

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

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ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 50% very short, 36% short, 14% adequate. Hot, dry weather continued to cause crop conditions to be mostly fair to good, although, soil moisture very short to short. Corn 89% dough; 86% dented, 95% 1998, 95% avg.; 65% mature, 77% 1998, 72% avg.; 25% harvested, 37% 1998, 24% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 31% fair, 47% good, 18% excellent. Pasture feed 13% very poor, 25% poor, 40% fair, 21% good, 1% excellent. Livestock 4% poor, 35% fair, 51% good, 10% excellent. Some farmers are preparing to defoliate cotton in the coming weeks.

ALASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 5% short, 95% adequate. Subsoil 10% short, 90% adequate. Weather conditions for the week were mild, mostly dry. Daytime high temperatures ranged from the upper fifties to the mid-seventies. Nighttime lows were mostly in the thirties, forties. Oats 40% in dough or earlier, 60% turning color; 35% fair, 50% good, 15% excellent. Barley 10% in dough or earlier, 90% turning color. Barley 5% poor, 40% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Hay 2nd cutting complete; 5% poor, 40% fair, 45% good, 10% excellent. Wind damage to small grain crops, 85% none, 10% light, 5% moderate. Major activities included: Harvesting vegetables, grains, hay, grass seeds.

ARIZONA: Cotton continues to progress. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 28% not being harvested, 5% light, 24% moderate, 43% active. Alfalfa 3% poor, 19% fair, 67% good, 11% excellent. Last week central producers shipped a variety of melons including cantaloupe, casaba, crenshaw, golden honeydew, honeydew, orange flesh santa claus, watermelon.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 61% very short, 34% short, 5% adequate. Weak frontal passage caused a moderation in temperatures in some areas of the State, but little, to no rainfall was reported. Most areas were well below normal in rainfall. Rain was needed for pasture growth. Most crops were reported in good condition. Livestock fair condition, hot, humid weather and lack of grazing was causing deaths in poultry, livestock. Many farmers were having to feed hay, supplemental feeding because of the drought. Main farm activities were: Fertilizing cotton, corn, rice, warm season forages, finishing harvesting hay and planning for fall pastures. Other activities: Brush hogging, irrigating corn, soybeans, cotton, sorghum, rice, draining of rice, cultivating cotton, spraying cotton for insects, other fields for insects, weeds, starting corn harvesting, scouting for sheath blight in rice, scouting for and treating webworms in soybeans, treating crop lands for armyworms, spraying of rice, cotton, soybean fields for weeds, tree fruit, small fruit harvesting, melon harvesting, dusting and ear tagging cattle for external parasites, giving Brucellosis vaccinations, weaning calves. Cotton 22% opening bolls; 11% poor 33% fair 43% good 13% excellent. Soybeans 96% bloomed, 78% setting pods, 3% shedding; 5% very poor 16% poor 32% fair 34% good 13% excellent. Sorghum 100% headed, 89% turning color; 2% very poor 11% poor 42% fair 38% good 7% excellent. Alfalfa 10% very poor 20% poor 33% fair 35% good 2% excellent. Other hay 15% very poor 31% poor 37% fair 17% good. Range, pasture feed 19% very poor 36% poor 33% fair 12% good.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally under ideal conditions in most areas. Seedbed preparations for fall-seeded small grains were ongoing. Rice heading continued, development was at least

a week behind normal due to recent cool morning temperatures. Cotton growth was slowed by the cool weather, but improved as temperatures increased later in the week. Cotton fields were sprayed for aphids in the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys. Garbanzo, black eye beans were harvested in the San Joaquin Valley; late maturing black eye fields were treated for insects. Safflower harvest was active in the central valleys. Seed alfalfa harvest gained momentum; later developing fields were sprayed for lygus, mites. Sugar beets were harvested in the Imperial, San Joaquin valleys. Less mature sugar beets were treated for armyworms, beet webworms, grasshoppers. Harvested sugar beet fields were immediately prepared for planting the next crop. Corn silage harvest was active in central, southern counties. Alfalfa was cut for hay or green chopped; some fields were sprayed for armyworms, alfalfa butterflies. Harvest of grapes for fresh consumption gained momentum in the San Joaquin Valley. Varieties picked included Perlette, Flame Seedless, Thompson Seedless. Vineyard floors were being prepared for the raisin harvest. Picking of early season wine grapes began last week. Other cultural activities in vineyards, orchards included extensive weed control, irrigation. Harvest of plums, nectarines, clingstone peaches, freestone peaches continued. Quality was good. Apple trees were treated for codling moth. Picking of early variety apples was active. Bartlett pear harvest was active in Lake, Mendocino counties. Asian pear harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvest of early variety almonds began in a few areas. Valencia oranges, lemons were picked in southern areas. Olives were maturing well. Vegetable field work continued; crops were irrigated, cultivated, sprayed for pests, harvested. Melon, cucumber, pumpkin, squash fields were treated for aphids. Lettuce, broccoli crops were harvested. Fall, winter broccoli, cauliflower planting continued, as previously planted fields emerged. Planting was underway for the fall crop of head lettuce. Sweet corn for seed, fresh consumption was treated to control earworms. Onions, potatoes were being dug. Bell peppers were harvested. Processing tomato harvest continued, while less mature tomato fields were treated to control worms and aphids. North valley processing tomatoes were lagging in harvest, maturity because of the summer's cooler than normal weather. Fresh tomato harvest was in full swing. Honeydew, pink honeydew melons were picked, packed. Growing conditions were ideal for all melons. Imperial valley vegetable growers were planting fall melons, treating established stands for white fly. Strawberry growers were preparing, fumigating, planting fields. Among the various vegetable crops harvested were chives, eggplant, leeks, lemon grass, mushrooms, chili peppers, squash, gourds, garlic, sweet potatoes, cherry tomatoes, okra. Irrigated pastures continued to be in fair to good condition. Non-irrigated pastures were in poor to fair condition, depending on the location. Late-week high elevation rainfall, was too late to help many non-irrigated pastures. Some cattle have been shipped to market in recent weeks. Livestock were in good condition. Bees continued to pollinate seed alfalfa, melon fields in central areas.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 4% very short, 14% short, 78% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 16% short, 77% adequate, 3% surplus. Rain in the San Luis Valley hampered harvest of small grains, most other areas experienced warmer temperatures with widely scattered rain showers. Spring wheat 97% turning color, 82% 1998, 89% avg.; 44% harvested, 31% 1998, 48% avg.; 5% poor, 12% fair, 63% good, 20% excellent. Spring barley 98% turning color, 98% 1998, 91% avg.; 34% harvested, 55% 1998, 49% avg.; 1% very poor, 7% poor, 20% fair, 57% good, 15% excellent. Oats 90% turning color, 92% 1998, 92% avg; 55% harvested, 56% 1998, 64% avg. Dry onions 16% harvested, 28% 1998, 25% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor,

