

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

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ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 40% very short, 37% short, 23% adequate. Soybeans 86% harvested, 90% 1998, 79% avg. Wheat 59% planted, 59% 1998, 65% avg. Livestock 15% very poor, 14% poor, 46% fair, 24% good, 1% excellent.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL 2000.

ARIZONA: Cotton harvest continues to progress throughout the state, yet still remains 1 week behind the 5 year avg. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 54% not being harvested, 12% light, 18% moderate, 16% active. Alfalfa condition remained fairly constant with last week, being reported as 7% poor, 29% fair, 52% good, 12% excellent. Sheeping off was reported as being light to moderate. Range, Pasture feed was reported as 3% very poor, 5% poor, 30% fair, 49% good, 13% excellent. Small grains planting remains behind normal. As of November 21, 5% Durum Wheat, 5% Barley, 8% Other Wheat, 5% Other Small Grains were reported as being planted. Last week central areas producers shipped bok choy, broccoli, cabbage, cilantro, dandelion, dill, endive, escarole, flowering kale, green onions, kale, kohlrabi, mixed greens, napa, parsley, spinach, swiss chard. Lettuce shipments included leaf, head lettuce. Eastern Areas producers shipped chile peppers, hot house tomatoes, head lettuce. Producers in western areas shipped bok choy, cantaloupes, cilantro, honeydews, kale, napa, parsley, spinach. Western lettuce shipments included: Iceberg, leaf, romaine. Central Areas citrus producers harvested lemons, navels, fairchild tangerines. Western citrus producers harvested grapefruit, lemons last week.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 25% very short, 56% short, 19% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures for this past week was above normal. Precipitation was also below. Livestock were reported in fair condition. Many farmers were feeding supplemental hay early this year because of the summer drought conditions. The main farm activities were: Harvesting soybeans, planting wheat. Other activities included: Liming, fertilizing pastures, harvesting hay, bush hogging, land leveling, overseeding small grains, preparing fall pastures, spraying fields for insects, weeds, preparing land for planting of annual forages such as rye, ryegrass, fields were being subsoiled, plowed, shredding cotton stalks, equipment clean up, maintenance, cleaning poultry houses, Brucellosis vaccinations, fall calving, pregnancy checking spring bred cows, selling cull cows, weaning calves. Cotton 100% harvested; Soybeans 96% harvested; Wheat 95% planted, 77% emerged, 2% poor 30% fair 48% good 20% excellent; Alfalfa 17% very poor 32% poor 49% fair 2% good 0% excellent; Other Hay 21% very poor 36% poor 35% fair 7% good 1% excellent; Range, pastures feed 26% very poor 36% poor 31% fair 7% good.

CALIFORNIA: Midweek rainfall delayed field activities for a couple days in central, northern areas. Elsewhere, field work progressed normally. Seeding of small grains, winter forages, new alfalfa continued where conditions permitted. Earlier seeded fields of wheat, barley, oats, alfalfa showed good emergence, growth. Wheat fields were fertilized. Some wheat fields in southern counties were irrigated due to lack of rainfall. Second picking of cotton was ongoing in some Pima fields, late maturing Upland fields. Cotton harvest neared completion in the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys. Harvest was followed immediately by plowdown for pink bollworm control. Blackeye bean harvest was complete. Harvests

