

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

Released September 8, 1999, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories" call Mark E. Miller at (202) 720-7621, office hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 54% very short, 29% short, 17% adequate. Soil moisture supplies declined as the State experienced scarce precipitation, above average temperatures. Corn 95% dough; 92% dented, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 85% mature, 94% 1998, 91% avg.; 48% harvested, 59% 1998, 46% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 26% fair, 54% good, 17% excellent. Pasture feed 26% very poor, 27% poor, 30% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent. Livestock 3% very poor, 9% poor, 42% fair, 37% good, 9% excellent. Some cotton growers began defoliation treatments. Cattle marketing increased in response to hay, pasture shortages.

ALASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.4. Topsoil 5% short, 90% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 5% short, 95% adequate. Weather conditions rainy with daytime high temperatures mostly in the 60s. Nighttime lows were mostly in the forties, dropped into the twenties in the Kenny Lake area. Oats, 85% ripe or earlier, 15% swathed. Barley, 85% ripe or earlier, 15% harvested. Second cutting hay harvest, 25% complete. Commercial storage potato harvest, 20% complete. Wind damage to crops, 90% none, 5% light, 5% moderate. Major activities included: Cutting hay, harvesting vegetables, grains, hay, killing vines, digging potato fields.

ARIZONA: Cotton continues to progress. Alfalfa harvest activity 22% not being harvested, 4% light, 35% moderate, 39% active. Alfalfa 3% poor, 22% fair, 63% good, 12% excellent. Last week central area producers shipped a light volume of watermelons, mangoes.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 55% very short, 40% short, 5% adequate. Temperatures were above normal throughout the week and most areas were below normal in rainfall. Some areas received rainfall late this week. However, most areas remained dry and hot. Irrigated crops were reported in good condition, dryland crop conditions declined. Livestock were reported in fair condition, hot, humid weather, lack of grazing was causing deaths in poultry, livestock. Many farmers were having to feed hay early this year because of the drought. Main farm activities: Fertilizing cotton, warm season forages, preparing land for planting of annual forages such as rye, wheat, ryegrass, finishing harvesting hay, planning for fall pastures. Other activities: Brush hogging, irrigating soybeans, draining of rice, defoliating cotton, spraying fields for insects, weeds, starting corn, sorghum, pea, rice harvesting, scouting for and treating webworms in soybeans, treating crop lands for armyworms, planting winter wheat, tree fruit, small fruit harvesting, melon harvesting, dusting, ear tagging cattle for external parasites, fall calving, giving Brucellosis vaccinations, pregnancy checking spring bred cows, selling cull cows, weaning calves. Corn 69% harvest; 2% poor 27% fair 53% good 18% excellent. Cotton 56% opening bolls, 9% poor 32% fair 44% good 15% excellent. Soybeans 100% bloomed, 94% setting pods, 8% shedding; 8% very poor 19% poor 32% fair 31% good 10% excellent; Sorghum 99% turning color, 83% mature, 24% harvested; 3% very poor 12% poor 38% fair 40% good 7% excellent. Alfalfa 6% very poor 27% poor 38% fair 29% good. Other hay 20% very poor 44% poor 29% fair 7% good 0% excellent. Range, pastures feed 25% very poor 43% poor 27% fair 5% good.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally under favorable conditions in most areas. Seedbed preparations for fall-seeded small grains and forage crops were ongoing. Winter forage planting was

underway in the northern San Joaquin Valley. Harvest of short grain rice varieties and wild rice began in the Sacramento Valley. Medium, long grain rice fields were being drained with harvest expected in two to three weeks. Cotton bolls were opening, many fields received their final irrigation in the San Joaquin Valley. Verticillium wilt began to appear in some Pima, non-Acala cotton varieties due to the cooler than normal growing season. Cotton growers continued spraying for aphids, leafhoppers, lygus, worms. Black eye bean harvest gained momentum, while garbanzo bean harvest was winding down. Safflower harvest was virtually complete, except in the northern Sacramento Valley. Seed alfalfa harvest neared completion, with excellent yields reported. Sugar beets were harvested in the central valleys; less mature fields were treated for armyworms, mites. Corn silage harvest remained active in most growing areas. Harvest of corn for grain started in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Alfalfa, bermuda grass, sudan grass were cut for hay or green chopped. Some older stands of alfalfa hay were removed due to depressed prices. Harvest of grapes for fresh consumption gained momentum in the San Joaquin Valley. Varieties picked included Red Globe, Flame Seedless, Thompson Seedless. Grapes picked for raisins were laid, some trays were rolled. Cool weather has delayed maturity. Picking of wine grapes continued. Stone fruit harvest was winding down. Apple picking was active. Olives were maturing well. Bartlett pear harvest was active in Lake and Mendocino counties. Asian pear harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvest of almonds continued. Walnut growers were preparing for harvest. Valencia oranges, lemons were picked in southern California. Strawberry growers were planting. Processing tomato harvest was proceeding smoothly; good yields were reported. Recent warm weather allowed gains in maturity levels. Few cases of wilt were reported. Some delays have been reported at the tomato canneries as a result of the late spring and mild summer temperatures. Cantaloupe, melon harvests continued. Watermelon harvest was winding down. Quality of the watermelons harvested this season has been described as the best ever. Sweet corn was being picked; much of the production was going to local markets. Sweet potato and lima bean harvests continued. Fall broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage and lettuce fields were growing well under nearly ideal conditions; some fields were treated for aphids, worms. Aphid problems were observed in several pumpkin fields. Some spinach was being planted. Growers were preparing desert area fields for winter vegetable planting. Soils were treated for nematodes. Among the myriad vegetables harvested were green beans, bitter melon, cilantro, cucumbers, gourds, leeks, eggplant, onions, squash, peppers. Irrigated pastures remained in good to fair condition, while non-irrigated rangeland, pastures were in fair to poor condition. Fresno County's non-irrigated grazing land was in very poor condition, with forage on 400,000 acres damaged or partially destroyed by high temperatures and grasshopper populations. The fire hazard remains very high on rangeland in most areas. Cattle were being moved from poorer pastures and from high elevation rangeland. Milk production rebounded, poultry mortality rates declined with the cooler temperatures during the past week.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 3% very short, 12% short, 69% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 21% short, 66% adequate, 9% surplus. The middle of the week brought the Front Range and Eastern Plains thunderstorms accompanied with hail. Some undetermined amount of crop damage resulted from these storms. Winter wheat 7% seeded, 6% 1998, 8% avg. Spring wheat 56% harvested, 63% 1998, 65% avg.; 7% poor, 14% fair, 60% good, 19% excellent. Spring barley 84% harvested, 88% 1998, 79% avg. Oats 85% harvested, 80% 1998, 77% avg. Corn silage 4% harvested, 9% 1998, 8%