13% fair, 57% good, 25% excellent. Sugar beets 1% very poor, 2% poor, 13% fair, 53% good, 31% excellent. Dry beans 89% flowered, 98% 1998, 93% avg.; 5% cut, 2% 1998, 3% avg.; 3% poor, 10% fair, 61% good, 26% excellent. Summer potatoes 31% harvested, 18% 1998, 26% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 11% fair, 60% good, 23% excellent. Fall potatoes 7% poor, 18% fair, 45% good, 30% excellent. Alfalfa 86% 2nd cutting, 95% 1998, 90% avg.; 25% 3rd cutting, 22% 1998, 20% avg.; 2% very poor, 8% poor, 24% fair, 53% good, 13% excellent. Pasture feed, range in mostly good condition.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 38% very short, 42% short, 20% adequate. Subsoil 43% very short, 50% short, 7% adequate. Field corn 23% very poor, 31% poor, 24% fair, 15% good, 7% excellent; 80% dough, 76% 1998, 72% avg.; 45% dented, 42% 1998, 41% avg.; 23% mature, 18% 1998, 9% avg.; 44% harvested for silage, 21% 1998, 16% avg. Soybeans 10% very poor, 25% poor, 26% fair, 39% good; 67% bloomed, 61% 1998, 71% avg.; 48% setting pods, 44% 1998, 48% avg.; 10% turned, 6% 1998, 2% avg.; 10% shedding leaves, 6% 1998, 2% avg. Sorghum 5% poor, 58% fair, 37% good; 78% headed, 61% 1998, 75% avg.; 18% turned, 14% 1998, 8% avg. Sweet corn 68% harvested, 60% 1998, 77% avg. Snap beans 61% harvested, 61% 1998, 71% avg. Cantaloupes 76% harvested, 75% 1998, 79% avg. Watermelons 69% harvested, 58% 1998, 65% avg. Cucumbers 68% harvested, 73% 1998, 79% avg. Lima beans 42% harvested, 37% 1998, 33% avg. Tomatoes 60% harvested, 60% 1998, 64% avg. Potatoes 72% harvested, 75% 1998, 79% avg. Apples 10% fair, 90% good; 18% harvested, 21% 1998, 24% avg. Peaches 10% fair, 90% good; 72% harvested, 70% 1998, 75% avg. Clover, other hay 87% 3rd cutting, 70% 1998, 61% avg.; 30% 4th cutting, 24% 1998, 29% avg. Alfalfa hay 94% 3rd cutting harvested, 91% 1998, 88% avg.; 18% 4th cutting, 23% 1998, 14% avg. Hay supplies 10% very short, 62% short, 28% adequate. Pasture feed 9% very poor, 61% poor, 18% fair, 12% good. Activities: Silage harvesting moving along quickly, vegetable harvesting continues despite market glut, farmers gearing up for grain harvest.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture throughout State mostly short to adequate. High temperatures continued with rain occurring in many areas. Temperatures were down from last week but averaged high 80s to low 90s. Nighttime lows averaged in 70s. Scattered rains from one half inch to over three inches in many areas. Peanut harvesting starting. Tobacco harvest winding down. Tobacco marketing active. Cotton, soybean, sugarcane condition normal. Haying active. Peanut 36% fair, 43% good, 21% excellent. Land preparation, planting continues for fall crops. Activities in major growing areas follow: Quincy--Tomato transplanting finished. Palmetto-Ruskin--Tomatoes mostly good condition as planting increases. Staking active, heavy spraying for disease, insects. Workers making first ties on small amount of acreage. Planting steady for watermelons, cherry and plum tomatoes, eggplant. Growers getting ready to plant peppers. East Coast--Wet conditions caused delays in field activities. Growers are laying plastic, planting peppers, planting tomatoes when weather permits. Spraying tomatoes, peppers continues to keep disease, insects in check. Southwest--Producers continue laying plastic for tomato transplanting. Dade--Okra harvesting continues with good quality available. Growers continue field preparations for planting tomatoes, snap beans, eggplant, squash. Frequent rains all citrus areas producing abundant new growth. New crop fruit sizing well, some later bloom fruit in heavy rain areas catching up to regular bloom fruit in size. Some testing of grapefruit for early shipments. Caretakers cutting cover crops, fertilizing, spraying, pushing out dead trees, resetting older groves. Pasture feed; fair 40%, good 60%. Condition of cattle; fair 15%, good 85%. Most range pastures good condition. Adequate soil moisture. Hot temperature good for grass growth at most locations. Central; some locations dry which lowered pasture condition. Southwest; stock pond levels rose some. Cattle, calves condition mostly good.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Soil moisture 45% very short, 36% short, 18% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 94% mature, 94% 1998, 92% avg.; 49% harvested for grain, 48% 1998, 37% avg. Cotton 98% setting bolls, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Hay 18% very poor, 36% poor, 33% fair, 13% good. Peanuts 1% dug, 0% 1998, 1% avg. Sorghum 16% very poor, 26% poor, 29% fair, 28% good, 1% excellent; 11% harvested for grain, 13% 1998, 10% avg. Soybeans 87% blooming, 95% 1998, 93% avg. Tobacco 83% harvested, 67% 1998, 84% avg. Watermelons 98% harvested, 99% 1998, 98% avg. Apples 7% poor, 27% fair, 53% good,

13% excellent; 11% harvested, 12% 1998, 16% avg. Pecans 5% very poor, 13% poor, 32% fair, 42% good, 8% excellent. Hot, dry conditions continued over much of the state. Scattered showers provided short-term relief for the areas that received them. Irrigation continued over many areas of the State, there was concern over water levels of ponds, wells, streams. Soil moisture condition was steady. Corn harvest continued ahead of the five year average pace last week the crop condition decreased slightly. Sorghum condition dropped slightly. Loopers showed up in soybeans, peanuts in isolated areas. Soybean condition improved. Leaf drop occurred ahead of the 1998 pace. Preparation for peanut harvest continued last week. Conditions declined slightly. Foliar cotton spraying occurred last week. Dry weather continued to hurt pastures and hayfields. Cattlemen continued supplemental feeding. Water has become short. Some selling of cattle occurred. Dairy cows were stressed. Pecans were in the kernel filling stage and need rain. Spraying continued last week. Watermelon harvest came to a close. Fall vegetable planting took place last week despite the heat. Other activities included harvesting tobacco and spraying fungicides on peanuts.

HAWAII: Variable weather conditions were fair for crops. Hurricane Dora passed safely south of State. Clear to partly cloudy skies throughout week. Weaken trade winds produced humid conditions during midweek. Rainfall light in most areas, irrigation remains heavy. Crops in most fair condition. Most banana fields in good condition. Harvesting very active. Warm temperatures, adequate showers have benefitted the crop. Papaya orchards in good to fair condition, few in poor condition. Harvesting is active. Head cabbage harvesting active. Fields in fair to good condition. Tomato harvesting expected to increase as new fields mature. Crop conditions were mostly good.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 8% very short, 33% short, 58% adequate, and 1% surplus. Rain in Northern areas delays harvest. Statewide 2% of potatoes have been harvested. Irrigation supply 65% excellent, 27% good, 7% fair, 1% poor. Alfalfa hay 91% 2nd cutting, 90% 1998, 87% avg.; 36% 3rd cutting, 26% 1998, 20% avg. Oats 40% harvested for grain, 37% 1998, 40% avg. Mint 69% harvested, 72% 1998, 77% avg. Peaches 23% harvested, 25% 1998, 48% avg. Dry Peas 42% harvested, 76% 1998, 60% avg. Dry beans 3% harvested, 2% 1998, 5% avg. Lentils 34% harvested, 39% 1998, 38% avg. Onions 4% harvested, 7% 1998, 7% avg. Prunes, plums 13% harvested, 6% 1998, 13% avg. Hops 4% harvested, 2% 1998, 2% avg. Sweet corn 37% harvested, 26% 1998, 22% avg. Potatoes with vines dead/kill 6%, 7% 1998, 12% avg. Barley 99% turning color. Spring wheat 99% turning color. Winter wheat 61% harvested, 81% 1998, 71% avg. Activities: Monitoring for disease, preparing for potato harvest, harvesting cereal grains, hay, mint, lentils, dry peas, oats, onions, hops sweet corn, peaches.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 29% very short, 37% short, 33% adequate, 1% surplus. Below normal temperatures, precipitation were recorded statewide last week. Lack of rain is most evident in the southern districts. Rainfall is needed soon to help pod development in soybeans. Corn crop continues to develop well ahead of the five-year average, with some reports of harvest beginning where fields were hit by high winds. Some corn fields are a total loss, while pick-up reels will be needed in many others for harvest. Other activities last week included attending fairs, scouting fields, baling hay, hauling grain. Alfalfa 62% 3rd cut 62%, 57% 1998, 46% avg.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 33% very short, 45% short, 22% adequate. Subsoil 35% very short, 50% short, 15% adequate. Very little rain around the State. Corn drying down rapidly. Early corn harvest expected, some areas. Topsoil, subsoil remain very dry. Corn, soybean condition declined. Corn 28% good to excellent. Soybean 27% good to excellent. Pastures, hay crops continue to deteriorate. Range, pasture feed 28% very poor, 35% poor, 32% fair, 5% good. Feeding hay necessary, some areas. Alfalfa 87% 3rd cut complete, 63% 1998. Tobacco harvest 25% complete. Activities: Chopping silage, selling corn & soybeans, cleaning grain bins, harvesting tobacco, mowing roads, baling hay, harvesting vegetables, monitoring fields, painting buildings, attending State fair, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 8% very short; 14% short, 73% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short; 19% short,

