

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

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ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 6% very short, 22% short, 58% adequate, 14% surplus. Corn 71% planted, 82% 1999, 84% average. Corn 57% emerged, 66% 1999. Wheat 89% headed, 75% 1999, 75% average. Wheat 3% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 63% good, 6% excellent. Pasture 1% very poor, 8% poor, 26% fair, 51% good, 14% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 68% good, 10% excellent. Row crop planting is underway. Wheat headed is ahead of normal. Conditions are favorable for planting in most areas. There was damage from frost in many peach orchards in the lower elevations, but overall the crop condition remains good.

ALASKA: NO DATA AVAILABLE:

ARIZONA: Area continued to record well above average temperatures for the fourth week in a row. No precipitation was reported during the week of April 30. Weather conditions have helped small grains, cotton planting. Lack of precipitation has adversely affected the range, pasture feeds, but has had minimal impact on crop, vegetable production due to irrigation. Livestock was reported to be in fair condition. Stock water was reported as short to adequate while soil moisture was reported as short. Insect damage was reported as none to light.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork: 5.0. Soil moisture 1% very short, 16% short, 73% adequate, 10% surplus. Rice 56% planted, 45% 1999, 54% 5 yr. avg.; 19% emerged, 9% 1999, 19% 5 yr avg.; Sorghum 62% planted, 35% 1999, 46% 5 yr. avg.; 35% emerged; Cotton 7% planted, 6% 1999, 7% 5 yr avg. Soybean 9% planted, 6% 1999, 8% 5 yr avg. Corn 97% planted, 84% 1999, 91% 5yr avg.; 81% emerged, 29% 1999, 47% 5 year avg. Wheat 96% headed, 86% 1999, 77% 5 yr. avg. Wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 23% fair, 51% good, 22% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 1% very poor, 4% poor, 29% fair, 62% good, 4% excellent; Other Hay 2% very poor, 7% poor, 34% fair, 48% good, 9% excellent. Pasture, Range 1% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 13% excellent. Livestock good condition. The main farm activities: Row crop ground preparation; soybean, rice, sorghum planting; spraying for wheat disease (stripe rust), monitoring armyworms in wheat fields; spraying pastures for weed control; vaccinating cattle. 1/Corn emerged progress is a 2-year average instead of a 5-year average.

CALIFORNIA: Although recent rainfall was welcome, it caused grain growers some concerns related to grain lodging. Most cotton has been planted, many fields were germinating well. However, in areas receiving rainfall recently some cotton may need replanting due to soil crusting, low soil temperatures. Field corn growth returned to normal following the cool weather that had slowed its progress. Weed control activities began in corn, cotton fields. Seasonable temperatures allowed winter wheat, barley to mature. Oat hay was cut, baled. Winter forage was also cut. Alfalfa hay was in all stages of production, progressing well. Growers were noting damage where prior week's rains fell on the cut, windrowed alfalfa hay. Fortunately, only a small amount of alfalfa was on the ground at that time. New alfalfa fields were progressing well. Several seed alfalfa fields were treated to control weeds. Sugarbeet harvest was in full swing in many areas. Pre-plant field preparation of rice continued. Aerial seeding of rice was underway. A week of sunshine allowed fruit and nut crops to make good progress. Harvest of early varieties of cherries

continued. Weed control, fungicide applications, irrigation activities continued. Growers applied sulfur to grape vines for mildew control. Harvest was active in some early variety peaches, nectarines; later varieties were thinned. Picking of grapefruit, lemon crops was active in southern areas. The harvest of Valencia oranges was active in the desert areas, beginning in the San Joaquin Valley. Picking of navel oranges continued. Growers remained concerned about puff, crease, soft fruit. Minneola tangelos were also picked. Strawberry picking was active in the central valley. Harvest of asparagus continued in the Stockton Delta area. Bell pepper, tomato planting continued. Tomato fields were being weeded with some fields beginning to bloom. A few tomato transplants were still being planted. Fresno County lettuce harvest was complete. Onion, garlic fields were irrigated. Sweet corn was weeded, thinned, irrigated. Planting of summer vegetables continued. Onions, garlic were progressing very well. Cucumber vines were growing rapidly, blooming. Watermelon, cantaloupe planting continued. Previously planted melons were emerging, despite soil crusting caused by the earlier rains. Some growers were working the ground to break the crust. Carrot, onion fields were being prepared for planting in Kern County. Spring melons were reaching maturity. Sweet corn and onions were being harvested in southern areas. Vegetables also harvested this week included: Artichokes, beets, cabbage, cauliflower, cilantro, chard, carrots, garlic, squash, greens, okra, parsley, radishes, spinach, turnips. Recent rains, followed by sunny skies, have spurred grass growth on range, pasture. These conditions extended the lower elevation rangeland season. Although the grasses were drying, stock ponds were full. Beef cows were calving in some areas. Warm days, cool nights were providing optimum conditions for milk production. Bee hives were being moved to orange groves.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 4% very short, 20% short, 74% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 22% short, 73% adequate, 1% surplus. State experienced warm, dry weather for most of the week with the highs in the 70's. On Saturday, Sunday most of the state received some much needed moisture. Severe thunderstorms that passed through the state brought rain, snow, some large localized hail. Spring barley 84% seeded, 84% 1999, 75% avg.; 45% emerged, 40% 1999, 43% avg. Dry onions 94% seeded, 99% 1999, 92% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 12% fair, 62% good, 23% excellent. Sugar beets 90% planted, 89% 1999, 91% avg.; 3% up to stand, 8% 1999, 2% avg. Summer potatoes 80% planted, 74% 1999, 70% avg.; 4% emerged, 16% 1999, 4% avg. Fall potatoes 5% planted, 9% 1999, 4% avg. Spring wheat 63% planted, 66% 1999, 55% avg.; 33% emerged, 51% 1999, 32% avg. Cows 84% calved, 88% 1999, 89% avg. Ewes 93% lambled, 87% 1999, 88% avg.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.5. Topsoil 68% adequate, 32% surplus. Subsoil moisture 69% adequate, 31% surplus. Percent of acreage prepared for planting of spring crops 70%. Winter wheat 11% fair, 77% good, 12% excellent; 10% headed, 11% 1999, 7% avg. Barley 3% poor, 15% fair, 71% good, 11% excellent; 72% headed, 63% 1999, 62% avg. Potatoes 80% planted, 90% 1999, 86% avg. Green peas 82% planted, 87% 1999, 87% avg. Snap Beans 38% planted, 20% 1999, 8% avg. Sweet corn 29% planted, 26% 1999, 24% avg. Field Corn 18% planted, 35% 1999, 25% avg. Cucumbers 8% planted, 4% 1999, 5% avg. Tomatoes 9% planted, 16% 1999, 8% avg. Watermelons 5% planted, 4% 1999, 9% avg. Peaches 91% bloomed, 99% 1999, 92% avg. Strawberries 72% bloomed, 39% 1999, 51% avg. Apples 78% bloomed,

79% 1999, 70% avg. Pasture feed 11% fair, 82% good, 7% excellent. Hay supplies 8% very short, 40% short, 52% adequate. Activities: Aerial spraying in wheat for fungus diseases; field prep continues.