avg. Dry onions 45% harvested, 49% 1998, 47% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 14% fair, 64% good, 17% excellent. Sugar beets 1% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 52% good, 25% excellent. Dry beans 23% cut, 35% 1998, 33% avg.; 11% harvested, 16% 1998, 18% avg.; 2% poor, 11% fair, 63% good, 24% excellent. Summer potatoes 48% harvested, 49% 1998, 48% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 30% fair, 57% good, 9% excellent. Fall potatoes 5% harvested, 3% 1998, 4% avg.; 7% poor, 14% fair, 45% good, 34% excellent. Alfalfa 55% 3rd cutting, 49% 1998, 38% avg.; 1% very poor, 13% poor, 23% fair, 48% good, 15% excellent. Pasture, range feed in mostly good condition.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 4% very short, 28% short, 68% adequate. Subsoil 26% very short, 45% short, 29% adequate. Field corn 15% very poor, 39% poor, 32% fair, 13% good, 1% excellent; 80% dented, 79% 1998, 81% avg.; 37% mature, 22% 1998, 32% avg.; 6% harvested for grain, 8% 1998, 5% avg.; 70% harvested for silage, 40% 1998, 43% avg. Soybeans 11% very poor, 23% poor, 25% fair, 37% good, 4% excellent; 89% setting pods, 65% 1998, 78% avg.; 14% turned, 12% 1998, 7% avg.; 6% shedding leaves, 5% 1998, 2% avg. Sorghum 12% poor, 60% fair, 28% good; 36% turned, 28% 1998, 24% avg. Sweet corn 81% harvested, 77% 1998, 90% avg. Snap beans 83% harvested, 75% 1998, 82% avg. Cantaloupes 95% harvested, 78% 1998, 89% avg. Watermelons 90% harvested, 75% 1998, 88% avg. Cucumbers 80% harvested, 76% 1998, 89% avg. Lima beans 48% harvested, 48% 1998, 49% avg. Tomatoes 79% harvested, 74% 1998, 86% avg. Potatoes 85% harvested, 93% 1998, 93% avg. Apples 5% fair, 85% good, 10% excellent; 43% harvested, 43% 1998, 42% avg. Peaches 95% harvested, 90% 1998, 93% avg. Clover, other hay 89% 3rd cutting, 86% 1998, 81% avg.; 32% 4th cutting, 26% 1998, 10% avg. Alfalfa hay 42% 4th cutting, 30% 1998, 26% avg. Hay supplies 3% very short, 55% short, 42% adequate. Pasture feed 6% very poor, 38% poor, 36% fair, 20% good. Activities: Soybeans recovering slightly from rain, continued vegetable harvesting, monitoring of pod worms in soybeans.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture throughout State mostly short to adequate. Mostly dry weather. Rainfall varied from none at several locations to almost 3.00 in., Miami. Most temperatures normal to 1 degree above; many record daily highs equal or exceeded. Temperatures at Daytona Beach, Jacksonville averaged one to two degrees below normal. Daytime highs 80s, 90s; nighttime lows mostly in 60s, 70s. Jacksonville recorded at least one low at 57°. Tobacco marketing active. Cotton, soybean, sugarcane condition normal. Haying active. Cotton starting to cut out, bolls starting to open. Peanuts 14% harvested; 22% fair, 70% good, 8% excellent. Mostly clear weather allowed vegetable fieldwork to progress steadily although rains around Homestead delayed some activity. Light rain first of week followed by dry conditions citrus areas. Some irrigation running over weekend to keep trees, fruit in good condition. New crop fruit good condition. A few packing houses shipping limited volume of Navels, grapefruit. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, fertilizing, pushing dead trees, planting resets. Pasture feed 5% poor, 15% fair, 75% good, 5% excellent. Cattle 10% fair, 90% good. Pasture conditions poor in Panhandle, north, progressively improved towards south. Panhandle moisture very short, pasture condition poor. North; pasture condition fair. Central; adequate moisture; pasture, range condition fair to good; pastures stressed, hay growth slowed. Central; pasture, range condition fair; ground water table still low; hay harvest active but late, armyworms very active in some west central locations. Southwest; adequate to surplus soil moisture, some spots had standing water. Cattle condition statewide mostly good.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Soil moisture 41% very short, 40% short, 19% adequate. Soil moisture conditions deteriorated from the previous week. It was hot, dry over much of the State. These conditions continued to deplete soil moisture, hurt crop conditions. Cotton 2% harvested, 3% 1998, 1% avg. Hay 19% very poor, 33% poor, 36% fair, 12% good. Peanuts 9% dug, 4% 1998, 11% avg. Rye 0% planted, 1% 1998, 0% avg. Sorghum 15% very poor, 25% poor, 34% fair, 25% good, 1% excellent; 44% harvested for grain, 25% 1998, 24% avg. Soybeans 98% blooming, 98% 1998, 99% avg.; 89% setting pods, 89% 1998, 91% avg. Tobacco 94% harvested, 82% 1998, 94% avg. Apples 3% very poor, 5% poor, 43% fair, 45% good, 4% excellent; 26% harvested, 35% 1998, 34% avg. Pecans 7% very poor, 18% poor, 31% fair, 38% good, 6% excellent. Corn harvest continued ahead of the five year average pace. Peanuts, soybeans were being sprayed. Soybean condition decreased from the previous week. Sorghum harvest

continued. There were some reports of cotton boll-lock due to extreme temperatures. Cotton condition dropped. Peanut digging continued as condition decreased. Pastures and hayfields continued to suffer from the lack of moisture. Army worms continued to be a problem in some fields. There were reports of cattlemen continued supplemental feeding, culling some cattle. Moisture is needed to plant winter grazing. Apple harvest continued last week. Apple condition decreased slightly from the heat last week. Pecan condition decreased from the previous week. Other activities included preparing for cotton, peanut harvests as well as routine care of livestock.

HAWAII: Days generally sunny, dry except for windward areas which received light to moderate showers. Variable weather conditions were fair for agriculture. Moderate to brisk trade winds hampered some forms of irrigation, spraying during the first half of the week. Winds diminished latter in the week. Banana orchards remained in fair to good condition. Abundant sunshine, warm temperatures, adequate soil moisture promoted normal crop progress. Harvesting will remain active in all major growing areas. Papaya fields in fair to good condition. Harvesting active on all islands. Head cabbage in fair condition. Heavy irrigation ensuring normal crop progress. Cucumbers, sweet corn in good condition.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil, 8% very short, 35% short, 55% adequate, 2% surplus. Rain in Eastern areas slows small grain harvest. First report of late blight in potato fields. Irrigation supply 57% excellent, 35% good, 7% fair, 1% poor. Alfalfa hay 52% 3rd cutting, 54% 1998, 41% avg. Oats 63% harvested for grain, 74% 1998, 69% avg. Mint 76% harvested, 89% 1998, 88% avg. Dry peas 86% harvested, 98% 1998, 86% avg. Dry beans 12% harvested, 9% 1998, 18% avg. Corn 9% harvested for silage, 4% 1998, 5% avg. Sweet corn 61% harvested, 45% 1998, 56% avg. Lentils 80% harvested, 90% 1998, 67% avg. Onions 8% harvested, 16% 1998, 21% avg. Peaches 61% harvested, 56% 1998, 70% avg. Prunes, plums 38% harvested, 26% 1998, 45% avg. Apples 3% harvested, 7% 1998, 7% avg. Hops 22% harvested, 35% 1998, 29% avg. Potatoes 18% with vines dead/kill, 17% 1998, 33% avg.; 5% harvested, 4% 1998, 5% avg. Winter wheat 89% harvested, 98% 1998, 96% avg.; 1% planted, 2% 1998, 3% avg. Activities: Monitoring for insects and disease, harvesting cereal grains, potatoes, hay, mint, lentils, dry peas, oats, onions, hops sweet corn, fruit.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 23% very short, 42% short, 34% adequate, 1% surplus. Most of the State went without rain last week. This caused continuing stress on the corn, soybean, hay crops, particularly in the southern districts. Because of poor pasture conditions, some livestock producers are even beginning to feed hay. Early planted and drought or wind damaged corn is being harvested, as well as many seed corn fields. Soybean progress as of September 5 is similar to the 1998 crop. Other activities last week included chopping silage, preparing harvest equipment, caring for livestock, cleaning out bins, hauling grain. Alfalfa third cut 87%, 85% 1998, 75% avg.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 45% very short, 42% short, 13% adequate. Subsoil 44% very short, 44% short, 12% adequate. Hot dry weather prevailed. Virtually no precipitation, statewide. Topsoil, subsoil very dry. Corn harvest advanced, mostly southwest areas. Corn, soybean declined. Corn 29% good to excellent. Soybean 25% good to excellent. Pastures dried up, most areas. Range, pasture feed 34% very poor, 38% poor, 26% fair, 2% good. Feeding hay continues. Third cutting alfalfa hay virtually complete. Tobacco harvest 55% complete, 43% 1998, 34% avg. Activities: selling corn & soybeans, cleaning, repairing grain bins, preparing harvest equipment, purchasing wheat seed, harvesting tobacco, mowing roads, baling hay, painting buildings, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 8% very short, 30% short, 59% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 6% very short, 22% short, 68% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn, soybeans maturing fast. Rain is needed, especially in southern third of State. Crops on sandier ground being stressed; some soybeans not filling due to lack of moisture. In some areas crops maturing too fast due to disease. In west central, central, south central southwest areas, rust in many corn fields, as well as grey leaf spot, blight. Corn 95% dough stage, 96% 1998, 90% avg.; 85% dent stage, 86% 1998, 66% avg.; 27% mature stage, 26% 1998,