72% adequate, 5% surplus. Rains fell across most of the State, but continue to miss the northwest & north-central districts. Very dry conditions continue in these two districts. Corn 94% milk stage, 95% 1998, 90% avg., 72% dough stage, 71% 1998, 55% avg., 38% dent stage, 23% 1998, 17% avg. Corn 3% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 44% good, 27% excellent. Soybeans with leaves changing color 3%, 1% 1998, 1% avg.; 3% very poor, 6% poor, 17% fair, 47% good, 27% excellent. Mild temperatures continue to benefit livestock. Some cases of pinkeye continue to be reported. Range, pasture feed 4% very poor, 7% poor, 33% fair, 42% good, 14% excellent. Alfalfa 42% 3rd cutting, 32% 1998, 28% avg. Clover hay 86% 2nd cutting, 90% 1998, 82% avg. Hay 2% very poor, 5% poor, 29% fair, 45% good, 19% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 13% very short, 43% short, 44% adequate. Subsoil 7% very short, 1998, 55% avg., 38% adequate, 1% surplus. Continued hot, dry weather stressed crops across much of the State. Dryland crops, particularly in the southern, eastern tiers of the State, are badly in need of rain, cooler temperatures. Corn 9% mature, 12% 1998, 7% avg. Soybeans 93% blooming, 100% 1998, 96% avg. Sorghum 4% mature, 4% 1998, 2% avg. Sunflower 1% very poor, 3% poor, 17% fair, 65% good, 14% excellent; 96% blooming, 97% 1998. Ray flowers dry 31%, 35% 1998. Bracts 12% turning yellow, 10% 1998. Alfalfa 96% 3rd cut, 97% 1998, 93% avg.; 32% 4th cutting, 33% 1998, 23% avg. Crop insect populations continue to be rated at mostly light to none. Corn borers, grasshoppers, soybean stem borers, webworms, sunflower head moths are the most common insects reported. Last week producers were busy with seedbed preparation for wheat, rye, planting new alfalfa, fertilizing, spraying weeds, cultivating, irrigating, harvesting silage, putting up hay. In a few areas, farmers are harvesting corn, sorghum for grain. Hay, forage supplies, 11% short, 88% adequate, 1% surplus. With the hot, dry weather conditions, pastures are beginning to dry up. In some areas, supplemental feeding has begun. Stocker cattle continue to be moved off grass. Few ranchers have started weaning calves. Despite the dry weather, stock water supplies remain mostly adequate.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 77% very short, 20% short, 3% adequate. Subsoil 72% very short, 25% short, 3% adequate. Scattered showers were not enough to relieve drought stress. Crops remain in desperate need of moisture. Harvest has begun for some early planted corn, yields were reported as mostly good to fair with some low test weights. Unless it rains soon soybeans that are at the critical pod fill stage will be unable to fill their pods, second crop soybeans will produce little to no beans. Burley tobacco cut 43%. Dark tobacco cut 50%. Tobacco 16% very poor, 29% poor, 36% fair, 17% good, 2% excellent. Blank shank continues to be a serious problem statewide. Drought conditions have produced short plants on all but early planted or irrigated fields. Pasture feed 42% very poor, 34% poor, 18% fair, 6% good. Farmers continue to feed hay due to poor pasture conditions. Unless rain is received soon, fall hay harvest will be minimal. Hay 39% very poor, 35% poor, 20% fair, 6% good.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Soil moisture 43% very short, 29% short, 24% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 2% poor, 26% fair, 62% good, 10% excellent; 81% harvested, 73% 1998, 57% avg. Corn harvest edged closer to completion. Hay 58% final cutting, 54% 1998, 65% avg. Rice 85% ripe, 84% 1998, 71% avg.; harvest was winding down. Sorghum 95% ripe, 75% 1998, 59% avg.; 58% harvested, 31% 1998, 22% avg. Soybeans 100% blooming, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 33% leaves turning, 28% 1998, 16% avg. Sugarcane 1% poor, 17% fair, 58% good, 24% excellent; 45% planted, 6% 1998, 8% avg. Sweet potatoes 5% poor, 40% fair, 52% good, 3% excellent; 17% harvested, 6% 1998, 10% avg.; harvest was spotty due to the lack of soil moisture. Livestock 2% very poor, 8% poor, 34% fair, 47% good, 9% excellent. Vegetables 7% very poor, 27% poor, 41% fair, 23% good, 2% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Subsoil 60% very short, 30% short, 10% adequate. Topsoil 45% very short, 40% short, 15% adequate. Corn 19% very poor, 26% poor, 40% fair, 15% good; 60% dough, 62% 1998, 61% avg.; 32% dent, 37% 1998, 31% avg.; 17% mature, 18% 1998, 7% avg.; 5% harvested for grain, 3% 1998, 1% avg.; 15% harvested for silage, 21% 1998, 7% avg. Soybeans 13% very poor, 27% poor, 35% fair, 25% good; 90% bloomed, 92% 1998, 86% avg.; 66% setting pods, 73% 1998, 62% avg. Sorghum 7% very poor, 44% poor,

49% fair; 20% turning color, 16% 1998, 6% avg. Tobacco 15% very poor, 24% poor, 33% fair, 28% good; 70% topped, 83% 1998, 80% avg.; 25% harvested, 40% 1998, 38% avg. Snap beans 68% harvested, 76% 1998, 77% avg. Cucumbers 74% harvested, 87% 1998, 83% avg. Potatoes 84% harvested, 100% 1998, 96% avg. Sweet corn 86% harvested, 80% 1998, 76% avg. Tomatoes 80% harvested, 81% 1998, 72% avg. Cantaloupes 81% harvested, 86% 1998, 83% avg. Lima beans 25% harvested, 27% 1998, 19% avg. Watermelons 77% harvested, 78% 1998, 76% avg. Peaches 8% poor, 30% fair, 62% good; 70% harvested, 83% 1998, 74% avg. Apples 1% poor, 22% fair, 77% good; 10% harvested, 13% 1998, 11% avg. Clover, other hays 90% 2nd cutting harvested, 92% 1998, 90% avg.; 45% 3rd cutting, 53% 1998, 35% avg. Alfalfa 79% 3rd cutting harvested, 75% 1998, 75% avg.; 18% 4th cutting, 28% 1998, 14% avg. Pasture feed 40% very poor, 28% poor, 25% fair, 7% good. Hay supplies 18% very short, 46% short, 35% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Preparing for corn harvest, continued vegetable harvesting, hay becoming scarce.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 13% very short, 38% short, 49% adequate. Subsoil 16% very short, 36% short, 48% adequate. Hay 2% very poor, 7% poor, 18% fair, 55% good, 18% excellent. Dry beans 1% very poor, 1% poor, 12% fair, 56% good, 30% excellent. Hay 90% 2nd cutting, 100% 1998, 89% avg.; 35% 3rd cutting, 41% 1998, 23% avg. Corn milk 97%, 94% 1998, 76% avg. Dry beans 99% setting pods, 93% 1998, 85% avg.; 26% turning, 42% 1998, 20% avg. Soybeans 8% turning leaves, 6% 1998, 4% avg. Rainfall is still needed in southern areas as crops are maturing fast. Cooler temperatures in middle of week relieved typical hot weather. Northern portion has everything growing ahead of normal, expecting good yields. Drier conditions this week helped farmers on baling hay as 2nd cuttings continued in north, 3rd cuttings in south. Corn fields drying down as many stalks have two ears per stalk. Soybeans seem to be flourishing, filling pods nicely. Fields of dry beans, soybeans showing signs of leaves turning color. Sugar beets need more rain as fields are showing signs of stress. Cabbage for fall harvest looked good in spite of dry conditions. Cantaloupe harvest continued with good quality if moisture was adequate. Carrots developing well. Cucumber harvest progressed good quality, yields. Eggplant volume steady. Pepper harvest continued with excellent quality. Pumpkins slightly ahead of normal in development. Snap bean harvest was active with good yields, quality. Zucchini, summer squash harvest continued. Winter squash maturity was ahead of normal. Insect pressure was high on sweet corn. Processing tomato harvest began with average yields initially, good quality. Apple fruit 2.5 in. diameter. Harvest of Jersey mac, Earligold, Mollygold continued. Peach harvest continued. Stanley plum harvest was about to start. Concord grapes coloring. Few Bartlett pears were harvested. Blueberry harvest was winding down; growers harvested Elliott variety.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Topsoil 3% very short, 18% short, 61% adequate, 18% surplus. Corn 98% milking, 99% 1998, 90% avg. Winter wheat 88% harvested, 99% 1998, 89% avg. Rye 93% harvested, 99% 1998, 93% avg. Sweet corn 49% harvested, 67% 1998, 43% avg. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 16% poor, 24% fair, 48% good, 9% excellent. Sugar beets 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 55% good, 18% excellent. Sunflowers 2% very poor, 14% poor, 40% fair, 42% good, 2% excellent. Dry beans 3% very poor, 12% poor, 38% fair, 40% good, 7% excellent. Dry conditions in the southwest district have expanded into parts of the west central district, south central district. However, areas in the northern part of the State are still experiencing too much moisture.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Soil moisture, 53% very short, 35% short, 12% adequate. Corn 96% mature, 87% 1998, 70% avg.; 48% harvested, 50% 1998, 23% avg.; 65% silage harvested, 82% 1998, 70% avg.; 1% very poor, 7% poor, 22% fair, 47% good, 20% excellent. Cotton 54% open bolls, 50% 1998, 32% avg.; 7% very poor, 10% poor, 32% fair, 42% good, 9% excellent. Rice 95% heading, 92% 1998, 93% avg.; 27% mature, 27% 1998 30% avg.; 2% harvested, 7% 1998, 4% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 56% good, 16% excellent. Sorghum 94% turning color, 91% 1998, 86% avg.; 70% mature, 50% 1998, 47% avg.; 35% harvested, 19% 1998, 14% avg.; 35% silage harvested, 53% 1998, 34% avg.; 1% very poor, 6% poor, 28% fair, 47% good, 18% excellent. Soybeans 100% setting pods, 96% 1998, 88% avg.; 58% turning color, 38% 1998, 24% avg.; 34% shedding leaves, 18% 1998, 11% avg.; 8% harvested; 12% very poor, 17% poor, 32% fair, 31% good, 8% excellent. Sweet potatoes 15% harvested, 5% 1998, 9% avg.;