of corn for grain, silage were virtually complete. Harvested corn fields were being prepared for winter grain plantings. Fallow fields were sprayed for weeds in the San Joaquin Valley. Sugarbeet harvest continued in the San Joaquin Valley, new crop sugar beets were being planted. Imperial Valley sugar beets were treated for armyworms, leafhoppers. Alfalfa was cut for hay or green chopped. Pruning, tree removal, planting of cover crops, other such work was active in harvested stone fruit orchards. Growers were fumigating ground in preparation for new plantings of peach, prune, walnut, almond trees. The kiwifruit harvest was in full swing; some fruit was exhibiting problems related to late frost during the early growing stage. Pomegranate, persimmon, quince harvests were active in the San Joaquin Valley. Pecan harvest was also active. Some table grapes were still being picked. Coastal area grapes destined for wineries were still being harvested. The olive crop harvest remained active. Grapefruit, lemons were picked in southern areas. Early variety navel orange, tangerine picking gained momentum in the San Joaquin Valley. Strawberry growers were weeding fields, trimming runners. A few fresh market tomato fields were being harvested. Chili pepper harvest was complete in most areas; yields were good. The fall lettuce harvest declined in volume. A few growers were still harvesting melons in the Imperial Valley. Vegetable growers started planting fields of spring lettuce, carrots, onions. Packers were actively moving sweet potatoes. Broccoli, cauliflower continued to be packed, sent to storage. A frost free fall has extended the production of various vegetables. The fall cucumber harvest began to slow as the season's end neared. Newly planted cilantro was emerging. Winter vegetables, such as bok choy, Napa cabbage, and romaine lettuce, were progressing normally. Garlic was being planted, cultivated in several fields. Bitter melon, eggplant, mustard greens, mint, mushrooms, snap peas, parsley, sugar peas, sweet corn, squash, turnips were among the many crops harvested. Northern Areas winter foothill pastures improved significantly following recent rainfall. Central Areas pasture conditions varied. New grass growth started in some central areas, while other areas remained dry. Supplemental feeding of cattle continued. Fall calving, lambing were winding down. Sheep were grazing alfalfa, other forage pastures in central, southern areas. Cattle, sheep were in good condition statewide. Milk production was up in central areas. Turkeys were shipped for the Thanksgiving holiday.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 7% very short, 38% short, 54% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 31% short, 63% adequate, 0% surplus. Unseasonably warm, mild weather conditions last week allowed the harvest of late season crops to advance rapidly towards completion. Pasture, range feed 3% very poor, 8% poor, 32% fair, 50% good, 7% excellent.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 8% short, 90% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% short, 92% adequate, 1% surplus. Soybeans 77% harvested, 80% 1998, 71% avg. Sorghum 86% harvested, 84% 1998, 77% avg. Alfalfa hay 63% 5th cutting, 84% 1998, 69% avg. Hay supplies 25% short, 75% adequate. Pasture 3% poor, 9% fair, 80% good, 8% excellent. Barley 5% poor, 6% fair, 87% good, 2% excellent. Wheat 4% fair, 94% good, 2% excellent; 90% seeded, 89% 1998, 87% avg. Activities: Corn harvesting finished up, soybean harvesting continued.

FLORIDA: Dry weather continued. Most stations reported from none to only traces of rain, except Ft. Pierce received about 0.50 in. Major stations mostly averaged 1 to 2° below normal. Daytime highs 70s, 80s;

nighttime low 40s, 50s, 60s. Some northern Peninsula, Panhandle localities recorded temperatures in 30s with only very light frost. Moisture throughout State mostly very short to short with some areas adequate or surplus. Winter wheat for grain planting active. Sugarcane grinding active. Cotton harvest winding down. Dry weather increasing need for vegetable irrigation. Harvesting of vegetables to meet holiday demand continued at active pace. Vegetables available: tomatoes, peppers, endive, escarole, cucumbers, pickles, radishes, snap beans, squash, sweet corn, okra, eggplant, watermelons. Another ideal weather week in citrus belt, Rain is needed, irrigation is being used. Little new growth due to cooler weather, good on-tree fruit color. Packing houses moving large quantities of early fruit for holiday season. Most processors now open. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, pushing, burning dead trees. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 15% poor, 60% fair, 20% good. Condition of cattle 5% poor, 55% fair, 40% good. Panhandle: dry, pastures poor to fair. Pastures hit by recent frost in poor condition; small grain forage slow in developing due to short soil moisture. Northern counties dry. East central counties: pastures fair, still wet from recent storms. West central: dry, haying very active. Southwest: pastures drying out in most low lying areas, pastures no longer under water. Cattle, calves condition statewide fair to good.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 6.6. Soil moisture 24% very short, 52% short, 24% adequate. Rye 83% planted, 84% 1998, 88% avg. Sorghum 93% harvested for grain, 94% 1998, 91% avg. Soybeans 72% harvested, 81% 1998, 64% avg. Other small grains 75% planted, 76% 1998, 77% avg. Onions 15% fair, 85% good; 22% transplanted, 27% 1998, 30% avg. Pecans 67% harvested, 65% 1998, 61% avg. Scattered showers fell across the State last week, but the State continued dry. The dry weather helped harvesting efforts, but hurt winter grains. Soybean harvest continued ahead of the five year average pace. The sorghum harvest began to wind down, was ahead of the five year average pace. The cotton picking remained ahead of the five year average pace. Wheat germination was affected by the dry weather, in some areas. The wheat condition declined from the previous week. Wheat planting, emerging were ahead of 1998. Small grains need rain. Rain is needed to stimulate additional planting. Rye planting lagged behind the five year average pace. Other small grain planting was slightly behind 1998. The pecan harvest continued active last week. Meat quality was reduced by the drought, hot weather. Pecan harvest was slightly ahead of 1998. Onion transplanting was active last week. Transplanting continued behind 1998. The onion condition was fair to good. Turnips, collards, mustard were in good condition. Other activities included: Shredding cotton stalks, cleaning up broken limbs in pecan orchards, feeding hay to cattle.