FLORIDA: Scattered showers dampened many areas during week of April 23 through 29, but also missed many localities. Rain totaled less than an inch and a quarter, most stations, with heavier amounts falling in western Panhandle, northern localities. Immokalee, Homestead, some west central areas recorded no rain for week. Temperatures averaged 1 to 4° below normal at major stations. Most highs in 70s, 80s while most lows in 40s, 50s, 60s. Moisture in Panhandle mostly adequate, rest of State mostly very short to short. Heavy rainfall in some areas of Panhandle with washing in peanut fields. Farmers will be actively planting cotton, peanuts after fields dry out. Tobacco, corn in good condition. Some wild fires central Peninsula area due to lack of rainfall. Peanuts 16% planted. Harvesting most vegetable crops continues to slow seasonally in Dade County. Major vegetables being harvested include: Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, blueberries, cabbage, cucumbers, okra, snap beans, squash, sweet corn, eggplant, watermelon. No rain citrus areas, still very dry, irrigation continues, some wells low and a few have some salt water intrusion. Valencia harvest very active. Grapefruit, Honey tangerine movement slowing as supplies low. Temple harvest almost over. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, hedging, topping. Pasture feed 10% very poor, 20% poor, 65% fair, 5% good. Condition of cattle 10% poor, 80% fair, 10% good. Statewide, pasture, cattle condition worse due to continued drought. Panhandle: pasture mostly fair, cattle condition fair to excellent. Pasture, hay fields not yet recovered from previous dry weeks. North: fire hazard increasing daily from dry, cool, windy weather. Central: pasture very poor to poor due to dry, windy weather. West-Central: pastures short, ranchers rotating grazing, cattle mostly fair condition. South: range condition remains fair, low lying areas better than others.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 5.5. Soil moisture 8% very short, 31% short, 57% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 5% poor, 35% fair, 55% good, 5% excellent. Cotton 1% very poor, 5% poor, 49% fair, 43% good, 2% excellent. Hay 3% very poor, 10% poor, 44% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent. Sorghum 2% very poor, 5% poor, 28% fair, 62% good, 3% excellent; 25% planted, 25% 1999, 18% avg. Tobacco 1% very poor, 5% poor, 34% fair, 51% good, 9% excellent; 98% transplanted, 99% 1999, 94% avg. Wheat 96% boot, 97% 1999, 96% avg. Onions 3% very poor, 3% poor, 17% fair, 71% good, 6% excellent; 26% harvested, 30% 1999, 26% avg. Watermelons 12% poor, 44% fair, 37% good, 7% excellent; 90% planted, 92% 1999, 91% avg. Apples 1% very poor, 11% poor, 37% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent; 98% blooming, 83% 1999, 93% avg. Peaches 1% poor, 20% fair, 46% good, 33% excellent; 0% harvested, 0% 1999, 1% avg. Soils remained dry despite scattered rains falling across the State. Crops that received rain benefitted. The dry soils started to adversely affect pastures and small grains, as well as delay planting in those areas that did not receive rain. Aphid populations increased in wheat fields. Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus, which can be transmitted by aphids, appeared. Powdery mildew also showed up. Land, equipment preparation for planting major field crops continued. There was concern about cool soil temperatures resulting in less than ideal planting conditions. Hay cutting occurred. Weed control in pastures, hayfields took place. Onion harvesting was slowed due to early week rains. Peaches were sizing. Other activities included: Picking squash, the routine care of livestock.

HAWAII: Variable weather conditions were fair for agriculture. Leeward areas mostly sunny, dry. Windward areas partly cloudy with moderate rainfall at midweek. Overall, crops were in fair to good condition. Insect pressure was increasing on most islands. Harvesting of banana was steady. Most fields in fair to good condition. Harvesting expected to increase seasonally in the coming weeks. Papaya harvesting steady. Crop conditions ranged from mostly fair to a few in poor. Head cabbage fields remained in mostly good condition. Harvesting will be active in the major areas. Dry onions were in good condition. Harvesting was very active. Watermelon plantings continue. Ginger root harvesting was active. Planting of next season's crop continued.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 5.9. Topsoil 3% very short, 23% short, 68% adequate, 6% surplus. Warm temperatures throughout the week have allowed planting, emergence of crops to progress rapidly

across much of the state. Temperatures during the day varied from 68 to 90°, 23 to 36° at night. Strong winds were reported to have blown some sugarbeet plantings in Power county, replanting may be necessary. Hay, roughage supplies 12% very short, 11% short, 71% adequate, 6% surplus. Irrigation supply 28% excellent, 58% good, 13% fair, 1% poor. Onions 100% planted, 100% 1999, 99% avg.; 80% emerged, 83 1999%, 66% avg. Dry peas 76% planted, 41% 1999, 34% avg.; 21% emerged, 13% 1999, 12% avg. Oats 45% planted, 40% 1999, 46% avg.; 17% emerged, 15% 1999, 17% avg. Lentils 36% planted, 25% 1999, 17% avg. Corn 18% planted, 25% 1999, 21% avg. Potatoes 39% planted, 26% 1999, 27% avg. Sugar beets 94% planted, 82% 1999, 90% avg.; 56% emerged, 19% 1999, 27% avg. Winter wheat 42% jointed. Spring wheat 5% jointed. Spring barley 6% jointed. Activities: Planting small grains, Sugar beets, onions, potatoes, dry peas, lentils, corn, field preparation, moving cattle, sheep to early spring pasture, caring for livestock, spraying weeds, irrigating.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil 5% very short, 27% short, 63% adequate, 5% surplus. Oats 97% planted, 93% 1999, 86% avg. Alfalfa 2% 1st cutting, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Alfalfa 4% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 13% excellent. Red clover 4% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 11% excellent. Pasture 1% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 58% good, 9% excellent. Rain across the state early last week kept farmers out of the field for a few days. However, drier weather later in the week allowed farmers to continue planting corn at a record pace. The moisture has allowed some early corn to emerge. With farmers wrapping up corn planting, they have begun to prepare the ground for soybeans. The winter wheat, alfalfa hay conditions remain stable with the rain, normal temperatures. Other activities for last week included: Applying fertilizer, herbicides, caring for livestock.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 6% very short, 18% short, 67% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 16% very short, 39% short, 41% adequate, 4% surplus. Field activities slow early in period. Temperatures averaged mostly 3 to 5 below normal. Very little precipitation. Southern areas received the most rain. Subsoil moisture shortage remains major concern for farmers. Corn, soybean planting in full swing, most areas of state. Only a few scattered corn fields are emerged, mostly in the southwestern areas. Application of fertilizer, nitrogen, chemicals continued. Winter wheat 98% jointed, 87% 1999, 71% avg. Pastures improving, but need more rain. Range, pasture 4% very poor, 10% poor, 32% fair, 46% good, 8% excellent. Hay supplies 4% very short, 18% short, 73% adequate, 5% surplus. Alfalfa weevil active in some fields. Livestock remain in mostly good condition. Calving remains active. Major activities: Tillage of soils, picking upseed, supplies, ditching, hauling manure, feeding, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for field work 5.7. Topsoil very 23% short, 39% short, 38% adequate. Subsoil moisture 35% very short, 47% short, 18% adequate. Corn 65% planted, 11% 1999, 19% avg. Corn 2% emerged, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Soybeans 9% planted, 4% 1999, 2% avg. Oats 99% planted, 95% 1999, 80% avg. Oats 83% emerged, 73% 1999, 35% avg. Winter wheat 2 headed. Winter wheat 10% poor, 37% fair, 44% good, 9% excellent. Fertilizer applied (including fall applications) 93% complete. Seedbed preparation (including fall preparation) 89% complete. Range, Pasture feed very 7% poor, 21% poor, 44% fair, 25% good, 3% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 2% very short, 28% short, 70% adequate. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 21% short, 73% adequate, 1% surplus. Wheat 2% very poor, 9% poor, 26% fair, 49% good, 14% excellent. Wheat jointing 96%, 92% 1999, 86% avg. Wheat headed 14%, 9% 1999, 4% avg. Wheat wind damage 86% none, 11% light, 3% moderate. Wheat freeze damage 86% none, 11% light, 3% moderate. Range, Pasture 1% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 8% excellent. Corn 73% planted, 24% 1999, 41% avg. Corn 26% emerged, 4% 1999. Sorghum 9% planted, 0% 1999, 1% avg. Soybeans 11% planted, 0% 1999, 1% avg.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil 7% short, 74% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 18% short, 73% adequate, 7% surplus. Below normal temperatures of 55° combined with light rain throughout State. About 2% of burley tobacco has been set in the field. Only 1% of Dark Tobacco has been set. Tobacco transplants