1% very poor, 8% poor, 24% fair, 67% good. Hay (warm-season) 80% harvested, 80% 1998, 83% avg. Watermelons 92% harvested, 91% 1998, 93% avg. Cattle 2% very poor, 14% poor, 30% fair, 49% good, 5% excellent. Pasture feed 20% very poor, 25% poor, 37% fair, 15% good, 3% excellent. Above average temperatures, dry conditions prevailed across most of the State. Row crop conditions continue to decline.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 55% very short, 32% short, 13% adequate. Precipitation for week ending August 22, 1999 avg. 0.22 in. Another week of dry weather, moderated by cooler temperatures, continued to stress crops, reduce soil moisture, shorten livestock water supplies. Corn harvesting began in most parts of the State with the Bootheel most advanced with 11% harvested. Northwest district, which received rain in the early part of the week, reported over 80% of the soybeans in fair to good condition. Ninety-six percent of all soybeans have bloomed, 74% were setting pods. Soybeans are in a crucial stage where rain is needed for normal development. Sorghum is well advanced in the Bootheel area with 66% coloring. With 29% of the cotton crop opening bolls, it continues to be several days ahead of 1998, average. 3rd crop alfalfa is 73% cut. Pasture feed continue to decline 31% very poor, 33% poor, 30% fair, 6% good.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 24% very short, 44% short, 31% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 28% very short, 45% short, 27% adequate, and 0% surplus. Weather conditions were hot, dry for a majority of the State as only a few locations reported more than a trace of moisture. Sugar beets 22% fair, 53% good, 25% excellent. Winter wheat 97% ripe, 97% 1998, 97% avg.; 85% harvested, 90% 1998, 76% avg. Spring wheat 96% turning, 100% 1998, 98% avg.; 63% ripe, 88% 1998, and 76% avg. Barley 95% turning, 100% 1998, 98% avg.; 57% ripe, 89% 1998, 75% avg. Oats 94% turning, 100% 1998, 97% avg.; 61% ripe 61%, 84% 1998, 75% avg.; 29% harvested, 60% 1998, 41% avg.; 3% very poor, 14% poor, 24% fair, 46% good, 13% excellent. Corn for silage 6% harvested, 1% 1998, 2% avg.; 2% poor, 15% fair, 57% good, 26% excellent. Potatoes 20% fair, 52% good, 28% excellent. Dry beans 9% poor, 22% fair, 52% good, 17% excellent. Alfalfa 60% 2nd cutting, 61% 1998, 61% avg. Other hay 91% harvested, 92% 1998, 93% avg. There are reports of small grains being behind schedule, poor condition.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 5% very short, 22% short, 71% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 23% short, 73% adequate, 1% surplus. Statewide, temperatures averaged near normals. Regional precipitation averaged from 0.14 in. northwest to 1.34 in. southwest. Corn 1% very poor, 4% poor, 20% fair, 58% good, 17% excellent. Irrigated corn 80%, dryland corn 65% in good or excellent; corn 84% dough, 84% 1998, 74% avg.; corn 27% dent, behind 37% 1998, above 25% avg. Soybeans 92% setting pods, 96% 1998, 90% avg.; 2% coloring, 4% 1998, 4% avg.; 2% very poor, 7% poor, 25% fair, 53% good, 13% excellent. Sorghum 88% headed, 96% 1998, 89% avg.; 10% turning color, 18% 1998, 16% avg. Sorghum 3% very poor, 7% poor, 27% fair, 57% good, 6% excellent. Dry beans 1% very poor, 3% poor, 24% fair, 67% good, 5% excellent; 98% setting pods, ahead of 78% 1998, 92% avg. Alfalfa 62% 3rd cutting complete, behind 62% 1998, 53% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, 13% excellent. Pasture feed, range 2% very poor, 6% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 13% excellent. Wild hay 4% poor, 17% fair, 62% good, 17% excellent. Cooler evening temperatures, lower humidity have lowered stress on fat cattle, resulting in improved gains. Producer activities; haying, moving grain to market, caring for livestock, preparations for fall seeded wheat.

NEVADA: Fires continue to rage through northern areas with three new fires. As of Friday, August 20th there were eight fires still burning; four of which were contained. Bureau of Land Management reported that there have been 670 wildfires this year in the State. Temperatures varied throughout the State, but were no more than seven degrees above or below the normal temperature. Thunder showers continued throughout the State, but brought little precipitation. Trace amounts of precipitation were reported in Reno, Elko, and Las Vegas. Ely was the only station to report significant rainfall with 0.17 in. The majority of the irrigation water supplies remained adequate. Third cutting of alfalfa continued as well as grain harvest. New alfalfa planting was underway. Harvest of sweet corn was completed; significant bird damage was reported. Cantaloupe