15% avg. Corn 3% very poor, 7% poor, 23% fair, 44% good, 23% excellent. Soybeans 21% leaves changing color, 29% 1998, 26% avg.; 3% leaves dropping, 3% 1998, 4% avg. 4%. Soybean 3% very poor, 7% poor, 21% fair, 45% good, 24% excellent. Livestock generally in good condition; in north central, central pastures starting to get short, rain would prevent need for feeding hay. Range, pasture feed 8% very poor, 20% poor, 24% fair, 30% good, 18% excellent. Third cutting of alfalfa 77%, 66% 1998, 65% avg. Hay 3% very poor, 12% poor, 26% fair, 36% good, 23% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 20% very short, 52% short, 28% adequate. Subsoil 13% very short, 42% short, 44% adequate, 1% surplus. Wheat seeding has begun primarily in the western, southern districts. In some areas, farmers are waiting for moisture before planting. Corn harvest is underway in all areas except the northwest, milo harvest has begun in about half the State. Soybeans 96% setting pods, 99% 1998, 97% avg. Sorghum 4% harvested, 8% 1998, 2% avg. Sunflower 3% poor, 17% fair, 67% good, 13% excellent. Ray flowers 60% dry, 88% 1998. Bracts 35% turning yellow, 50% 1998. Sunflowers 6% mature, 10% 1998; 1% harvested, 3% 1998. Fourth cutting alfalfa 63%, 56% 1998, 43% avg. Last week producers were busy seeding wheat, preparing fields for seeding, harvesting grain, harvesting silage, putting up hay, planting alfalfa. Hay, forage supplies 1% very short, 7% short, 83% adequate, 9% surplus. With many areas experiencing drought conditions, some ranchers are being forced to move cattle off of grass, begin feeding hay. Stock water supplies remain mostly adequate, though ponds are beginning to dry up in a few areas.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 68% very short, 26% short, 6% adequate. Subsoil 71% very short, 25% short, 4% adequate. No significant rainfall anywhere in State. Crops in desperate need of moisture. Soybeans severely stressed and at a critical stage. Soybean condition declining. Corn harvesting active. Burley tobacco cut 69%. Dark tobacco cut 74%. Tobacco 18% very poor, 32% poor, 32% fair, 16% good, 2% excellent. Tobacco drying too fast in barns. Eighteen percent of reports indicated some houseburn present in barns. Pasture feed 47% very poor, 36% poor, 13% fair, 4% good. Farmers continue to feed hay due to poor pasture conditions. Minimal hay harvest reported. Hay 46% very poor, 35% poor, 13% fair, 5% good, 1% excellent. Corn continues being chopped, soybeans being cut for hay.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Soil moisture 22% very short, 36% short, 31% adequate, 11% surplus. Corn 99% harvested, 95% 1998, 87% avg. Cotton 4% harvested, 2% 1998, 1% avg. Cotton growers have begun to defoliate and harvest. Hay 73% final cutting, 70% 1998, 78% avg. Rice 95% ripe, 96% 1998, 89% avg. Rice harvest edged closer to completion. Sorghum 81% harvested, 73% 1998, 55% avg. Soybeans 100% setting pods, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 59% leaves turning, 57% 1998, 41% avg.; 12% harvested, 10% 1998, 6% avg. Soybean conditions improved slightly with rain showers. Sugarcane 1% very poor, 1% poor, 19% fair, 52% good, 27% excellent; 81% planted, 34% 1998, 37% avg. Sweet potatoes 6% poor, 25% fair, 66% good, 3% excellent; 25% harvested, 18% 1998, 21% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 10% poor, 35% fair, 44% good, 10% excellent. Vegetables 7% very poor, 20% poor, 40% fair, 30% good, 3% excellent. Pastures continued to be very dry.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Subsoil 39% very short, 32% short, 29% adequate. Topsoil 1% very short, 21% short, 71% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 18% very poor, 26% poor, 34% fair, 18% good, 4% excellent; 85% dough, 89% 1998, 88% avg.; 67% dent, 75% 1998, 67% avg.; 34% mature, 39% 1998, 24% avg.; 8% harvested for grain, 9% 1998, 5% avg.; 42% harvested for silage, 23% 1998, 25% avg. Soybeans 7% very poor, 15% poor, 29% fair, 41% good, 8% excellent; 93% setting pods, 94% 1998, 89% avg.; 9% turned, 14% 1998, 11% avg.; 5% shedding leaves, 5% 1998, 4% avg. Sorghum 10% very poor, 40% poor, 44% fair, 6% good; 39% turning color, 41% 1998, 33% avg. Tobacco 8% very poor, 19% poor, 31% fair, 37% good, 5% excellent; 94% topped, 95% 1998, 96% avg.; 59% harvested, 52% 1998, 68% avg. Snap beans 88% harvested, 89% 1998, 87% avg. Cucumbers 83% harvested, 89% 1998, 92% avg. Sweet Corn 94% harvested, 93% 1998, 89% avg. Tomatoes 91% harvested, 89% 1998, 88% avg. Cantaloupes 95% harvested, 93% 1998, 95% avg. Lima beans 32% harvested, 49% 1998, 39% avg. Watermelons 95% harvested, 91% 1998, 90% avg.

Apples 1% poor, 21% fair, 78% good; 34% harvested, 20% 1998, 22% avg. Clover, other hays 80% 3rd cutting, 76% 1998, 59% avg. Alfalfa 87% 3rd cutting harvested, 96% 1998, 90% avg.; 32% 4th cutting, 36% 1998, 38% avg. Pasture feed 10% very poor, 26% poor, 37% fair, 26% good, 1% excellent. Hay 16% very short, 53% short, 31% adequate. Activities: More rain received during last week, western areas still dry, continued vegetable harvesting.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 18% very short, 42% short, 40% adequate. Subsoil 17% very short, 43% short, 40% adequate, 0% surplus. Hot, dry conditions dominated the past week as fields looked stressed. Little rain, if any, was reported anywhere in the State. Hay 4% very poor, 8% poor, 23% fair, 46% good, 19% excellent. Dry beans 1% poor, 14% fair, 64% good, 21% excellent. Hay 67% 3rd cutting, 74% 1998, 49% avg.; 8% 4th cutting, 12% 1998, 3% avg. Dry beans 98% turning leaves, 100% 1998, 65% avg. Dry beans 71% shedding leaves, 95% 1998, 43% avg.; 14% mature, 23% 1998, 8% avg. Silage 19% harvested, 29% 1998, 10% avg. Soybeans 41% turning leaves, 52% 1998, 32% avg. Work conditions almost perfect all week and record highs recorded last weekend. It was perfect weather all week to work as farmers cut hay. Most third cuttings completed, some areas starting on their fourth cutting. Very early planted dry beans being harvested in the southern areas. Corn maturing nicely aided by dry weather. Corn silage harvest was in full swing. Sugar beets still need rain as some fields showing moisture stress. White mold continued to surface in many soybean fields and spraying was completed as needed. Cabbage for fall harvest was behind in development. Cantaloupe harvest continued. Carrot harvest was moving quickly with excellent yields and quality. Cauliflower and broccoli harvest were underway with good quality. Celery harvest was on schedule at mid-season. Cucumber harvest continued with improved quality. Onion harvest was beginning with the outlook favorable and good drying weather. Pepper harvest continued with excellent quality. Pumpkin maturity remained ahead of normal but with less than normal production expected. Snap bean harvest was in full swing with good yields and quality. Zucchini, summer squash harvest continued. Sweet corn harvest was winding down, supplies becoming limited. Processing tomato harvest continued with average to above average yields, very good quality. Apple fruit 3 inches diameter. Peach harvest neared completion in the south and was in high gear in the West Central region. Stanley plum harvest was ending in the southwest while later season plum harvest started. Niagara grape harvest started in the southwest. Southwest Bartlett pear harvest wrapped up, harvest of later varieties started. Fall red raspberry harvest continued.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Topsoil 4% very short, 12% short, 59% adequate, 25% surplus. Soybeans 41% turning yellow, 54% 1998, 35% avg. Corn 19% silage cut, 25% 1998, 9% avg. Winter wheat 15% seeded, 50% 1998, 39% avg. Rye 18% seeded, 53% 1998, 39% avg. Dry beans 11% harvested, 42% 1998, 19% avg. Sweet corn 74% harvested, 84% 1998, 72% avg. Potatoes 14% harvested, 17% 1998, 13% avg. Grain/Hay stubble plowed 40%, 58% 1998, 40% avg. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 12% poor, 26% fair, 53% good, 6% excellent. Sugar beets 2% very poor, 7% poor, 25% fair, 51% good, 15% excellent. Sunflowers 2% very poor, 11% poor, 30% fair, 49% good, 8% excellent. Dry beans 6% very poor, 13% poor, 38% fair, 38% good, 5% excellent. Rain-producing systems crossed most of the State, but dumped heavy rainfall mainly in the north. Wheat producers in northwestern areas are discouraged by the persistent rains which keep many from completing harvest and some even from beginning harvest. Soybeans are showing typical progress toward maturity as a large portion of the acreage has begun to change color.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Soil moisture 50% very short, 30% short, 20% adequate. Conditions remained hot, dry across the State with scattered showers towards the end of the week. Preparations for fall planting have begun in some parts of the State. Corn 81% harvested, 79% 1998, 50% avg.; 98% silage harvested, 89% 1998, 87% avg. Cotton 87% open bolls, 84% 1998, 66% avg.; 3% harvested, 3% 1998, 1% avg.; 5% very poor, 14% poor, 32% fair, 39% good, 10% excellent. Rice 67% mature, 66% 1998, 66% avg.; 18% harvested, 37% 1998, 27% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, 9% excellent. Sorghum 96% mature, 81% 1998, 80% avg.; 67% harvested, 49% 1998, 44% avg.; 76% silage harvested, 74% 1998, 65% avg. Soybeans 76% turning color, 66% 1998, 47% avg.; 55% shedding leaves,