were 50% less than 2 inches, 35% were between 2 to 4 inches, 15% were larger than 4 inches. Emerged corn 1% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 56% good, 7% excellent. As of April 30, 6% of soybeans have been seeded. Winter wheat 48% headed, 41% 1999, 33% avg. Winter wheat 4% poor, 24% fair, 52% good, 20% excellent. Pasture feeds 1% very poor, 5% poor, 29% fair, 49% good, 16% excellent. Hay 1% very poor, 6% poor, 33% fair, 48% good, 12% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil moisture 6% very short, 21% short, 68% adequate, 5% surplus. Corn 1% very poor, 5% poor, 29% fair, 64% good, 1% excellent; 100% planted, 100% 1999, 98% avg.; 100% emerged, 98% 1999, 97% avg. Cotton 18% emerged, 10% 1999, 7% avg. Cotton planting made excellent progress. Hay 24% first cutting, 28% 1999, 14% avg. Rice 10% poor, 33% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent. Rice planting made good progress. Soybeans 17% emerged, 7% 1999, 5% avg. Soybean producers were busy planting. Sorghum 23% emerged, 28% 1999, 27% avg. Spring plowing 91% plowing, 95% 1999, 90% avg. Sugarcane 1% poor, 18% fair, 44% good, 37% excellent. Sweetpotatoes 2% planted, 2% 1999, 2% avg. Wheat 1% very poor, 9% poor, 37% fair, 50% good, 3% excellent; 99% headed, 98% 1999, 97% avg.; 77% turning color, 49% 1999, 31% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 51% good, 14% excellent. Vegetables 2% very poor, 7% poor, 36% fair, 51% good, 4% excellent. Pastures 3% very poor, 12% poor, 28% fair, 49% good, 8% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.2. Topsoil 63% adequate, 37% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% short, 70% adequate, 22% surplus. Percent of acreage prepared for planting of spring crops 54%. Winter wheat 1% poor, 21% fair, 63% good, 15% excellent; 15% headed, 13% 1999, 10% avg. Barley 4% poor, 15% fair, 63% good, 18% excellent; 76% headed, 61% 1999, 62% avg. Rye 2% poor, 22% fair, 66% 1999, 10% excellent; 50% headed, 47% 1999, 43% avg. Potatoes 92% planted, 96% 1999, 95% avg. Green peas 85% planted, 98% 1999, 78% avg. Tomatoes 10% planted, 29% 1999, 39% avg. Sweet corn 21% planted, 37% 1999, 33% avg. Field Corn 7% planted, 28% 1999, 29% avg. Cucumbers 7% planted, 10% 1999, 13% avg. Snap Beans 9% planted, 21% 1999, 18% avg. Cantaloupes 9% planted, 31% 1999, 28% avg. Apples 79% bloomed, 64% 1999, 66% avg. Peaches 85% bloomed, 95% 1999, 86% avg. Strawberries 77% bloomed, 58% 1999, 57% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 4% poor, 15% fair, 57% good, 23% excellent. Hay supplies 3% very short, 29% short, 67% adequate, 1% surplus. Percent of 1st cutting hay crop harvest; clover, other hays 5% cut, 3% 1999, 3% avg. Activities: Wet, cool weather has delayed planting throughout the state, 1st cutting of hay has begun.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 10% very short, 17% short, 63% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 23% very short, 38% short, 38% adequate, 1% surplus. Range, Pasture 3% very poor, 16% poor, 33% fair, 39% good, 9% excellent. Asparagus 7% harvested, 1% 1999, 1% avg. Barley 45% planted, 79% 1999, 46% avg. Barley 25% emerged, 49% 1999, 17% avg. Oats 75% planted, 76% 1999, 55% avg. Oats 54% emerged, 43% 1999, 15% avg. Potatoes 22% planted, 21% 1999, 21% avg. Potatoes 1% emerged, 1% 1999, 0% avg. Fair, dry weather predominated through week. Scattered light rains fell some areas others saw none. Wet soil from previous week kept some farmers out of field early week. Subsoil moisture remains short. Temperatures showed little departure from normal. Growing degree days well below last year, below normal except eastern portion of Upper Peninsula, northeast Lower Peninsula. Field preparation for planting resumed this week as fields dried. Corn planting has just begun southern part of State, Thumb. Pace will pick up substantially this week. Some Sugar beets may have to be replanted due to soil crusting, frost damage. Winter wheat little damage from winterkill but annual weeds may be a problem. Recent rains beneficial but more needed to replenish subsoil moisture. Asparagus harvest Southwest, West-Central regions slowed by cold frosty nights; volume will increase. Cabbage growing well and carrot planting continues. Potatoes planted at a slow pace but increasing next week. Sweet corn planting continued, some emerged. Fruit tree maturity continues about two weeks ahead of normal. Tree planting, fertilization, preparing equipment main activities. Moisture is needed most fruit growing areas. Apples, tart cherries full bloom southwest. Sweet cherries had reached shuck split stage. Other stone fruits petal fall. Blueberries early pink bud. Strawberry russes had emerged. Fall raspberry canes had reached 2 inches. Summer raspberry leaves unfolding. Concord grapes had reached bud burst while white varieties had reached late bud swell.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 13% very short, 40% short, 44% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn 86% ground prepared, 48% 1999, 39% avg. Soybeans 34% ground prepared, 11% 1999, 11% avg. Green peas 49% planted, 24% 1999, 23% avg. Potatoes 25% planted, 28% 1999, 20% avg. Sweet corn 12% planted, 6% 1999, 6% avg. Dry beans 1% planted, 2% 1999, 2% avg. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 12% poor, 48% fair, 32% good, 3% exc. Alfalfa 4% very poor, 5% poor, 44% fair, 42% good, 5% exc. Rye 1% very poor, 2% poor, 56% fair, 35% good, 6% excellent. Winter Wheat 1% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 57% good, 10% excellent. Corn ground preparation is 2 weeks ahead of the 5-year average. Warm days throughout the week allowed producers to make a 65 point gain in corn planted.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5 Soil moisture, 2% very short, 12% short, 77% adequate and 9% surplus. Corn 95% planted, 95% 1999, 91% avg.; 83% emerged, 78% 1999, 76% avg.; 11% poor, 29% fair, 52% good, 8% excellent. Cotton 19% planted, 19% 1999, 16% avg.; 3% emerged, 7% 1999, 5% avg. Rice 36% planted, 71% 1999, 73% avg.; 9% emerged, 26% 1999, 36% avg.; 1% poor, 39% fair, 59% good, 1% excellent. Sorghum 53% planted, 43% 1999, 50% avg.; 24% emerged, 16% 1999, 30% avg.; 1% poor, 18% fair, 78% good, 3% excellent. Soybeans 24% planted, 26% 1999, 24% avg.; 7% emerged, 13% 1999, 12% avg. Wheat 98% heading, 94% 1999, 81% avg.; 1% mature, 0% 1999, 1% avg.; 2% poor, 19% fair, 63% good, 16% excellent. Watermelons 61% planted, 69% 1999, 65% avg.; 4% poor, 25% fair, 63% good, 8% excellent. Blueberries 1% very poor, 4% poor, 18% fair, 62% good, 15% excellent. Cattle, 8% poor, 20% fair, 59% good, 13% excellent. Pasture 10% poor, 23% fair, 54% good, 13% excellent. Corn harvest is nearing completion in most parts of the state. Planting of all other spring row crop progressed rapidly in many parts of the state due to the over all dry weather conditions.