harvest was in full swing. Garlic harvest continued. Main farm and ranch activities: Haying, combining grain, irrigating, fall planting of alfalfa, working calves, assessment of fire damage.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 23% very short, 46% short, 31% adequate. Subsoil 32% very short, 36% short, 32% adequate. Pasture feed 24% very poor, 29% poor, 35% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent. Maine potatoes 5% harvested, <5% 1998, <5% avg.; condition good to excellent. Massachusetts potatoes 40% harvested, 40% 1998, 30% avg.; condition good to fair. Rhode Island potatoes 30% harvested, 15% 1998, 15% avg.; condition fair to poor. Oats in Maine 40% harvested, 20% 1998, 25% avg.; condition good to excellent. Barley in Maine 50% harvested, 35% 1998; condition good to excellent. Field corn <5% harvested; condition good to fair. Sweet corn 65% harvested, 60% 1998, 55% avg.; condition good to fair. Shade Tobacco 85% harvested, 100% 1998, 85% avg., condition good. Broadleaf Tobacco 80% harvested, 80% 1998, 75% avg.; condition good. First cut hay 100% harvested, 99% 1998, 99% avg., condition good to fair. Second cut hay 85% harvested, 70% 1998, 70% avg.; condition good to fair. Third cut hay 25% harvested, 20% 1998, 20% avg.; condition fair to poor. Apples 10% harvested, 10% 1998, 10% avg.; size average to below average, condition good to fair. Peaches 55% harvested, 65% 1998, 55% avg.; size average to below average, condition fair. Pears <5% harvested, 10% 1998, 10% avg.; size below average to average, condition fair to poor. Cranberries size average, condition good to excellent. Highbush blueberries 85% harvested, 85% 1998, 80% avg., size average, condition good to fair. Wild Blueberries 65% harvested, 80% 1998, 75% avg.; size average, condition good to fair. Major farm activities included: Harvesting vegetables, tobacco, oats, barley, and potatoes. Picking fruit including early varieties of apples, peaches and pears. Potato farmers in Maine harvesting some early varieties and starting to apply vine killer on other varieties. Field corn harvest beginning in a few locations. Blueberry harvest continues. Cutting hay where it is available. Spreading manure, mowing weeds and irrigating where possible.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Temperatures near normal. Extremes 48°; 93°. Rainfall 0.44 in. north, 0.87 in. central, 0.80 in. south. Heaviest 24 hour total was 1.89 inches at Pemberton on the 20th to the 21st. Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 86% north, 79% central, 73% south. Four inch soil temperatures 72 degrees North, 74 degrees central, 76 degrees south. Irrigation water supply improved from very short to short in most areas and even to adequate in some areas. Rainfall arrived too late to help some field corn acreage. Yields are still expected to be well below averaged, some farmers have reported their corn for grain as a total loss. Harvesting of corn for silage continued, both yields, nutrient content are below normal. Soybeans between fair to poor condition. Farmers report the pods are falling off, there is insect damage. Condition of the second alfalfa cutting is between fair, poor. Some areas did not get a second alfalfa cutting. However, the recent rains have now raised hopes of better yields from the coming third cutting. Second cutting of other hay is occurring, the condition has been rated as poor in most areas. Some areas are not having a second cutting at all. Some improvement of pastures has occurred in some areas of the state because of the rain received. Supplemental feeding of cattle is still occurring extensively. Some farmers are already using their winter feed supplies. Most irrigated vegetable fields are in good, fair condition but heat stress has affected even irrigated fields. Tomato fields are good condition in most areas but total production is expected to be reduced due to blossom end rot, small fruit size. Pepper fields are between good, fair condition. Most snap beans fields have been rated in fair condition. Significant damage to the pumpkin crop is expected since the crop is mostly non-irrigated. Potato sizes have been reported to be somewhat smaller than normal, yields are down. Harvest of tomatoes, squash, sweet corn, peppers, snap beans, cucumbers, melons, eggplant, green beans, potatoes, other minor vegetables continued. The moisture received from the rains has allowed many farmers to finally seed their fall vegetables fields. Harvest of peaches is increasing rapidly with good quality being reported. Apples are also being harvested and the quality has also been rated as good. Water supply for cranberries is tight, there has been some scalding due to the sun.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Thunderstorms favored north, northwest areas during the week, with most of the south, southeast on the dry side. Some clouds, scattered precipitation kept temperatures

close to normal over the north, while more abundant sunshine helped produce temperatures above normal in the south. Statewide average was between 2° and 3° above normal. Farmers continued hay, vegetable harvest along with irrigating, spraying, preparing land for fall planting. Haying activities returned to normal with the only rain damage reported in the north central portion of the State. Chile, onion, silage harvest remained active in the southern part of the state while the high plains began to drill wheat. Ranchers continued to report good weight gains for livestock along with fair to good supplies of tank water. Forage production remains above normal in most areas which should provide adequate pasture for fall, winter grazing. Pasture feed, range 1% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 52% good, 9% excellent. Cattle, sheep conditions dropped slightly but continued to report over half in good to excellent condition.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Soil moisture 29% very short, 53% short, 18% adequate. Pasture feed 13% very poor, 45% poor, 21% fair, 21% good. Alfalfa 57% 3rd cut complete, 34% 1998, 36% avg. Condition of hay crops 23% poor, 45% fair, 32% good. Corn 25% poor, 29% fair, 29% good, 17% excellent. Corn condition varies greatly from area to area. Ear development affected by early maturing crop. Silage chopping began. Oats harvest 93% complete; 82% 1998, 59% avg. Orange County onions harvested with low yields, small sizes. Albany County sweet corn ears not filling out. Clinton, Essex County sweet corn harvest 40 percent finished. Hudson Valley apples 2.1-2.3 in. diameter with fruit due to ripen in next six weeks. Color was excellent. Capital District Paula Red apples picked. Lake Erie grapes received rain, helped size grapes, promote vine health. Livestock heat stress problems greatly reduced. Most pastures greener than two weeks ago. Generally, driest areas received most rain.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4 compared to 6.3 last week. Previous weekend rainfall gave way to hot weather again. Fields dried out quickly allowing good progress to be made in harvesting tobacco, cutting silage. Relief came later in the week as a cold front brought moisture to a majority of the State. Despite the precipitation, soil moisture levels rebounded only slightly, 35% very short, 36% short, 28% adequate, 1% surplus. Tobacco harvesting, marketing were among the major activities. Other activities included weed control in all crops, baling hay, harvesting peaches, vegetables, crop scouting, tending livestock. Apple harvest is just beginning. Cotton, soybean crops are slightly ahead of their respective five-year averages.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 2% very short, 12% short, 74% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 10% short, 75% adequate, 13% surplus. Precipitation was scattered across the state which allowed small grain harvest to make good progress. Sprout damage to swathed wheat was reported in the central and eastern part of the State. Durum wheat 94% milk, 100% 1998, 98% avg.; 65% turning, 95% 1998, 82% avg.; 11% combined, 37% 1998, 19% avg. Canola 89% turning, 96% 1998; 59% swathed, 85% 1998; 12% combined, 38% 1998. Corn for grain 90% milk, 99% 1998, 92% avg.; 28% denting, 46% 1998, 21% avg. Dry edible beans 74% fully podded, 98% 1998, 89% avg.; 39% lower leaves yellowing, 84% 1998, 58% avg.; 17% mature, 55% 1998, 27% avg. Flaxseed 63% turning, 94% 1998, 74% avg.; 6% combined, 27% 1998, 8% avg. Potatoes 14% vines killed, 32% 1998, 17% avg. Soybeans 75% fully podded, 80% 1998, 77% avg.; 12% lower leaves yellowing, 17% 1998, 19% avg. Sunflowers 89% blooming, 98% 1998, 96% avg; 10% ray flowers dried, 35% 1998, 26% avg. Conditions of corn, soybeans, sunflowers increased during the past week. Emerged crop condition: durum 1% very poor, 7% poor, 39% fair, 48% good, 5% excellent; canola 4% poor, 23% fair, 57% good, 16% excellent; corn for grain 1% very poor, 5% poor, 19% fair, 64% good, 11% excellent; corn for silage 4% poor, 20% fair, 65% good, 11% excellent; dry edible beans 8% poor, 24% fair, 51% good, 17% excellent; flaxseed 4% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 14% excellent; potatoes 5% poor, 12% fair, 49% good, 34% excellent; soybeans 3% very poor, 9% poor, 21% fair, 58% good, 9% excellent; sugar beets 1% very poor, 5% poor, 12% fair, 55% good, 27% excellent; sunflower 1% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 54% good, 15% excellent. Stock water supplies 3% short, 90% adequate, 7% surplus. Hay 7% above normal.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 40% very short, 38% short, 22% adequate. Soybeans dropping leaves 4%, 0% 1998, avg.