35% 1998, 28% avg.; 22% harvested, 8% 1998, 5% avg.; 16% very poor, 19% poor, 27% fair, 31% good, 7% excellent. Sweet potatoes 15% harvested, 19% 1998, 23% avg.; 1% very poor, 7% poor, 47% fair, 45% good. Hay (warm-season) 87% harvested, 89% 1998, 90% avg. Cattle, 2% very poor, 14% poor, 38% fair, 40% good, 6% excellent. Pasture feed 26% very poor, 22% poor, 35% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil continues to decline to 62% very short, 28% short, 10% adequate. Subsoil 50% very short, 35% short, 15% adequate. Precipitation 0.30 in. Nearly all reporters indicated very short or short as the most common ratings. Northeast remains the driest district with 99% very short, 1% short of moisture. Late summer drought conditions are continuing to develop. Rainfall is needed throughout the State especially for soybeans, pastures, and livestock water supplies. Ninety-five percent of the corn has dented and 62% is mature. Warm, dry weather has speeded maturity of the crop too slightly ahead of 1998, about ten days ahead of average. Twenty percent of the corn is harvested, 3 days ahead of 1998, 12 days ahead of normal. Harvesting progress ranges from just beginning in the northern districts to 68% complete in the southeast. Ninety-six percent of all soybeans were setting pods, 24% turning color, 8% dropping leaves. Dry weather is forcing the crop into maturity slightly ahead of 1998 early crop, several days ahead of average. Seventy-seven percent of the sorghum crop was turning color, 40% has reached maturity. The Bootheel leads all districts with 83% of the grain sorghum crop matured. Throughout the State grain sorghum progress of both coloring and maturity is several days ahead of normal. Seventy-three percent of the cotton crop is opening bolls, about two weeks ahead of the 32% normal for this date. Range, pasture feed 45% very poor, 29% poor, 19% fair, 7% good. Most districts reported pastures as poor to very poor except the northwest, west-central districts which indicated over 55% as fair to good condition

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil 9% very short, 30% short, 59% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 15% very short, 41% short, 43% adequate, 1% surplus. Week started out hot, dry, but as the week progressed, temperatures cooled off. Good moisture was received at many locations across the State. Sugar beets 1% poor, 24% fair, 45% good, 30% excellent. Winter wheat harvested 96%, 99% 1998, 95% avg. Spring wheat ripe 90%, 98% 1998, 93% avg. Barley ripe 89%, 98% 1998, 92% avg. Oats ripe 92%, 98% 1998, 94% avg.; harvested 69%, 93% 1998, 77% avg. Corn for silage harvested 9%, 6% 1998, 9% avg.; 1% poor, 17% fair, 67% good, 15% excellent. Potatoes 11% fair, 65% good, 24% excellent. Dry beans harvested 38%, 33% 1998, 22% avg.; 6% poor, 27% fair, 57% good, 10% excellent. Alfalfa second cutting 75%, 89% 1998, 84% avg. Other hay harvested 92%, 97% 1998, 97% avg. Cattle, calves moved from summer ranges 16%, 8% 1998, 6% avg. Sheep, lambs moved from summer ranges 10%, 6% 1998, 7% avg.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil 12% very short, 36% short, 48% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 10% very short, 26% short, 61% adequate, 3% surplus. Temperatures 3° in the Panhandle up to 8° above normals in the northeast. Precipitation less than 0.20 in. south central portion of the State up to 2.00 in. Panhandle. Corn 2% very poor, 8% poor, 21% fair, 48% good, 21%; dryland corn 56%, irrigated corn 78% good, 22% excellent. Corn Dough rated 96%, below 98% 1998, ahead of 95% avg.; corn dented moved to 75% behind 91% 1998, ahead of 65% avg.; corn matured 9%, above 8% 1998, 6% avg. Soybeans 7% very poor, 12% poor, 28% fair, 38% good, 15% excellent; coloring rated 22%, compared to 33% 1998, 28% avg. Soybeans dropping leaves 4%, 4% 1998, but slightly below the 6% avg. Sorghum heading near completion at 99%, just below last year's 100%, 100% 1998; turning color moved slowly to 49%, compared to 76% 1998, 55% avg.; 1% very poor, 8% poor, 32% fair, 52% good, 7% excellent. Dry beans turning color rated 93%, well ahead of 74% 1998, 79% avg.; dropping leaves 48%, above 35% 1998, 37% avg.; 20% poor, 27% fair, 46% good, 7% excellent. Alfalfa 2% very poor, 8% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 8% excellent; 3rd cutting 90%, just above 88% 1998, ahead of 84% avg. Range, pasture feed 5% very poor, 13% poor, 27% fair, 45% good, 10% excellent. Pastures were starting to dry up due to lack of moisture. Producer activities included moving grain, haying prairies, preparations for seeding wheat, fertilizer application, irrigating, field demonstrations of seed companies' test plots, silage cutting, marketing of yearlings, preparations of harvest equipment.