MISSOURI: Days were suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 28% very short, 47% short, 25% adequate. Record progress was achieved in row crop planting throughout the State. By the end of the week 89% of the ground had been worked at least once for spring crops, excluding no-till, compared with 73 normally. The highest ratings were in the Bootheel with 54% adequate. Ninety-one percent of the corn was planted, a month ahead of both last year's 30% 5-yr avg of 39%. Corn planting is the most advanced progress for this date on record. Bootheel leads the state with 98% in the ground. Nineteen percent of the soybean crop was planted, the most on record for this date. Bean planting is 3 wks ahead of both 1999, normal. Northern third of the state is most advanced with over 20% of the beans in the ground. Twenty-four percent of the grain sorghum was planted, about 3 wks ahead of both 1999, normal. Sorghum planting is the most advanced for this date on record. Thirty-seven percent of the cotton was planted, a week ahead of 1999, 12 days ahead of normal. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 13% excellent. Thirty-four percent of the wheat crop has reached the heading stage, about 9 days ahead of both 1999, normal. Heading is the most advanced for this date since 1981. Pasture, range feeds 17% very poor, 35% poor, 36% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent. The weekly precipitation averaged 0.38 inch. Precipitation for the month of April averaged 1.32 inches, the lowest in the last 15 yrs.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 21% very short, 41% short, 37% adequate, 1% surplus. Topsoil moisture declined, is now rated at short or very short for a majority of the state. Subsoil moisture 33% very short, 43% short, 24% adequate, 0% surplus. The weather was cooperative for fieldwork, planting progress was very good for the week. However, Oats 40% planted, 28% 1999, 19% avg. Oats 10% emerged, 3% 1999, 3% avg. Sugar beets 91% planted, 79% 1999, 60% avg. Sugar beets 16% emerged, 38% 1999, 17% avg. Corn 8% planted, 19% 1999, 17% avg. Dry 17% beans, 0% 1999, 1% avg. There are some reports of aphids in the winter wheat. Producers are spraying for aphids, weeds. Calving, lambing is making good progress as few problems have occurred, death losses are minimal. Calving 92% completed, 89% 1999, 91% avg. Lambing 78% completed, 70% 1999, 75% avg. Cattle, calves moved to summer ranges is 26% complete. Sheep, lambs moved to summer ranges is 17% complete. Pastures are starting to green but without rain there may be less forage. Heavy rains will be needed to fill reservoirs to normal levels.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil moisture supplies rated short. Subsoil moisture supplies short to very short. Temperatures across the State averaged 1 to 3° above normals for the week. Precipitation from less than .10 inch in the Southeast to over 2 inches in the lower Panhandle. Corn 40% planted, 12% 1999, 20 avg.; 5% emerged, ahead of 0% 1999, avg. Soybeans 7% planted, ahead of 0% 1999, avg. Winter Wheat 5% very poor, 11% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 2% excellent; 47% jointed, 46% 1999, 26% avg. Wheat streak mosaic, Russian aphids a concern in the southern Panhandle, greenbugs in portions of the Southwest. Oat 80% emerged, 80% 1999, 46% avg.; 2% very poor, 10% poor, 47% good, 40% good, 1% excellent. Pasture, range 13% very poor, 28% poor, 43% fair, 15% good, 1% excellent. Calving near completion. Scours, pneumonia reported in young calves. Other producer activities included: Moving grain, moving cattle to spring pasture, livestock care. Farm ponds remained dry or very low in many counties.