Alfalfa hay 3rd cutting 75%, 60% 1998, 38% avg. Alfalfa hay 4th cutting 10%, 8% 1998. Other hay 2nd cutting 91%, 89% 1998, 84% avg. Other hay 3rd cutting 38%, 26% 1998, 15% avg. Corn 87% dough, 73% 1998, 66% avg.; 45% dented, 19% 1998, 14% avg.; 3% mature, 0% 1998, avg. Corn 8% harvested for silage, 1% 1998, 1% avg. Summer apples 86% harvested, 79% 1998, 46% avg. Peaches 77% harvested, 79% 1998. Tobacco 61% topped, 53% 1998. Tobacco 17% harvested, 11% 1998. Processing tomatoes 21% harvested, 13% 1998, 10% avg. Potatoes 36% harvested, 50% 1998, 29% avg. Cucumbers 70% harvested. Pasture feed 30% very poor, 28% poor, 27% fair, 13% good, 2% excellent. Corn 9% very poor, 18% poor, 35% fair, 32% good, 6% excellent. Soybeans 8% very poor, 15% poor, 35% fair, 35% good, 7% excellent. Activities for the week include making hay; mowing, seeding CRP; chopping wheat stubble; picking tomatoes, digging potatoes; chopping silage; plowing wheat ground; applying minerals; seeding filter strips; hauling grain; installing tile; leveling land; painting, cleaning grain bins; hauling manure; pulling weeds in soybeans; scouting for insects, disease; preparing for harvest; selling livestock; spraying fence rows; spraying, topping, cutting tobacco; hauling water; irrigating specialty crops; attending fairs. Reported weed pressures include yellow foxtail, pigweed, velvetleaf, lambs quarters, Canadian thistle, giant ragweed, poison ivy, morning glory, sourdock, quack grass, Johnson grass, mare's tail, ironweed, wild carrot, smartweed. Reported insects include spider mites, nematodes on soybeans; leaf hoppers in alfalfa; rootworms, earworms in corn; beetles in soybeans, corn. Reported diseases include sudden death syndrome, white mold, root rot in soybeans; gray leaf spot on corn, fungus on seed corn, blossom end rot, blight on tomatoes, soft rot on cabbage, scab on apples, mildew on vegetables. Fruit, vegetable conditions are fair to poor throughout the state. In Medina county, sweet corn, tomato, apple yields are good. A Wayne county reporter indicated that pumpkin, squash production are down five to ten percent. In Coshocton county, one reporter mentioned that soybean pods are not filling due to a lack of moisture. Pasture, grass conditions are fair to poor throughout the state. Spotty rains have provided some relief to dry, dormant grass, but growth is slow, pastures are still short, weedy. Pastures in the southern half of the state are in poor condition. One Licking county reporter stated that his pasture is completely gone. Cooler weather over the past two weeks has improved livestock conditions. Livestock in the northern half of the state are mostly reported in good condition. Milk production was reported up in Columbiana, Wayne counties. Reporters in several areas are still feeding hay, hauling water. Producers in southern parts of the state reported that livestock are heat stressed, hungry; herds continue to be liquidated.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Subsoil 16% very short, 38% short, 43% adequate, 3% surplus. Topsoil 32% very short, 44% short, 24% adequate. Hot temperatures, lack of rainfall add stress to crops, south. Topsoil, subsoil moisture lowest since September, 1998. Wheat 40% seedbed prepared, 29% 1998, 42% avg. Oats 30% seedbed prepared, 23% 1998, 21% avg. Corn 2% very poor, 1% poor, 4% fair, 92% good, 1% excellent; 99% milk to soft, 100% 1998, 98% avg.; 10% mature, 23% 1998, 20% avg.; 3% harvested, 7% 1998, 4% avg. Sorghum 3% mature, 4% 1998, 7%, avg. Soybeans 2% very poor, 9% poor, 39% fair, 49% good, 1% excellent; 83% flowering, 92% 1998, 91% avg.; 68% setting pods, 71% 1998, 72% avg.; 7% mature, 6% 1998, 10% avg. Peanuts 91% setting pods, 95% 1998, 92% avg. Cotton 98% setting bolls, 97% 1998, 93% avg.; Watermelons 81% harvested, 89% 1998, 69% avg. Alfalfa hay 2% very poor, 8% poor, 37% fair, 49% good, 4% excellent; 95% 3rd cutting, 83% 1998, 90% avg.; 33% 4th cutting, 22% 1998, 30% avg.; Other hay 44% 2nd cutting, 7% 1998, 52% avg. Livestock 1% poor, 17% fair, 74% good, 8% excellent. Feeder steer prices 50 cents to \$1.00 per cwt. above last week.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 30% very short, 57% short, 13% adequate. Subsoil 30% very short, 52% short, 18% adequate. Barley 52% harvested, 69% 1998, 61% average. Spring wheat 77% harvested, 67% 1998. Winter wheat 89% harvested, 87% 1998, 89% avg. Range, pasture feed 3% very poor, 26% poor, 48% fair, 20% good, 3% excellent. Activities: East side grain & grass seed harvest continued. Grass seed yields look good. Mint harvest underway, most areas completed second cutting of alfalfa. Klamath Basin sugar beets fair to good. Westside grain & grass seed harvest almost finished or in advanced stages & second & third hay cuttings underway. Cloudy weather slowed combining. Sugar beet seed harvest also underway. Red clover good, third crop irrigated grass clover being cut. Nurseries & greenhouses doing summer maintenance. Easter lily transplanting underway on south coast. Insect spraying continued on Christmas trees.

Christmas tree shearing continued. Fall mums in retail stores. In eastern areas potatoes reported full bloom & Klamath Basin mostly turned. Sweet corn being harvested in Northeast. Willamette Valley vegetable harvest in high gear as sweet corn, tomatoes, green beans, broccoli, cucumbers & melon harvest began. Truck gardens doing well, brisk sales of vegetables at road side stands. Potato vines dying & onions sizing. Willamette Valley potatoes being dug & hauled. Willamette Valley blackberry harvest in full swing, blueberry & peach harvest continued, & pear harvest started. Hazelnut orchards being readied for harvest. Rogue River Valley Red Clapp & Bartlett pear harvest underway & apple harvest started. On the south coast blueberry harvest continued & some cranberry growers hand weeding. Hood River Valley Red Clapp pear & Gravenstein apples harvest began in lower valley. Ranges & pastures continued to dry up. The best rangeland conditions at high elevations in Southeast. Only dry feed left in most Willamette Valley pastures. Livestock condition mostly good to excellent. Some supplemental hay feeding continued in western counties.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Soil moisture 46% very short, 45% short, 9% adequate. Corn 98% silked complete, 96% 1998, 95% avg.; 60% dough complete, 67% 1998, 59% avg.; 25% dent, 13% 1998, 13% avg. Ensilage corn 18% harvested complete, 2% 1998, 3% avg. Soybean 26% very poor, 34% poor, 30% fair, 9% good, 1% excellent. Oats 91% harvested, 84% 1998, 80% avg. Tobacco 5% harvest complete, 46% 1998, 26% avg. Potato 22% harvest complete, 10% 1998, 17% avg. Alfalfa 95% 2nd cutting complete, 98% 1998, 91% avg. Alfalfa 61% 3rd cutting complete, 59% 1998, 51% avg. Alfalfa 20% 4th cutting complete, 19% 1998, 11% avg. Timothy clover 58% 2nd cutting complete, 72% 1998, 66% avg. Quality of hay made 7% very poor, 13% poor, 34% fair, 31% good, 15% excellent. Apple 21% harvest complete, 27% 1998, 19% avg. Apple 3% very poor, 8% poor, 26% fair, 30% good, 33% excellent. Peach 63% harvest complete, 83% 1998, 60% avg. Grape 5% harvest complete, 0% 1998, 6% avg. Fall plowing 15% complete, 14% 1998, 15% avg. Activities include: Harvesting oats, fruits, vegetables, potatoes, corn silage, tobacco; machinery maintenance; filling silos; hauling manure; spreading manure and lime; caring for livestock; cutting hay; attending county fairs; irrigating, hauling water.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Soil 33% very short, 54% short, 13% adequate. Apples 10% harvested, 16% 1998, 14% avg. Cantaloupes 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 97% avg. Corn 39% harvested, 51% 1998, 34% avg.; 9% very poor, 25% poor, 39% fair, 23% good, 4% excellent. Grapes 20% poor, 60% fair, 20% good. Hay 18% very poor, 26% poor, 40% fair, 15% good, 1% excellent. Peaches 95% harvested, 96% 1998, 96% avg. Sorghum 15% harvested, 24% 1998; 19% avg.; 15% very poor, 45% poor, 37% fair, 3% good. Sweet potatoes 3% harvested, 4% avg.; 6% poor, 66% fair, 28% good.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 11% very short, 44% short, 43% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 36% short, 59% adequate, 2% surplus. Progress of row crops, particularly soybean fill, is being hampered by low soil moisture. Alfalfa 9% excellent, 54% good, 34% fair, 3% poor. Sunflower 19% excellent, 56% good, 22% fair, 3% poor. Flaxseed 21% excellent, 62% good, 17% fair. Barley 99% ripe, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Oats 99% ripe, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Spring wheat 99% ripe, 100% 1998, 97% avg. Flaxseed 91% ripe, 95% 1998, 62% avg. Sunflower 90% blooming, 90% 1998, 92% avg. Sunflower ray flowers dry 34%, 37% 1998, 35% avg. Sunflower bracts yellow 24%, 35% 1998, 21% avg. Corn silked 99%, 100% 1998, 96% avg. Alfalfa 88% 2nd cutting, 90% 1998, 83% avg.; 47% 3rd cutting, 34% 1998. Other hay 89% harvested, 87% 1998, 86% avg. Cattle 24% excellent, 64% good, 11% fair, 1% poor. Sheep 30% excellent, 55% good, 13% fair, 2% poor. Stock water 8% surplus, 80% adequate, 11% short, 1% very short.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 47% very short, 39% short, 14% adequate. Subsoil 41% very short, 43% short, 16% adequate. Corn 95% dough, 95% 1998, 94% avg.; 88% dent, 78% 1998, 73% avg.; 36% mature, 24% 1998, 25% avg.; 8% harvested for grain, 3% 1998, 1% avg.; 61% silage harvested, 37% 1998, 34% avg.; 8% very poor, 23% poor, 37% fair, 30% good, 2% excellent. Tobacco 89% topped, 78% 1998, 78% avg.; 9% very poor, 19% poor, 38% fair, 29% good, 5% excellent. Burley 39% harvested, 23% 1998, 25% avg. Dark air-cured 46% harvested, 28% 1998, 31% avg. Dark fire-cured 45%