NEVADA: Temperatures turned sharply cooler with much of northern State experiencing the first killing frost of the season. No precipitation was recorded anywhere in the State. Third cutting of alfalfa hay was in full swing, while the cooler temperatures dimmed prospects for a fourth cutting in the north. Alfalfa seed harvest gained momentum. Grain harvest was nearly completed and stubble was being burned. Onion harvest intensified and onion seed harvest was underway. Swathing of mint for distillation continued. Cantaloupe harvest was well along. Garlic harvest continued in full swing. Preparations for digging potatoes were underway. Pasture, range condition remained mostly good despite seasonal drying. Gathering of cattle scattered by wildfires continued. Rangeland restoration planning for the 1.5 million acres burned was underway. Main farm, ranch activities: Harvesting alfalfa hay, grain harvest, alfalfa seed harvest, garlic, onion digging, irrigating, working cattle.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 47% very short, 35% short, 18% adequate. Subsoil 45% very short, 33% short, 22% adequate. Pasture feed 30% very poor, 42% poor, 20% fair, 8% good. Maine potatoes 5% harvested, 5% 1998, 5% avg.; condition excellent to good. Massachusetts potatoes 50% harvested, 50% 1998, 45% avg.; condition good to fair. Rhode Island potatoes 45% harvested, 25% 1998, 30% avg.; condition poor to fair. Oats in Maine 80% harvested, 70% 1998, 50% avg.; condition good to excellent. Barley in Maine 95% harvested, 85% 1998; condition good to excellent. Field corn 20% harvested, 5% 1998, 5% avg.; condition good. Sweet corn 85% harvested, 75% 1998, 80% avg.; condition good to fair. Shade Tobacco 95% harvested, 100% 1998, 95% avg., condition good. Broadleaf Tobacco 99% harvested, 95% 1998, 95% avg.; condition good. Second cut hay 90% harvested, 85% 1998, 80% avg.; condition good to fair. Third cut hay 50% harvested, 35% 1998, 40% avg.; condition fair. Apples 15% harvested, 20% 1998, 20% avg.; size below average to average, condition good. Peaches 70% harvested, 85% 1998, 85% avg.; size average to below average, condition fair. Pears 15% harvested, 30% 1998, 30% avg.; size below average to average, condition good to fair. Cranberries size average, condition good to excellent. Highbush blueberries 95% harvested, 95% 1998, 95% avg.; size average, condition good to fair. Wild Blueberries 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% average; size average, condition good to fair. Major farm activities included: Harvesting oats, barley, potatoes, silage corn. Picking apples, pears and peaches. Wild blueberry harvest completed in Maine, highbush blueberry harvest almost complete. Harvesting late summer vegetables including squash, sweet corn, peppers. Harvesting, marketing mums.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Temperatures above normal. Extremes 46°; 92°. Rainfall 0.50 in. north, 0.18 in. central, 0.37 in. south. The heaviest 24 hour total 1.27 in. at Charlotteburg on the 5th to the 6th. Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 78% north, 67% central, 59% south. Four inch soil temperatures averaged 68° north, 70° central, 71° south. Irrigation water supply is between short, adequate in most areas. Preparation of fields for small grains, hay, grass seeding occurred extensively during the week. Field corn condition is poor in most areas despite the recent rains. Cutting of corn silage started earlier than usual. Many fields that were originally intended for grain are now being cut for silage. Soybeans condition is between fair and poor across the State. Recent rains arrived just in time to help late planted soybean fields in northern areas that were still in the critical pod setting stage. Condition of alfalfa, other hay fields is improving slowly, a delayed second cutting might occur in areas that have not had it yet. Prospects of a third cutting are looking good if the rains continue. Pasture condition continued to improve, however, supplemental feeding of cattle is still needed in most areas. Some farmers are turning their cattle out to hay fields. Harvest of summer vegetable crops is in full swing. Tomatoes are between good, fair condition. Some end rot and skin cracking problems caused by the recent rains have been reported. Peppers, snap beans, cucumbers fields are also between good and fair condition. Smaller than normal sizes, misshapen fruits have been reported for tomatoes, peppers in areas of central, northern areas. Potato sizes have also been reported to be somewhat smaller than normal, yields are down. Sweet potatoes are in good condition across the State. Planting of fall spinach, cabbage, lettuce continued. Harvest of peaches, apples continued across the State. Quality of both crops has been reported to be from excellent to good, especially in terms of flavor, texture, color. Some farmers in central, northern areas have reported sizes a little smaller than usual for both fruits. However, the overall quality is still considered as good.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Hit, miss thunderstorms produced measurable rainfall at most locations during the week; however, precipitation was very spotty in the extreme northeast, southeast, southwest. Temperatures were near normal everywhere except the Eastern Plains, far southwest desert. Statewide average was between 1 to 2° above normal. Conditions were favorable across most of the State for continued harvest of hay, vegetable crops. Fall planting of wheat was progressing rapidly. Chile, silage harvest remained active. Ranchers continued to report good weight gains with no supplemental feeding. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 63% good, 10% excellent. Cattle, sheep conditions remained in mostly good to excellent condition.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Soil moisture 50% very short, 44% short, 6% adequate. Pasture feed 42% very poor, 38% poor, 15% fair, 5% good. Hay 22% poor, 56% fair, 22% good. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 79% complete, 62% 1998, 55% avg. Corn 13% poor, 31% fair, 43% good, 13% excellent. Silage corn 33% harvested. Grain corn harvest underway. Oat harvest near completion. Potato digging gained momentum. Onion harvest in full swing. Progress was ahead of average. Bulb size has been smaller than normal. Apple harvest continued on early varieties. Few Macintosh apples were picked. Early grape varieties were harvested in the Finger Lakes region. Dairy farmers still dealing with water supply problems. Feeding required to supplement poor pastures.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7, 5.2 last week. Temperatures were cooler throughout the week as western counties received little to no rainfall and coastal counties experienced the rains from Hurricane Dennis. After moving Northeast off the North Carolina coast, Dennis was forced south and then west by the rotation of the two high pressure systems, making landfall early Saturday evening. The tropical disturbance trekked northwest dropping heavy rainfall over most of the State. Prior to the tropical storm that engulfed the State, soil moisture levels dropped but the late week rains should restore some levels closer to normal for this time of year. Soil moisture, before the weekend rains, was 11% very short, 31% short, 49% adequate, 9% surplus. Tobacco harvesting, marketing are still the major activities along with corn for grain, silage harvest. Other activities included sorghum harvest, weed control in all crops, baling hay, harvesting apples, peaches, vegetables, crop scouting, tending livestock. Peanut threshing sweet potato harvest kicked off this week.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2. Topsoil 5% short, 72% adequate, 23% surplus. Subsoil 6% short, 72% adequate, 22% surplus. Rain across the State resulted in little harvest progress this past week. Producers are in need of warm, dry weather to allow harvest to resume. Durum wheat 27% combined, 79% 1998, 53% avg. Canola 98% turning, 100% 1998; 89% swathed, 97% 1998; 41% combined, 79% 1998. Corn for grain 62% denting, 82% 1998, 67% avg.; 8% ripe, 21% 1998, 10% avg. Dry edible beans 97% fully podded, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 77% lower leaves yellowing, 100% 1998, 96% avg.; 49% mature, 96% 1998, 80% avg.; 13% cut, 58% 1998, 29% avg.; 3% combined, 36% 1998, 16% avg. Flaxseed 88% turning, 100% 1998, 94% avg.; 18% combined, 66% 1998, 30% avg. Potatoes 52% vines killed, 74% 1998, 55% avg.; 3% dug, 5% 1998, 8% avg. Soybeans 95% fully podded, 98% 1998, 98% avg.; 32% lower leaves yellowing, 59% 1998, 63% avg.; 9% mature, 24% 1998, 22% avg. Sunflowers 66% ray flowers dried, 90% 1998, 83% avg.; 18% bracts turned yellow, 58% 1998, 46% avg.; 4% bracts turned brown, 13% 1998, 11% avg. Sugar beets 2% lifted, 2% 1998 1% avg. Dry beans, flax, soybeans, sunflowers remain behind average in crop development progress while corn, potatoes were near average. Emerged condition: durum 4% very poor, 11% poor, 43% fair, 38% good, 4% excellent; corn for grain 2% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 61% good, 9% excellent; corn for silage 0% very poor, 3% poor, 31% fair, 56% good, 10% excellent; dry edible beans 0% very poor, 8% poor, 31% fair, 49% good, 12% excellent; flaxseed 0% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 55% good, 14% excellent; potatoes 0% very poor, 7% poor, 12% fair, 42% good, 39% excellent; soybeans 3% very poor, 9% poor, 23% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent; sugar beets 1% very poor, 6% poor, 12% fair, 54% good, 27% excellent; sunflower 1% very poor, 6% poor, 25% fair, 53% good, 15% excellent. Stock water 1% short, 92% adequate, 7% surplus. Hay 8% above normal.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 30% very short, 43% short, 27% adequate. Soybeans 36% dropping leaves, 15% 1998, 10% avg.; 6% mature, 0% 1998, 1% avg.; 1% harvested, 0% 1998, 0% avg. Alfalfa hay 90% 3rd cutting, 85% 1998, 68% avg.; 33% 4th cutting, 19% 1998. Other hay 61% 3rd cutting, 57% 1998, 41% avg. Corn 78% dented, 57% 1998, 46% avg.; 18% mature, 7% avg. Corn 30% harvested for silage, 9% 1998, 6% avg.; 1% harvested for grain, 0% 1998. Summer apples 91% harvested, 100% 1998, 84% avg. Fall, winter apples 11% harvested, 0% avg. Peaches 92% harvested, 97% 1998. Grapes 2% harvested, 0% 1998. Tobacco 99% topped, 92% 1998. Tobacco 37% harvested, 37% 1998. Processing tomatoes 53% harvested, 40% 1998, 33% avg. Potatoes 56% harvested, 62% 1998, 38% avg. Pasture feed 23% very poor, 26% poor, 33% fair, 17% good, 1% excellent. Corn 8% very poor, 18% poor, 34% fair, 35% good, 5% excellent. Soybeans 6% very poor, 17% poor, 34% fair, 37% good, 6% excellent. Activities for the week include making hay; mowing, seeding CRP; combining soybeans; chopping wheat stubble; picking tomatoes, sweet corn; digging potatoes; chopping silage; plowing wheat ground; applying minerals; seeding filter strips; hauling grain; installing tile, waterways; leveling land; constructing, cleaning grain bins; hauling manure; pulling weeds in soybeans; scouting for insects, disease; preparing for harvest; selling livestock; 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, sourdock, Johnson grass, mare's tail, ironweed, smartweed, barnyard grass, nutsedge, and goldenrod. Reported insects include spider mites on soybeans; leaf hoppers in potatoes; corn borers; stink bugs on pumpkins, squash; beetles in soybeans, corn. Reported diseases include sudden death syndrome, white mold, root rot in soybeans; gray leaf spot, aflatoxin, fungus on corn; collapse of cantaloupe. Fruit, vegetable conditions range from fair to good. In Medina county, tomatoes, sweet corn, pumpkins are growing well. In Wayne county, one reporter mentioned that pumpkin, squash production is below average, garden potatoes are below average in quality and quantity. In Warren county, pumpkin size was helped by recent rains. Pasture, grass conditions are still poor in most areas of the state. Many reporters mentioned that grass is improving with recent rains, cooler temperatures, growth is minimal, pastures are over grazed. Livestock are reported in mostly good condition. In Wayne county, some mastitis is reported in dairy cows due to dry weather. In southern counties, livestock are heat stressed. Many reporters are feeding hay. Livestock continue to be sold due to water shortages.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Subsoil 17% very short, 44% short, 39% adequate. Topsoil 33% very short, 59% short, 8% adequate. Scattered showers bring relief to a few regions of state, most areas remain dry. Wheat 67% seedbed prepared, 59% 1998, 67% avg. Oats 55% seedbed prepared, 51% 1998, 49% avg. Corn 2% very poor, 1% poor, 5% fair, 90% good, 2% excellent; 50% mature, 36% 1998, 45% avg.; 11% harvested, 20% 1998, 16% avg. Sorghum 92% headed, 93% 1998, 92% avg.; 1% harvested, 4% 1998, 2% avg. Soybeans 3% very poor, 28% poor, 37% fair, 31% good, 1% excellent; 85% flowering, 98% 1998, 97% avg.; 70% setting pods, 86% 1998, 89% avg.; 16% mature, 30% 1998, 24% avg.; 3% harvested, 7% 1998, 5% avg. Peanuts 4% mature, 20% 1998, 12% avg. Watermelons 93% harvested, 95% 1998, 83% avg. Alfalfa hay 1% very poor, 16% poor, 35% fair, 45% good, 3% excellent; 65% 4th cutting, 32% 1998, 54% avg.; 7% 5th cutting, 1% 1998, 5% avg. Other hay 60% 2nd cutting, 13% 1998, 62% avg. Livestock 4% poor, 23% fair, 69% good, 4% excellent. Feeder steer prices steady at \$77 per cwt.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 34% very short, 47% short, 19% adequate. Subsoil 30% very short, 49% short, 21% adequate. Barley harvested 72%, 86% 1998, 77% avg. Spring wheat harvested 89%, 96% 1998. Winter wheat harvested 98%, 99% 1998, 98% avg. Range, pasture feed 6% very poor, 31% poor, 29% fair, 32% good, 2% excellent. Activities: Small grain harvest continued across the State, most areas finished except those halted by rain, cold temperatures. Central growers reported good wheat yields; protein content lower than hoped for in hard red spring wheat. Mint harvest underway, grass seed harvest almost complete; second, third crop of hay in full swing in eastside. Hay down or in windrow affected by last week's rain, cool weather. Willamette Valley producers were finished with grass seed harvest, busy baling straw. Most hay in the barn, some second, third