NEVADA: Temperatures averaged much above normal for the week, reaching 99° in Las Vegas. Rainfall was nil at most locations. High temperatures accelerated melting of the mountain snow pack. Irrigation water supplies remained mostly adequate, although spot shortages are beginning to occur. Planting activities resumed with spring grain planting well along. Warmer weather promoted emergence in seeded fields. Potato planting was in full swing. Onion planting continued. Spraying, cultivation for weed control was active. Pasture, range improved in response to the rains of the previous week. Calving, lambing continued and was nearing completion. Branding, movement to Spring range continued. Main farm, ranch activities: Field preparation, grain planting, potato planting, onion planting, weed control, branding, working cattle.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork: 3.5. Topsoil 4% very short, 1% short, 31% adequate, 64% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 3% short, 46% adequate, 50% surplus. Pasture feed 7% very poor, 18% poor, 55% fair, 16% good, 4% excellent. Massachusetts potatoes 45% planted, 30% 1999, 30% avg. Sweet corn 5% planted, 5% 1999, 5% avg, condition fair to poor. First crop hay condition fair to poor. Apples Dormant Stage to Bud Stage, condition good to fair. Peaches Early Bloom Stage, condition good. Pears Dormant Stage to Bud Stage, condition good. Strawberries Dormant Stage to Bud Stage, condition good. Cranberries Bud Stage to Dormant Stage, condition good to fair. Highbush blueberries Bud Stage, condition good to fair. Wild Blueberries Bud Stage, condition excellent to good. Wet spring thus far, warmer weather is needed. Major farm activities: Planting vegetables, corn, potatoes; tending livestock, mending fences; manure spreading, applying fertilizers.

NEW JERSEY: Soil moisture supplies remained adequate in most localities despite clear weather this past week. Greenhouses were forced to run heaters to eliminate mold caused by recent wet weather. Sweet corn is two to three inches tall in some areas, one foot in others. Growers were concerned about cool weather limiting bee pollination of blueberry blooms. Weekly rainfall amounts varied from none to 0.05 inch in northern locations, none to 0.03 inch in central, none to 0.58 inch in the south. Low temperatures for the week ranged from 28 to 42° Fahrenheit. High temperatures ranged from 68 to 73° Fahrenheit.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 6.5. Topsoil 38% very short, 32% short, 30% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures were close to normal over a very small portion of extreme northeast, but well above normal elsewhere. The statewide average was 6° above normal, positive anomalies were as great as plus 13 at Las Cruces, plus 12 at Animas. The storm system that affected areas Friday through Sunday produced some spotty rainfall from thunderstorms, high mountain snows, but mainly just over the northeast quarter. Greatest totals included .56" at Des Moines/Capulin, .46" at Red River. Spring planting continued to be the main farm activity during the week. Lettuce harvest, the 1st cutting of alfalfa was progressing in the southern part of the State. Both crops were in fair to excellent condition. Onions, chile were in mostly good to excellent condition. Irrigated wheat remained in fair to good condition, while the dryland wheat was reported in poor to fair condition. Supplemental feeding of cattle increased during the week due to drought conditions. Cattle, sheep conditions remained mostly fair to good; however, more sheep were falling into the poor to very poor condition

than in previous weeks. Pasture, range feed 17% very poor, 30% poor, 45% fair, 8% good, 0% excellent.

NEW YORK: Days suitable 3.6. Soil moisture 49% adequate, 51% surplus. Pasture feed 14% fair, 61% good, 25% excellent. Oat seedlings were coming slowly. Oats seedlings 15% complete, 76% 1999, 50% avg. Oat acreage 27% fair, 73% good. Winter wheat 9% fair, 83% good, 8% excellent. Corn planting was just beginning with 2% complete. Extremely wet field conditions kept most farmers out of the field again last week as a slow planting season continued. Tillage, plantings were behind normal for this time of year. Farmers were waiting for land to dry up before jumping full swing into spring planting. Cattle are moving out into the pastures that have greened up the earliest, dried out the fastest, most pastures need more drying, growing time. Cold, rainy weather throughout the state continued to delay vegetable planting. Orange County muck onions were 90% planted. Onion growth slow due to cold weather. Lake Ontario region fruit growers reported frost, bud damage unknown. Wayne County apples, peaches, pear buds at half-inch green to pink while sweet cherries in full bloom. Monroe County fruit growers concerned there may be yield impacts due to rain, inability to get into fields to fertilize, and pollination problems.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work to 2.8. compared with 3.8 last week. Continued rainfall was again the focus this week for state agriculture. The unreasonably cool temperatures brought consecutive days of frost to areas in the Mountains, however no damage was reported. The trend of wet weather has pushed Statewide soil moisture levels to the current 0% very short, 1% short, 47% adequate, 52% surplus. Saturated fields prohibited farmers from doing many outdoor activities have left corn planting, tobacco setting behind by about a week. In areas that were dry enough, land preparation, pesticide application were among activities conducted by farmers. At week's end Areas wheat crop was 80% headed, looking good despite scattered reports of cereal leaf beetle.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for field work 5. Topsoil 4% very short, 19% short, 74% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 21% short, 72% adequate, 4% surplus. Some light rain delayed planting progress slightly during the week. Still, planting remains ahead of schedule. Durum wheat 14% planted, 5% 1999, 4% avg.; 2% emerged, 1% 1999, 1% avg. Canola 31% planted, 8% 1999. Dry Edible Beans 0% planted, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Flaxseed 11% planted, 4% 1999, 4% avg. Potatoes 20% planted, 10% 1999, 5% avg. Soybeans 0% planted, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Sunflower 0% planted, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Calving 91% complete. 75% of the cattle were receiving supplemental feed. Lambing 92%, shearing 95% complete. 69% of the sheep were receiving supplemental feed. Hay, roughage supplies 0% very short, 2% short, 87% adequate, 11% surplus. Grain, concentrate 0% very short, 1% short, 90% adequate, 9% surplus. Pastures, range feeds were 3% very poor, 10% poor, 40% fair, 43% good, 4% excellent.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork, 3.7 days. Topsoil 0% very short, 4% short, 81% adequate, 15% surplus. Corn 7% planted, 20% 1999; 18% avg. Oats 79% planted, 84% 1999, 71% avg. Oats 53% emerged, 67% 1999, 44% avg. Potatoes 28% planted, 53% 1999, 29% avg. Soybeans 3% planted, 11% 1999, 7% avg. Sugar beets 25% planted. Tobacco beds 99% seeded, 100% 1999. Tobacco beds having plants up 57%; 77% 1999. Winter wheat 83% jointed, 71% 1999, 47% avg. Apples green tip 87%. Apples in full bloom 69%. Peaches in green tip 85%; 100% 1999. Peaches in full bloom 71%; 86% in 1999. Pasture 1% very poor, 5% poor, 24% fair, 51% good, 19% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 1% poor, 11% fair, 49% good, 39% excellent. Apples 4% very poor, 8% poor, 22% fair, 52% good, 14% excellent. Peaches 4% very poor, 11% poor, 25% fair, 45% good, 15% excellent. Hay 0% very poor, 7% poor, 22% fair, 52% good, 19% excellent. Activities throughout the state include: Applying anhydrous ammonia, fertilizer, lime; drilling soybeans, planting corn, soybeans, oats; hauling manure, plowing, chiseling, discing, applying pre-emergence herbicides, burning brush, clearing fence rows, equipment maintenance, preparation, installing tile, moving grain, sowing oats, alfalfa seedlings, planting sweet corn, setting tomatoes, planting grasses, legumes, marketing grain, top dressing wheat, seeding peppers, buying seed, harvesting greenhouse vegetables, planting raspberries. Alfalfa weevil damage was reported in many parts of central, southern area. Reporters also observed bagworms, powdery mildew in wheat,