harvested, 28% 1998, 29% avg. Pasture feed 24% very poor, 37% poor, 28% fair, 11% good. As of Sunday, 8% of the corn for grain had been harvested, nearly a week ahead of the five-year average. The early harvest is a direct result of the recent hot, dry conditions which led to the rapid drying down of the crop. Producers report early planted corn yields look fairly good because this corn was made before the recent dry spell set in. Late planted corn on the other hand has suffered recently due to the extreme conditions. Last week remained dry with daily temperatures well above normal during the first half of the week. Rainfall was again very scarce with much of the State receiving no moisture. A few areas did receive some rain from scattered thunderstorms which also caused some hail and wind damage. Crops throughout the State continue to suffer from the drought conditions. Nearly half of the State's soybean crop was rated in poor to very poor condition as of week's end. Soybean plants are struggling to set and fill pods due to the lack of moisture. Sixty-one percent of pasture land was rated in poor to very poor condition and many producers are being forced to feed hay and deliver water to their animals.

TEXAS: Conditions hot, dry over state last week with only widely scattered showers reported in Plains, North and East. Fall land preparation slowed due to lack of moisture. Hot temperatures (many days over 100 degrees) have caused range and pasture to decline in many areas. Grain storage problems have occurred due to good yields. Haying operations continued, however yields have diminished due to hot, dry weather. Livestock conditions remain fair to good across the State. Heavy rains from Hurricane Bret soaked lower valley as week ended.

Crops: Small Grains, first fields of wheat were seeded in scattered areas of Plains where moisture was available. Corn, The Plains crop continued to mature and harvest begin. Silage harvest was in progress. Harvest increased in the Black lands and Central Texas as well as in other areas. Yields have been good. Markets however were very weak. Harvest was winding down along the Upper Coast and was mostly complete in the Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Valley. Statewide corn condition was rated at 87% of normal compared with 62% 1998; 57% mature, 68% 1998, 59% avg.; 46% harvested, 52% 1998, 46% avg. Cotton: Good growth, development continued in the Plains, however hot temperatures caused some boll drop, especially in dry land areas. Irrigation remained active where possible. Dry land fields need more rain. Bolls continued to open in Black lands and Central. Harvest continued in coastal Bend, Upper Coast as Hurricane Bret approached, with good yields reported. Harvest also active in Rio Grande Valley. Statewide cotton 67% of normal compared, 44% 1998; 7% harvested 15% 1998, 11% avg. Peanuts: Fields continued to look good in the Plains, North Central and irrigation was very active. Dryland fields need more rain. Some diseases reported. Rice: Harvest continued along the Upper Coast with good yields and excellent quality. Statewide rice 95% of normal compared to 78% 1998. Sorghum: Fields matured rapidly in the Plains under hot conditions and harvest on early fields should begin soon. Dryland fields were beginning to stress in many areas. Harvest was virtually complete in the Black lands and Central areas. Lack of storage is still a problem. Statewide sorghum condition was rated at 73% of normal compared with 46% 1998; 54% mature, 54% 1998, 60% avg.; 50% harvested, 51% 1998, 53% avg. Soybeans: Progress, development was good in the plains, however dryland fields need rain. Irrigation remained active. Harvest in the Black lands continued with above average yields. Harvest of early varieties was winding down along the Upper Coast. 37% harvested, 62% 1998, 25% avg.

Commercial Vegetables: Rio Grande Valley, land preparation continued. San Antonio-Winter Garden, some planting of fall vegetables continued. East Texas, sweet potato, watermelon harvest continued, limited supplies of Okra, peas, other vegetables was available but suffered from lack of rain.

High Plains, onion, potato harvest winding down many fields. Trans Pecos, a few fields cantaloups remained for harvest. Tomatoes will be ready soon. Peaches: Production continued to decline as harvest in Hill Country winding ends. Other peaches in East Texas were fair to good. Pecans: Hot, dry conditions continued take toll on a very good crop across state. Nut drop continued in many locations over the past few weeks. Shuck worms, weevils increased in some areas. Spraying occurred where numbers high. Rainfall is needed to maintain the current expectations.

Range and Livestock: Hay production slowed due recent hot, dry conditions many areas. Supplies good across state however. Because slower grass growth, some producers have begun to supplement.