crops ready to cut. Mint still being harvested, sugar beet seed about done in Willamette Valley. Irrigation, summer maintenance is the main activity at nurseries. Easter lily transplanting continued in south coast. Christmas tree shearing still going on, trees are being flagged for the 1999 harvest. Potato harvest on-going in east side despite frost reported in southeast. Northeast Russet Burbank potatoes suffering from high levels of leafroll virus. Early season cool temperatures, hail, severe winds affecting onions. Onion harvest also in progress with some eastern counties reporting low yields. Carrot, radish seed crops being harvested in Malheur County. Willamette Valley vegetable harvest was in full-swing. Green beans past their peak, sweet corn, tomatoes & squash being harvested, onions near pulling stage. Most potatoes been harvested. In Mid-Columbia Basin, harvesting of Gala apples begun. In the Willamette Valley U-pick blueberry harvest ending. Cranberries being pruned, trained. The peach harvest continued. In the southwest the fruit harvest still underway. Some areas still having a shortage of pickers. In the west side livestock fair to good. Pastures mostly dry except for irrigated areas. In the east side livestock reported good to excellent condition. Range conditions poor to fair. Some reports of early movement of cattle.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Soil moisture 35% very short, 36% short, 29% adequate. Corn 81% dough, 76% 1998, 80% avg.; 50% dent, 42% 1998, 45% avg.; 15% mature; 15% harvested, 6% 1998, 7% avg. Ensilage corn 32% harvested, 13% 1998, 12% avg. Soybean 18% very poor, 33% poor, 26% fair, 20% good, 3% excellent. Barley 10% planted, 13% 1998, 11% avg. Tobacco harvest 40% complete, 78% 1998, 65% avg. Potato 30% harvest, 27% 1998, 30% avg. Alfalfa 76% 3rd cutting, 71% 1998, 65% avg. Alfalfa 40% 4th cutting, 36% 1998, 27% avg. Timothy clover 81% 2nd cutting, 80% 1998, 80% avg. Quality of hay made 4% very poor, 9% poor, 22% fair, 45% good, 20% excellent. Apple 26% harvest, 31% 1998, 26% avg.; 1% very poor, 6% poor, 25% fair, 56% good, 12% excellent. Peach 89% harvest, 89% 1998, 80% avg. Grape harvest 5% complete, 3% 1998, 13% avg. Fall plowing 24% complete, 23% 1998, 28% avg. Activities include harvesting fruits, vegetables, potatoes, corn silage, tobacco; planting barley and wheat; machinery maintenance; filling silos; hauling manure; pumping and spreading manure; spreading lime; caring for livestock; cutting hay; plowing for the fall.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 16% very short, 51% short, 31% adequate, 2% surplus. Apples 30% harvested, 27% 1998, 30% avg.; 39% poor, 46% fair, 15% good. Corn 99% matured, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 79% harvested, 69% 1998, 59% avg.; 7% very poor, 24% poor, 41% fair, 23% good, 5% excellent. Livestock 2% very poor, 12% poor, 37% fair, 38% good, 11% excellent. Grapes 20% poor, 60% fair, 20% good. Peaches 99% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Pasture feed 16% very poor, 38% poor, 36% fair, 10% good. Sorghum 98% headed, 98% 1998; 89% turned color, 89% 1998; 60% matured, 59% 1998; 35% harvested, 34% 1998, 30% avg.; 8% very poor, 35% poor, 50% fair, 7% good. Sweet Potatoes 7% harvested, 5% 1998, 7% avg.; 6% poor, 44% fair, 50% good. Tobacco 86% harvested, 88% 1998, 88% avg.; 54% stalks destroyed, 39% 1998, 44% avg. Watermelons 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Winter grazings 3% planted, 12% 1998, 8% avg.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 8% very short, 18% short, 59% adequate, 15% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 25% short, 61% adequate, 11% surplus. Alfalfa 2% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 54% good, 16% excellent; 92% 2nd cutting complete, 95% 1998, 92% avg.; 56% 3rd cutting complete, 61% 1998. Other hay 92% harvested, 91% 1998, 92% avg. Sorghum 98% headed, 99% 1998, 98% avg.; 0% harvested, 3% 1998, 1% avg., harvested for silage 3%, 14% 1998, 5% avg. Soybeans 99% setting pods, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 1% mature, 11% 1998, 7% avg. Sunflower 1% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, 18% excellent; 95% blooming, 93% 1998, 98% avg.; 55% ray flowers dry, 80% 1998, 78% avg.; 42% bracts yellow, 64% 1998, 53% avg.; 1% mature, 14% 1998, 6% avg. Flaxseed 25% fair, 58% good, 17% excellent; 99% ripe, 100% 1998, 93% avg.; 76% harvested, 90% 1998, 68% avg. Corn 15% harvested for silage, 17% 1998, 7% avg. Winter rye 3% seeded, 30% 1998, 13% avg. Winter wheat 4% seeded, 16% 1998, 9% avg. Range, pasture feed 2% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 52% good, 16% excellent. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 7% short, 77% adequate, 15% surplus. Cattle 8% fair, 70% good, 22% excellent. Sheep 6% fair, 62% good, 32% excellent.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 66% very short, 26% short, 8% adequate. Subsoil 59% very short, 30% short, 11% adequate. Corn 90% mature, 70% 1998, 61% avg.; 55% harvested for grain, 27% 1998, 15% avg.; 80% silage harvested, 68% 1998, 65% avg. Tobacco 15% very poor, 24% poor, 32% fair, 22% good, 7% excellent. Burley 67% harvested, 44% 1998, 51% avg. Dark Air-Cured 81% harvested, 56% 1998, 64% avg. Dark Fire-Cured 74% harvested, 57% 1998, 61% avg. Pasture feed 42% very poor, 32% poor, 18% fair, 8% good. Cattle 5% very poor, 16% poor, 47% fair, 29% good, 3% excellent. Drought conditions persisted last week with most of the State receiving no rain. The dry weather continued to adversely affect crops, especially soybeans and pastures. The State's soybean crop continued to be rated in mostly poor to very poor and desperately needs a rain soon. Pastures were rated even worse than soybeans. Lack of adequate grazing and water has caused many herds to show signs of stress, with heavy feeding and movement to market common. On the bright side, corn harvest continued and was nearly three weeks ahead of the five-year average. Respectable corn yields have been reported.