chick weed, purple dead nettle. Pasture was reported in mostly good condition, but warm weather is still needed to accelerate pasture, hay growth. Livestock conditions are mostly good throughout the state. Calving is still taking place in several areas. Some livestock producers in southern area are selling cattle in order to take advantage of higher prices. Moderate problems with mastitis, pneumonia in cattle were reported.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 2% very short, 12% short, 75% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 21% short, 70% adequate, 5% surplus. Wheat 99% jointing, 98% last week, 100% 1999, 98% avg.; 12% soft dough, n/a last week, 6% 1999, 3% avg. Oats 1% very poor, 5% poor, 29% fair, 56% good, 9% excellent, 99% jointing, 81% last week, 89% 1999, 72% avg.; 42% headed, 31% last week, 59% 1999, 36% avg, 11% soft dough, n/a last week, 6% 1999, 4% avg. Corn 93% seedbed prepared, 86% last week, 98% 1999, 99% avg.; 69% planted, 51% last week, 81% 1999, 56% avg.; 20% emerged, n/a last week, 9% 1999, 18% avg. Sorghum 53% seedbed prepared, 44% last week, 55% 1999, 45% avg. Soybeans 69% seedbed prepared, 61% last week, 56% 1999, 62% avg.; 25% planted, 14% last week, 12% 1999, 17% avg.; 15% emerged, n/a last week, 3% 1999, 6% avg. Peanuts 61% seedbed prepared, 60% last week, 69% 1999, 68% avg. Cotton 80% seedbed prepared, 77% last week, 83% 1999, 72% avg. Alfalfa Hay 2% poor, 23% fair, 61% good, 14% excellent; 42% 1st cutting, 25% last week, 15% 1999, 15% avg. Other Hay 4% poor, 30% fair, 59% good, 7% excellent; 17% 1st cutting, 10% last week, 11% 1999, 9% avg. Pasture 1% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 61% good, 8% excellent. Livestock 2% poor, 18% fair, 67% good, 13% excellent. Cattle marketings average.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 11% short, 86% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 11% short, 83% adequate, 6% surplus. Barley 72% planted 1999, 70% avg.; 84% emerged, 56% fair, 42% good, 2% excellent. Spring wheat 89% planted, 92% 1999. Winter wheat 1% poor, 24% fair, 66% good, 9% excellent. Range, pasture 12% fair, 80% good, 8% excellent. Activities: Willamette Valley field crops reported looking good with significant growth during week; fields need rain. Fertilizing, weed spraying ongoing. Red, crimson clover past bloom stage, alfalfa nearing 1st cutting. Orchard grass, fine fescue, early tall fescue reported heading out. Marion County reported rust showing up in a few fine fescue fields, in some perennial ryegrass. Northern Willamette valley reported orchards in either full bloom or past bloom. Pollination weather overall been favorable but Yamhill county reported poor pollination due to heavy rains, Washington county reported some frost damage. Washington reported early strawberry blooms. Southern coastal areas reported cranberry frost protection implementation with improved conditions where fruit tree bloom is complete. In Willamette Valley, field preparation for processed green beans, sweet corn continued. Sugar beets for seed, cabbage showed good growth; early planted salad crops doing well, more planting being done. Green peas reported in early bud stage, doing well. Clackamas County rhubarb harvest underway. In other areas of State, potato growers busy with all phases from field preparation in Klamath County to planting nearly complete in Malheur County. Wholesale nurseries still very active in shipping out plant material to East, Northeast states & beginning to field plant new material. Greenhouses continue to move bedding plants to retail outlets for spring planning. Christmas trees starting to bud out, new growth looks excellent. Dahlia growers working fields, getting ready to plant tubers. Livestock in excellent condition with calving winding down. Branding of calves continued along with cattle turn out onto pastures. All parts of state report that pastures are in excellent condition, dry enough to turn cattle out to graze. All indications look like grazing conditions will be excellent during spring, early summer.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for field work 3.7. Soil moisture 5% short, 75% adequate, 20% surplus. Spring 51% plowing, 61% 1999, 59% avg. Oats 61% planted, 67% 1999, 62% avg.; 37% emerged, 34% 1999, average not available. Potatoes 11% planted, 24% 1999, 21% avg. Barley 40% heading or headed, 8% 1999, 19% avg. Wheat 2% poor, 12% fair, 69% good, 17% excellent. Oat crop 1% poor, 15% fair, 78% good, 6% excellent. Alfalfa, alfalfa mixtures stand 1% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 58% good, 15% excellent. Timothy clover stand 5% very poor, 2% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Peaches 98% full bloom or past, 86% 1999, 58% avg. Cherries 98% full bloom or past, 81% 1999, 61% avg. Apples 96% pink, 64% 1999, 57% avg.; 96% full

