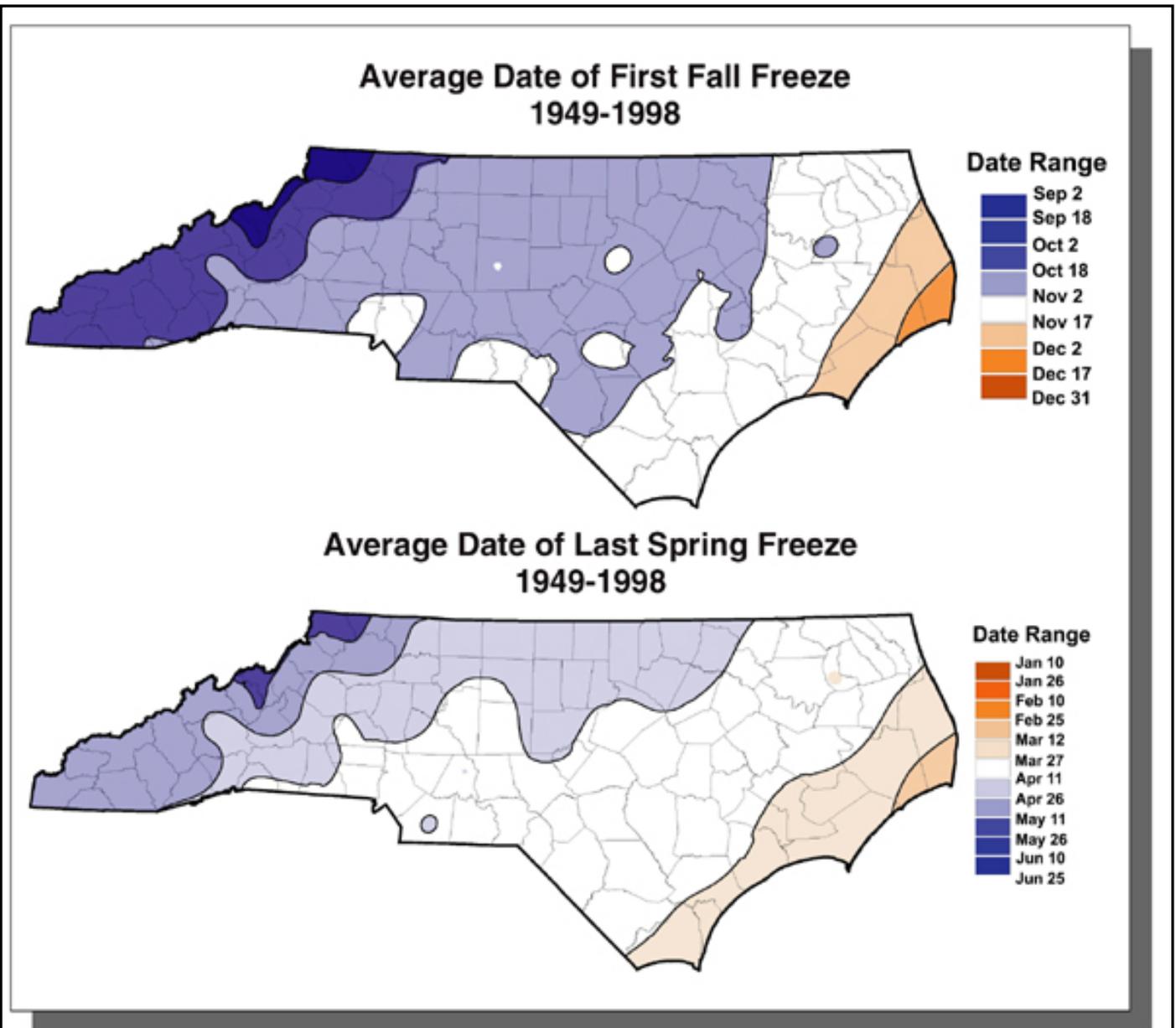


The locations of daily pan evaporation weather stations are shown in Figure NC1-2 for North Carolina and surrounding states. Expected first and last frost dates are shown in Figure NC1-3 for North Carolina. The frost-free period between the last spring frost and the first fall frost is considered the length of the growing season for the regions of North Carolina.



USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Raleigh, NC, July 2007

Figure NC1-2: Evaporation weather stations in and around North Carolina



Over the past 50 years, the dates of the first and last freeze have shifted. In the 1990s, the length of the warm season, measured as the difference between the last spring freeze and first fall freeze, was longer than in the previous 40 years. The SCO is developing a variety of products that focus on agricultural needs.

Figure NC1-3: Average spring and fall freeze dates ("North Carolina Climate. A Summary of Climate Normals and Averages at 18 Agricultural Research Stations", North Carolina Agricultural Research Service, Tech. Bull. No. 322, 2004). In the above figure, SCO refers to the State Climate Office which is located at the North Carolina State University campus.