Extremely hot temperatures continued to cause problems in poultry operations.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 12% very short, 21% short, 60% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 11% very short, 22% short, 67% adequate. Pasture feed, range 2% very poor, 10% poor, 34% fair, 50% good, 4% excellent. Corn height 83 in., 79 in., 1998, 75 in., avg.; 89% silked, 93% 1998, 86% avg.; 19% dough stage, 32% 1998, 15% avg. Winter wheat 80% harvested, 91% 1998, 90% avg. Spring wheat 75% harvested, 85% 1998, 82% avg. Barley 79% harvested (grain), 80% 1998, 80% avg. Alfalfa hay 94% 2nd cutting, 96% 1998, 95% avg.; 22% 3rd cutting, 39% 1998, 32% avg. Other hay 98% 1st cutting, 91% 1998, 92% avg. Oats 91% harvested for hay or silage, 93% 1998, 94% avg.; 56% harvested for grain, 68% 1998, 60% avg. Peaches 30% picked, 26% 1998, 42% avg. Irrigation water supply 9% very short, 16% short, 73% adequate 2% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 21% short, 75% adequate, 2% surplus. Major activities included irrigating, harvesting small grains, hay, preparing land for fall planting.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil 37% very short, 32% short, 31% adequate. Subsoil 47% very short, 29% short, 24% adequate. Pasture feed 37% very poor, 25% poor, 26% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 12% poor, 36% fair, 46% good, 5% excellent. Hay, other 41% very poor, 33% poor, 19% fair, 7% good. Hay, alfalfa 12% very poor, 26% poor, 44% fair, 15% good, 3% excellent. Corn for grain 75% dough, 64% 1998, 66% avg.; 50% dented, 41% 1998, 41% avg.; 20% mature, 22% 1998, 20% avg.; 15% very poor, 36% poor, 22% fair, 17% good, 10% excellent. Corn for Silage 17% harvested, 13% 1998, 9% avg. Soybeans 70% blooming, 81% 1998, 78% avg.; 45% setting pods, 57% 1998, 53% avg.; 8% very poor, 19% poor, 32% fair, 30% good, 11% excellent. Tobacco, flue cured 30% harvested, 24% 1998, 31% avg.; 1% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 19% excellent. Tobacco, burley 15% harvested, 4% 1998, 6% avg.; 2% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 48% good, 26% excellent. Tobacco, Dark Fire Cured 35% harvested, 27% 1998, 30% avg.; 10% poor, 33% fair, 41% good, 16% excellent. Tobacco, Sun Cured 10% harvested, 5% 1998, 21% avg.; 10% very poor, 30% poor, 30% fair, 30% good. Peanuts 5% fair, 44% good, 51% excellent. Cotton 100% setting bolls, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 5% bolls opening, 11% 1998, 19% avg.; 6% fair, 38% good, 56% excellent. Summer potatoes 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Apples, Summer 85% harvested, 90% 1998, 68% avg. Apples, All 9% very poor, 21% poor, 34% fair, 34% good, 2% excellent. Peaches 67% harvested, 73% 1998, 71% avg. Moisture supplies across the Commonwealth improved somewhat as scattered showers and thunderstorms occurred during the past week. The scattered rainfall was not significant in most areas but helped to improve crop conditions. This years corn crop is progressing slightly ahead of schedule. A few producers have already begun to harvest their corn for silage as the stalks begin to dry down. Soybean progress remains slightly behind schedule. Late blooms are still developing and producers are hopeful that the plants will continue to set pods. Tobacco harvest is currently underway. Flue producers are progressing on schedule while growers of other types of tobacco are slightly ahead of normal. The cotton and peanut crops remain in mostly good to excellent condition and are progressing on or near normal. Surface water sources and wells remain drastically depleted as a result of the extended hot, dry conditions that have plagued Virginia since early to mid July. Livestock producers continue to provide supplemental water and feed to their herds. Some producers have been and continue to reduce livestock herds

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 7% very short, 38% short, 55% adequate. Subsoil 20% very short, 50% short, 30% adequate. Harvest was in full swing for winter wheat, spring wheat, barley by the weekend. Yields for the cereal grains were all being reported close to historical averages with good quality. Eastern area growers were happy to report less sprout problems in the winter wheat than experienced in the past due to more favorable weather conditions. Winter wheat 66% harvested, 91% 1998, 83% avg. Winter wheat dryland 3% very poor, 13% poor, 47% fair, 33% good, 4% excellent; irrigated 100% good. Spring wheat dryland 16% very poor, 27% poor, 46% fair, 11% good; irrigated 100% good; 35% harvested, 77% 1998, 69% avg. Barley dryland 8% very poor, 27% poor, 51% fair, 14% good; irrigated, 100% good; 28% harvested, 78% 1998, 69% avg. Potatoes 21% harvested, 17% 1998, 17% avg. Potatoes 3% fair, 63% good, 34% excellent. Hay, other roughage supplies 4% short, 78% adequate, 18% surplus. Range,

pasture feed 12% very poor, 33% poor, 37% fair, 13% good, 5% excellent. Warm weather helped improve pasture conditions. Third cutting of alfalfa continued full swing. Grass silage was still being harvested. Picking continued for peaches, nectarines, some early apples. Blueberry growers were in the midst of harvest as raspberry harvest was winding down. Some softening was reported in the blueberries due to the rain received last week. Grapes were beginning to change color although it was later then normal. Sweet corn was being harvested across the State. Carrots, onions, artichokes, other vegetables were being harvested as well. Dry pea, lentil harvest continued, yield reports were average. Christmas tree growers were already taking orders from wholesale buyers. Radish seed, potatoes were being harvested.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil 47% very short, 46% short, 7% adequate. Crop, livestock conditions were aided by scattered rainfall over the State. However, drought conditions continue to plague producers throughout the State. Hay 37% very poor, 48% poor, 15% fair; Hay 2nd cut 60%, 67% 1998, 68% avg.; 3rd cut 13%, 17% 1998, 27% avg. Corn 29% very poor, 45% poor, 26% fair; 94% silked, 84% 1998, 91% avg.; Corn 70% doughing, 45% 1998, 49% avg.; 16% dent, 13% 1998. Oats 80% harvested, 95% 1998, 88% avg. Soybeans 17% very poor, 42% poor, 36% fair, 5% good; 95% bloomed, 71% 1998, 97% avg.; 73% setting pods, 45% 1998, 81% avg. Tobacco 31% very poor, 27% poor, 30% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent; 33% topped, 44% 1998, 81% avg. Apples 15% very poor, 22% poor, 52% fair, 11% good. Peaches 16% very poor, 25% poor, 51% fair, 8% good. Cattle 3% very poor, 26% poor, 50% fair, 21% good. Sheep 1% very poor, 32% poor, 57% fair, 10% good.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Soil moisture 10% short, 76% adequate, 14% surplus. With showers in the middle, latter part of the week, many farmers continued to have problems harvesting dry hay. Frequent rains also encouraged strong regrowth of 3rd and 4th crop hay. This created another problem for farmers: What to do with all of the hay? Some farmers chopped their hay back onto the field last week due to a lack of storage and/or rain damage. Between the showers there was nice sunshine which allowed for some harvest of hay. Third crop hay harvested 49% 1999, 55% 1998, 26% avg. Cooler weather and more than ample rainfall throughout much of the State has helped the corn, soybean crops to grow, mature well. Soybean 1% very poor, 2% poor, 8% fair, 54% good, 35% excellent; 89% setting pods, 87% 1998; 4% leaves turned, 7% 1998, 2% avg. One reporter in Grant County noted that the soybeans are the tallest he has ever seen. The excess height has created a lodging problem, as the plants were unable to hold up the weight of an excellent crop. In the southeastern part of the State, a shortage of moisture threatens to cut yields on both corn, soybeans by 60% if a substantial rainfall is not received soon. Harvest of oats continued last week between the showers. Harvesting the straw remained a problem as a large amount of weeds, showers have kept it from drying. Early apples and pears were being picked. Vegetable crops and the potato harvest continued with indications of good yields. The tobacco harvest moved into full swing. Some fall tillage began on harvested fields. Pasture feed 2% poor, 14% fair, 64% good, 20% excellent.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 6% very short, 53% short, 41% adequate. Winter wheat 97% harvested, 96% 1998, 96% avg. Spring wheat 8% fair, 92% good.; 75% mature, 91% 1998, 82% avg.; 60% harvested, 54% 1998, 45% avg. Barley 3% fair, 97% good; 83% mature, 89% 1998, 87% avg.; 69% harvested, 59% 1998, 60% avg. Oats 6% fair, 91% good, 3% excellent; 68% mature, 86% 1998, 78% avg.; 33% harvested, 50% 1998, 42% avg. Corn 1% fair, 95% good, 4% excellent; 94% silked, 99% 1998, 95% avg.; milk 84%, 88% 1998, 81% avg.; dough 42%, 50% 1998, 52% avg. Dry bean 3% fair, 95% good, 2% excellent; 100% setting pods, 93% 1998, 96% avg.; 64% leaves turning, 22% 1998, 42% avg. Sugar beet 4% fair, 87% good, 9% excellent. Alfalfa 58% 2nd cutting, 59% 1998, 61% avg. Other hay 82% cut, 86% 1998, 85% avg. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 23% fair, 66% good, 10% excellent. Irrigation water supplies 12% short, 86% adequate, 2% surplus. Temperatures remained warm with little precipitation over the State.