bloom or past, 47% 1999, 35% avg. Activities include: Spring plowing; planting oats, potatoes, field corn, sweet corn; fixing fences; machinery maintenance; ordering supplies; spreading lime, fertilizers; hauling manure; caring for livestock; spraying herbicides, pruning trees.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 5.5. Soil moisture 25% short, 74% adequate, 1% surplus. Apples 43% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent. Barley 65% headed, 51% 1999, 53% avg.; 35% turned color, 11% 1999; 6% fair, 50% good, 44% excellent. Cantalopes 81% planted, 90% 1999, 87% avg.; 4% poor, 35% fair, 55% good, 6% excellent. Corn 99% planted, 97% 1999, 96% avg.; 85% emerged, 80% 1999; 16% fair, 76% good, 8% excellent. Cotton 13% planted, 19% 1999, 21% avg. Cucumbers 97% planted, 86% 1999, 79% avg.; 14% fair, 56% good, 30% excellent. Grain Hay 39% harvested, 41% 1999, 35% avg. Hay 16% fair, 71% good, 13% excellent. Oats 93% headed, 84% 1999, 84% avg.; 31% turned color, 20% 1999, 19% avg.; 1% poor, 15% fair, 71% good, 13% excellent. Peaches 5% very poor, 5% poor, 8% fair, 60% good, 22% excellent. Peanuts 27% planted, 31% 1999, 24% avg.; 25% fair, 73% good, 2% excellent. Rye 87% headed, 79% 1999, 66% avg.; 26% turned color, 15% 1999, 18% avg.; 2% poor, 19% fair, 76% good, 3% excellent. Snap beans 90% planted, 66% 1999, 68% avg.; 100% good. Sorghum 60% planted, 41% 1999, 22% avg.; 100% good. Soybeans 8% planted, 11% 1999. Sweetpotatoes 25% planted, 14% 1999, 13% avg. Tobacco 82% transplanted, 92% 1999, 86% avg.; 8% fair, 88% good, 4% excellent. Tomatoes 96% planted, 98% 1999, 90% avg.; 45% good, 55% excellent. Watermelons 95% planted, 94% 1999, 91% avg.; 5% poor, 34% fair, 58% good, 3% excellent. Winter grazings 9% poor, 31% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent. Winter wheat 91% headed, 89% 1999, 83% avg.; 19% turning color, 14% 1999, 13% avg; 2% poor, 14% fair, 76% good, 8% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for field work 4.1. Topsoil 4% very short, 19% short, 72% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 27% short, 59% adequate, 5% surplus. Feed supplies 3% short, 89% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water 1% very short, 83% short, 83% adequate, 8% surplus. Winter rye 7% poor, 18% fair, 55% good, 20% excellent. Winter rye boot 1%, 6% 1999, 2% avg. Winter wheat boot 6%, 46% 1999, NA% avg. Cattle 7% fair, 73% good, 20% excellent. Cattle moved to pasture 19% complete. Calving 81% complete. Sheep 3% fair, 75% good, 22% excellent. Lambing 83% complete. Range, pasture 1% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 13% excellent.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 2% short, 84% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% short, 80% adequate, 9% surplus. Tobacco 98% plants up, 93% 1999, 94% avg. Wheat 73% headed, 61% 1999, 58% avg.; 1% poor, 16% fair, 54% good, 29% excellent. Pastures 4% poor, 24% fair, 56% good, 16% excellent. Alfalfa 3% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 15% excellent. Disease pressure in wheat has been fairly light for most of the Spring, but growers have recently encountered more problems because of the recent cool, wet conditions. At this time, yield expectations remain good, but only time will tell what affects these diseases will have on final production. Virtually all the State's tobacco plants are up. Growers are busy treating for disease, preparing for transplanting, which should begin within the next few weeks. Temperatures averaged around 5° below normal last week with some locations reporting a light frost Thursday morning. Most areas of the State received between 1 to 2 inches of rain.

TEXAS: Fieldwork continued across the state, but was slowed at times on the Plains by severe storms accompanied by hail, variable amounts of moisture. Elsewhere only trace amounts were received, blowing dust remained a problem in several areas. The high winds continued to deplete soil moisture for crops, pasture, further delay improvement in these areas. In the drier areas herd reduction, dispersal continued. Hauling water to remaining livestock, shade trees around homes continued in some locations. Haying operations continued to expand in some areas with baling of alfalfa, oats. Some roadside areas were also being bailed in an attempt to rebuild hay reserves. In the Rio Grande Valley, Winter Garden areas, vegetables continued to make progress but rains were needed. **Field Crops:** Small Grains: Remaining dryland small grains continued to be in generally poor condition across the state. Many fields of wheat, oats were being baled for hay where possible and others continued to be grazed out. Rust continued to be a problem in some areas. Statewide wheat 40% of normal compared with 72% 1999.

Wheat Harvested Published 0%, 1999 1%, Avg 0%. Corn: Planting remained active on the Plains, but winding down or completed in other areas. Cultivation continued in most planted areas, early corn continued to tassel in southern areas. In a few areas high winds, hail again caused some damage. Statewide corn 85% of normal compared with 79% 1999. Corn Silked Published 3%, 1999 1%, Avg 0%. Cotton: Cotton planting continued to move northward. Squaring continued in early cotton in southern areas. Good stands were occurring in areas with adequate moisture, in other areas rain was needed as young plants were suffering. Some replanting was necessary for various reasons, in some areas there was not enough moisture available to plant. Cotton Squaring Published 0%, 1999 1%, Avg 0%. Rice: Some fields continued to be flushed to establish a stand, early planted fields were being flooded. Stand counts remained generally favorable. State wide rice 87% of normal compared with 85% 1999. Sorghum: Planting continued to move northward as weather conditions allowed, however sorghum planting will be delayed some areas while growers wait on more favorable conditions. A few fields have headed in southern areas, cultivation continued where necessary. Statewide sorghum 75% of normal compared with 74% 1999. Peanuts: Land preparation continued in the growing areas, planting began in areas of the Plains, continued in Central, South Areas. Soybeans: Land preparation remained active where possible, planting continued along the upper Coast, South Central Areas. Planting was delayed in some areas where conditions were too wet and in others because it was too dry. Emergence of earlier planting's continued to be favorable. Published 57%, 1999 42%, Average 41%.

Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans: Rio Grande Valley, melon harvest began, harvest continued for greens, carrots, beans, peas, potatoes. Onion harvest continued to wind down, lack of moisture was again causing stress to some crops as the hot, dry weather continued. San Antonio-Winter Garden, harvest of cabbage, carrots continued and melons, green beans, peas, onions made good progress. East Area, growth progress increased as the temperatures warmed. Planting continued for peas, cucumbers, peppers, egg plants, but slowed as conditions were to wet in some locations. Some vegetables were damaged by weather conditions associated with tornado activity. Insect pressure continued to increase, harvest continued for broccoli, onions, cauliflower. High Plains, carrot planting began, land preparation remained active but slowed at times as high winds, blowing dust caused delays. Peaches: the first sprays continued in parts of the Plains, fruit setting continued in central, southern areas. Harvest began with early varieties in a few locations. Pecans: Bud break continued to move northward, applications of zinc continued to be applied by producers in southern, central areas. Nutlet appearance continued in some areas, large numbers of pecan nut casebearers were present in some locations.

Range and Livestock: high winds, warm temperatures continued to slow recovery, add stress to range, pasture in many locations. In areas where green-up has been slow supplemental feeding, herd reduction continued. Death of some range trees, brush species continued as a result of the dry conditions, further pushed some producers to herd liquidation. Planting of new grass continued in other locations where soil moisture was adequate. Supplemental feeding continued to decline in the wetter areas and haying operations continued to expand. Some road sides were being cut and baled for hay in varied locations.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 7. Topsoil 2% very short, 26% short, 70% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 19% short, 79% adequate, 1% surplus. Sheep 1% very poor, 2% poor, 25% fair, 67% good, 5% excellent. Pasture, range feed 1% very short, 6% poor, 33% fair, 57% good, 3% excellent. Average alfalfa height 7 inches, 5 inches 1999, 6 inches avg. Corn 24% planted, 14% 1999, 16% avg. Spring wheat 93% planted, 89% 1999, 91% avg.; 69% emerged, 67% 1999, 64% avg. Barley 93% planted, 86% 1999, 87% avg.; 69% emerged, 66% 1999, 62% avg. Oats 67% planted, 61% 1999, 53% avg.; 33% emerged, 31% 1999, 27% avg. Apples full bloom or past 99%, 30% 1999, 30% avg. Pears full bloom or past 99%, 76% 1999, 78% avg. Potatoes 38%, planted, 9% 1999, 9% avg. Cows calved 91%, 92% 1999, 91% avg. Ewes lambing on range 70%, 76% 1999, 70% avg. Sheep sheared: on farm 94%, 98% 1999, 93% avg.; on range 85%, 86% 1999, 80% avg. Major farm, ranch activities included: Spring tillage, spraying fruit, shearing sheep, baiting grasshoppers, crickets. Most counties are in need of a significant amount of rain to raise soil moisture.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.4. Topsoils 2% short, 60% adequate, 38% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 14% short, 64% adequate, 20% surplus. Pastures 5% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 16%