TEXAS: Conditions were hot, dry over the state with only widely scattered showers reported in the Plains, North, East Texas, along the Upper Coast. Water from Hurricane Bret continued to recede in South Texas. Fall land preparation remained slow in many locations due to continued dry conditions. The dry conditions also escalated harvest activities. Grain storage problems continued in some locations. Livestock conditions remained fair to good, declining, supplemental feeding continued.

Crops: Small Grains, Some early wheat emerged where moisture was available. Other fields were being dry planted. Emerged 1%, 2% 1998, 1% avg. Oat seeding continued where moisture permitted following scattered showers, 4%, 5% 1998, 3% avg. Corn High Plains crop continued to mature, harvest was in full swing. Silage harvest was mostly complete. Harvest neared completion in the Blacklands, Central Texas and Upper Coast. Markets continued to be weak. Statewide corn condition was rated at 89% of normal compared with 61 percent last year. Cotton: Good growth, development continued in the Plains where showers fell, however many fields have reached cut out. Dryland fields need more rain as boll drop was still a problem. Boll weevil eradication spraying was in progress in some areas. Harvest continued in the Coastal Bend, Blacklands, Central Texas with good yields reported. Cotton condition 60% of normal, 45% 1998; 100% setting bolls, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 11% harvested, 20% 1998, 16% avg. Peanuts Fields continued to look good in the Plains and North Central Texas. Irrigation was still active but beginning to wind down in most locations. Dryland fields need more rain. Some spraying for diseases was still occurring. Early harvest continued in central, south central. Other locations will begin soon. Peanuts 74% of normal, 63% 1998. Rice: Harvest made good progress along the Upper Coast with very good yields, excellent quality reported. Rice 95% normal, 81% 1998. Sorghum: Fields matured rapidly in the Plains under continued hot dry conditions and harvest began to expand. Storage space continued to be a problem. Sorghum condition was rated at 65% of normal, 48% 1998; 96% headed, 99% 1998, 98% avg.; 65% harvested, 54% 1998, 58% avg. Soybeans: Progress and development was good in the High Plains, however dryland fields need more rain. Irrigation remained active but declined as fields mature. Harvest continued to near completion in the Blacklands and Upper Coast. Soybeans 50%, 81% 1998, 39% avg.

Commercial Vegetables: In the Rio Grande Valley, land preparation was limited as drying conditions were still needed. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden, some planting of fall vegetables continued. Some areas received scattered showers. In East Texas, sweet potato and watermelon harvest continued but slowed. Harvest of vegetables declined as well due to continued dry weather. In the High Plains, vegetable harvest was mostly completed. In the Trans Pecos, some vegetables remained to be harvested but most were complete. Peaches: Harvest continued in the High Plains but was completed in other areas. Pecans: Scattered showers offered minimal help to Pecans, nut drop continued. Pressure from Shuck Worms, weevils, Aphids, Web Worms, Scab was still increasing in most areas.