excellent. Livestock 2% poor, 17% fair, 64% good, 17% excellent. Other Hay 4% poor, 26% fair, 58% good, 12% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 3% poor, 18% fair, 63% good, 16% excellent. Corn for Grain 33% planted, 41% 1999, 36% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat 4% poor, 17% fair, 64% good, 15% excellent. Barley 2% poor, 16% fair, 57% good, 25% excellent. Tobacco greenhouse 1% poor, 14% fair, 48% good, 37% excellent. Tobacco plantbeds 2% very poor, 10% poor, 23% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent. Cotton 6% planted, 29% 1999, 27% 5-yr avg. Apples 30% fair, 65% good, 5% excellent. Peaches 15% very poor, 5% poor, 30% fair, 50% good. Temperatures across the Commonwealth averaged 5 to 10% below normal during the past week. Many areas received above average amounts of rainfall. Wet soil conditions reduced the number of days available for fieldwork. Farmers were unable to prepare soil for planting of this year's field crops. Planting of corn, soybeans, cotton, peanuts lagged behind the previous year, 5-year avg. The majority of tobacco farmers have not begun to transplant their plants from the greenhouse at this time. Crop producers are concerned that persistent cool, wet field conditions may cause fungal and mildew problems. The increased rainfall helped to keep pastures in mostly good to excellent condition. Farm activities for the week included: Preparing machinery for hay harvest, crop planting, spreading poultry litter, animal wastes, chemical burn-down of weeds, general care of livestock.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.38. Topsoil 1% very short, 18% short, 76% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 22% short, 77% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat dryland 2% poor, 14% fair, 66% good, 18% excellent; irrigated 100% good. Winter wheat showed vitality, growth in response to warmer weather. Spring wheat dryland 71% fair, 29% good; irrigated 100% good. Planted 91%, 87% 1999; emerged 63%, 61% 1999. Barley, dryland 55% fair, 45% good; irrigated 100% good. Planted 87%, 84% 1999; emerged 50%, 55% 1999. Spring cereal crops were being planted, emerging without problems. Planting was expected to be finished next week in many areas. Potatoes 8% fair, 92% good. 88%, Planted, 79% 1999; emerged 50%, 24% 1999. Hay, roughage 1% short, 89% adequate, 10% surplus. Range, Pasture 5% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent. Spring crop planting was in full swing. Potatoes, field corn were being planted. Asparagus was being harvested with good quality reported. Early vegetable seed crops were blooming. Turfgrass growers applied fertilizer, mowing continued. Christmas tree growers were finishing fertilizer applications, monitoring Douglas fir plantations for cooley spruce gall adelgids. A hard frost in areas of western caught some fruit, nursery producers off guard with some damage reported in blueberries, newly germinated plants. Peas, seed spinach, seed beets were being planted. Apple growers in eastern state were thinning, Red Delicious varieties reached full bloom.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 11% short, 87% adequate, 2% surplus. Producers took advantage of the mostly open weather to continue planting, field activities. Rain is needed to promote hay, pasture growth. Wheat 11% fair, 69% good, 20% excellent; Wheat headed 1%, 3% 1999, 7% 5-yr avg. Hay 1% very poor, 8% poor, 37% fair, 52% good, 2% excellent. Intended Acreage Prepared for Spring Planting 63%, 80% 1999, 71% 5-yr avg. Corn 24% planted, 32% 1999, 21% 5-yr avg. Oats 73% Planted, 73% 1999, 67% 5-yr avg. Oats 30% emerged, 33% 1999, 35% 5-yr avg. Tobacco beds seeded 99%, 96% 1999, 98% 5-yr avg. Tobacco beds 94% emerged, 78% 1999, 79% 5-yr avg. Apple 8% poor, 68% fair, 24% good. Peach 8% poor, 67% fair, 25% good. Cattle 4% poor, 20% fair, 73% good, 3% excellent; 89% calved. Sheep 1% poor, 14% fair, 80% good, 5% excellent; 95% lambing. Feed grain supplies 6% very short, 13% short, 61% adequate, 20% surplus. Hay, roughage supplies 16% very short, 37% short, 47% adequate.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Soil moisture 4% very short, 32% short, 62% adequate, 2% surplus. Farmers in all areas of the state were busy with fieldwork during the past week. Corn planting was one of the major field activities. Warmer temperatures returned after the previous week's showers, which helped increase soil temperatures. There were some scattered showers during the early part of last week, with most precipitation in the southern areas of the state. Spring tillage 66% 2000, 44% 1999, 34% 5-year avg. Spring tillage was 11 days ahead of the 5-year avg. Farmers worked over the weekend tilling, spraying, fertilizing fields to prepare them for planting. Alfalfa looks very good in most areas. Alfalfa winter freeze damage 73% no damage, 22% light damage, 5% moderate damage. Alfalfa, winter wheat grew quickly last

week with the warmer temperatures. Vegetable, potato planting continued last week.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 3% very short, 36% short, 61% adequate. Barley 81% planted, 77% 1999, 78% avg.; 52% emerged, 53% 1999, 43% avg. Oats 57% planted, 48% 1999, 45% avg.; 26% emerged, 18% 1999, 9% avg. Spring wheat 50% planted, 45% 1999, 48% avg.; 16% emerged, 29% 1999, 16% avg. Sugar beets 96% planted, 79% 1999, 76% avg.; 20% emerged, 5% 1999, 7% avg. Corn 26% planted, 5% 1999, 13% avg. Winter wheat in fair to mostly good condition. Spring calves 92% born, 90% 1999, 91% avg. Farm flock ewes lambled 90%, 93% 1999, 95% avg. Farm flock sheep shorn 89%, 88% 1999, 92% avg. Range flock ewes lambled 44%, 33% 1999, 31% avg. Range flock sheep shorn 70%, 65% 1999, 66% avg. Calf, lamb losses light to normal. Livestock in mostly good condition. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 35% fair, 61% good, 3% excellent. Hay, roughage supplies 66% adequate, 34% surplus.