Range and Livestock: Hay production continued to diminish, however supplies remained good. Supplemental feeding continued to increase. Grass fires continued to be a problem in Central Texas, the Edwards Plateau, the High Plains. Poultry operations continued to suffer from the heat.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 12% very short, 21% short, 67% adequate. Subsoil 13% very short, 19% short, 68% adequate. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 10% poor, 32% fair, 51% good, 6% excellent. Corn 54% in dough stage, 62% 1998, 40% avg.; 7% dent stage, 20% 1998, 11% avg. Corn 2% silage harvested, 4% 1998, 3% avg. Barley 97% harvested (grain), 95% 1998, 97% avg. Alfalfa hay 52% 3rd cutting, 53% 1998, 50% avg.; 10% seed harvested, 9% 1998, 10% avg. Oats 82% harvested for grain, 80% 1998, 77% avg. Peaches 57% picked, 39% 1998, 65% avg. Pears 48% picked, 31% 1998, 45% avg. Apples 1% picked, 3% 1998, 11% avg. Potatoes 4% harvested, 3% 1998, 5% avg. Onions 16% harvested, 14% 1998, 17% avg. Cattle moved from summer range 5%, 4% 1998, 10% avg. Sheep moved from summer range 2%, 1% 1998, 6% avg. Irrigation water supply 8% very short, 16% short, 69% adequate 7% surplus. Stock water supplies 3% very short, 18% short, 77% adequate, 2% surplus. Major activities included: Harvesting small grains, hay, fruit, vegetables, preparing land for fall planting.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 16% very short, 30% short, 46% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil 38% very short, 33% short, 26% adequate, 3% surplus. Temperatures across the Commonwealth were several degrees cooler than normal over the past week. Many localities benefitted from increased precipitation resulting from Tropical Storm Dennis. Pastures feed 20% very poor, 25% poor, 32% fair, 20% good, 3% excellent. Livestock 11% poor, 36% fair, 46% good, 7% excellent. Hay, Other 19% very poor, 44% poor, 24% fair, 13% good. Alfalfa 4% very poor, 26% poor, 43% fair, 21% good, 6% excellent. Corn for grain 91% dough, 86% 1998, 89% avg.; 75% dented, 63% 1998, 65% avg.; 41% mature, 43% 1998, 44% avg.; 7% harvested, 17% 1998, 10% avg.; 16% very poor, 32% poor, 21% fair, 22% good, 9% excellent. Corn for silage 40% harvested, 39% 1998, 30% avg. Soybeans 95% blooming, 96% 1998, 93% avg.; 73% setting pods, 83% 1998, 77% avg.; 2% dropping leaves, 7% 1998, 3% avg.; 6% very poor, 17% poor, 34% fair, 36% good, 7% excellent. Tobacco, flue cured 50% harvested, 42% 1998, 48% avg.; 5% poor, 24% fair, 51% good, 20% excellent. Tobacco, burley 45% harvested, 37% 1998, 29% avg.; 5% very poor, 5% poor, 19% fair, 45% good, 26% excellent. Tobacco, Dark fire cured 70% harvested, 62% 1998, 65% avg. Tobacco, sun cured 50% harvested 45% 1998, 49% avg. Peanuts 0% dug, 1% 1998, 0% avg.; 0% combined, 0% 1998, 0% avg.; 9% fair, 55% good, 36% excellent. Cotton 30% bolls opening, 44% 1998, 42% avg.; 9% fair, 43% good, 48% excellent. Apples, all 2% very poor, 11% poor, 34% fair, 45% good, 8% excellent. Apples, summer 98% harvested, 98% 1998, 89% avg. Peaches 90% harvested, 95% 1998, 95% avg. Virginia's hay crop improved as a result of recent weather patterns. Livestock producers are hopeful that the increased moisture will enable some fescue, other annual grasses to be stockpiled for feed this winter. Some producers will still need to re-seed due to two years of extremely hot, dry conditions. Soybean development remains slightly behind schedule but should progress as a result of the recent showers. Seventy-seven percent of the state's crop remains in fair or better condition. Double-cropped acres need additional precipitation in order to reach full yield potential. Harvest of corn and tobacco continues but will be slowed somewhat until fields are dry enough for equipment to move about freely without causing damage. Some fall vegetable plantings will be delayed 1-2 weeks. The peanut crop remains in mostly good to excellent condition in spite of limited disease, worm problems. While cotton progress is slightly behind schedule producers expect a good crop. Few producers have reported broken stems due to a heavy boll load.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 15% very short, 51% short, 34% adequate. Subsoil 16% very short, 58% short, 26% adequate. Winter wheat 95% harvested, 99% 1998, 97% avg.; 28% planted, 30% 1998, 22% avg. Harvest neared completion last week and planting for the 2000 crop was well underway. Late morning starts due to the cool temperatures, some precipitation delayed harvest and seeding of winter wheat in areas of eastern Washington. Yields were still being reported around average. Spring wheat 83% harvested, 97% 1998, 94% avg. Barley 80% harvested, 98% 1998, 94% avg. Potatoes 25% harvested, 20% 1998, 22% avg.; 5% fair, 60% good, 35% excellent. Hay, other roughage 75% adequate, 25% surplus. Range, pasture feed 19% very poor, 36% poor, 25% fair, 12% good, 8% excellent. Precipitation also delayed harvest of other cereal grains. Harvest continued for potatoes, onions, alfalfa seed, mint, dry beans. Buckwheat was blooming and growers were preparing for sugar beet harvest. Early pumpkins were

also being harvested. Variety of vegetables were still being harvested. Some producers were concerned that some sweet corn would not mature by the end of the season. Apples, peaches, nectarines were being picked as well as blueberries.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 36% very short, 50% short, 14% adequate. Cooler temperatures, rainfall improved crop, livestock, pasture conditions across much of the State, more rain is needed to replenish soil moisture and ground water supplies. Producers in some localities continue to haul water to livestock, feed hay. Hay 34% very poor, 39% poor, 26% fair, 1% good; 69% 2nd cut, 90% 1998, 84% avg.; 25% 3rd cut 25%, 39% 1998, 40% avg. Corn 22% very poor, 49% poor, 25% fair, 4% good; 98% silked, 95% 1998; 84% doughing, 73% 1998, 80% avg.; 48% dent, 40% 1998; 32% mature, 15% 1998, 25% avg. Oats 98% harvested, 100% 1998, 97% avg. Soybeans 6% very poor, 31% poor, 42% fair, 21% good; 88% setting pods, 87% 1998, 96% avg.; 20% dropping leaves, 34% 1998. Tobacco 17% very poor, 15% poor, 39% fair, 29% good; 84% topped, 80% 1998, 95% avg.; 9% harvested. Apples 16% very poor, 24% poor, 52% fair, 8% good. Peaches 16% very poor, 25% poor, 51% fair, 8% good. Cattle 3% very poor, 16% poor, 48% fair, 33% good. Sheep 1% very poor, 17% poor, 57% fair, 24% good, 1% excellent.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Soil moisture 2% very short, 23% short, 71% adequate, 4% surplus. Sunshine and warm temperatures for the week helped farmers finish harvesting their second crop, make great progress on the third crop, get started on the fourth crop of hay. Third crop hay 76% harvested, 83% 1998, 56% avg.; 15% 4th crop harvested, 16% 1998. Heavy morning dew slowed hay curing, lack of showers helped the quality. Quality of the third, fourth crops of hay should improve, since the rains have let up. Corn crop continued to mature ahead of normal, and was drying down very rapidly. Silage began last week on many farms as early planted corn matured quickly in the full week of sunshine. Early maturing soybeans were rapidly turning color with the warm nights, dry weather. Soybean 29% leaves turned, 45% 1998, 22% avg.; 2% poor, 10% fair, 51% good, 37% excellent. Apple crop in Waushara, Rock, Kenosha counties was reported as being plentiful with good quality. Potato, snap bean harvest progressed well last week. Fall tillage has begun on harvested fields. Some winter wheat has been sown, has started to emerge. Fall sweet corn harvest is progressing with yields varying from fair to excellent. Farmers finished up oats remaining for harvest in the north last week. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 7% poor, 21% fair, 58% good, 13% excellent.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 2% very short, 32% short, 65% adequate, 1% surplus. Temperatures remained warm with above normal precipitation over the State. Spring wheat 84% harvested, 87% 1998, 80% avg. Barley 94% mature, 98% 1998, 98% avg.; 79% harvested, 84% 1998, 85% avg. Oats 88% mature, 96% 1998, 95% avg.; 60% harvested, 79% 1998, 71% avg. Corn 5% fair, 94% good, 1% excellent; 91% dough, 90% 1998, 90% avg.; 31% dented, 61% 1998, 51% avg. Corn 6% harvested for silage, 0% 1998; 12% avg. Dry bean 4% fair, 95% good, 1% excellent. Dry bean 100% leaves turning, 85% 1998, 96% avg.; 52% windrowed, 32% 1998, 50% avg.; 12% combined, 3% 1998, 18% avg. Sugar beet 10% fair, 89% good, 1% excellent. Alfalfa 86% 2nd cutting, 80% 1998, 83% avg.; 12% 3rd cutting, 15% 1998, 14% avg. Other hay 95% cut, 95% 1998, 96% avg. Winter wheat 26% planted, 33% 1998, 40% avg.; 8% emerged, 9% 1998, 8% avg. Range, pasture feed 2% poor, 27% fair, 61% good, 10% excellent. Cattle, calves both 93% good, 7% excellent. Sheep, lamb both 96% good, 4% excellent.