HAWAII: Days were mostly sunny with light to moderate showers falling in windward, interior sections. Weather conditions were favorable for agriculture. Trade winds were a gentle 5 to 15 mph. Irrigation was heavy, spraying was on a regular schedule. Insect infestations were light to moderate. Banana harvesting will remain steady. Crop progress was favored by the mixture of sunny skies, overnight showers. Papaya orchards made fair to good progress. Harvesting will remain steady. Head cabbage harvesting is of moderate volume. Shorter days, cooler temperatures are slowing crop development. Overall crop conditions were generally good. Sweet potato harvesting expected to increase during Thanksgiving week. Ginger root farmers beginning to harvest 1999/2000 crop early.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 15% very short, 53% short, 32% adequate. Winter weather moved across the state with snow accumulation in the upper elevations, rain/snow mixture in the valley areas. Corn 76% harvested for grain, 71% 1998, 77% avg. Winter wheat 100% planted, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 90% emerged, 95% 1998, 92% avg. Activities: Wrapping up fall harvest, marketing yearling cattle.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 53% very short, 43% short, 4% adequate. Dry weather continues. Other activities for last week included: Finishing fall tillage, anhydrous ammonia application.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 53% very short, 37% short, 10% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 59% very short, 33% short, 8% adequate, 0% surplus. Conditions remain very dry. Ponds drying up. Winter wheat seeding is complete. Winter wheat 4% very poor, 14% poor, 43% fair, 33% good, 6% excellent. Wheat 97% emerged, 95%

1998, 97% avg. Corn harvest is complete. Soybean harvest is complete. Tobacco stripping, baling active. Activities: Applying fertilizer, nitrogen, spreading lime, tillage of soils, chopping stalks, equipment cleaning, repair, hauling grain, feeding hay, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for field work 6.8. Soil moisture conditions remain very dry. Some farmers are holding off on fall fieldwork because the dry, hard soil is tough on equipment. Corn piled outside elevators is being picked up, alleviating the shortage of grain storage availability. Topsoil 67% very short, 32% short, 1% adequate. Subsoil moisture 58% very short, 37% short, 5% adequate. Winter wheat 97% planted, 95% 1998, 99% avg. Fall tillage 65%, 53% 1998, 46% avg. fall fertilizer applied 53%, 47% 1998, 39% avg. Grain 26% movement none, 50% light, 22% moderate, 2% heavy. Off-farm grain storage availability 28% short, 70% adequate, 2% surplus; on-farm storage short 28%, 71% adequate, 1% surplus. Feedlots remain dusty; respiratory problems continue. More cattle are being moved to stubble fields. Use of stubble fields for grazing 21% none, 27% limited, 40% moderate, 12% extensive. Hay, roughage availability 4% short, 83% adequate, 13% surplus; quality of hay, roughage supplies 7% poor, 45% fair, 48% good.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 33% very short, 51% short, 16% adequate. Subsoil moisture 18% very short, 49% short, 33% adequate. Dry, mild weather across the State last week allowed farmers to nearly complete fall harvest. Only a small amount of sorghum, sunflower acreage remains to be harvested. Corn 100% harvested, 98% 1998, 99% avg. Soybeans 100% harvested, 91% 1998, 95% avg.. Sorghum 99% harvested, 96% 1998, 96% avg. Sunflowers 99% harvested, 96% 1998. Wheat 7% pastured, 6% 1998, 8% avg. The unseasonably warm temperatures, lack of moisture continue to stress the wheat crop. Insect pressure from greenbugs, fall armyworms, aphids is becoming more widespread across the State. Wheat diseases including wheat streak mosaic, barley yellow dwarf, leaf rust have also been spotted in a few fields. Range, pasture feed 5% very poor, 21% poor, 44% fair, 29% good, 1% excellent. With the extremely dry conditions, fire danger is very high on rangelands, pastures across the State. Stock water supplies 8% very short, 31% short, 59% adequate, 2% surplus. Water levels in stock ponds continue to decline with the lack of rainfall. Major livestock activities last week included: Moving cattle to crop residues, wheat pasture, or rye pasture, weaning, marketing spring calves, feeding livestock. In some areas, producers are waiting for a hard freeze before moving cattle to corn or milo stalks. Respiratory problems continue to plague drylot cattle due to the dusty conditions.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0 as result of the rain received. Topsoil 20% very short, 53% short, 27% adequate. For the week, temperatures averaged 48°, up 3° from the normal. Precipitation statewide totaled 0.26 inches, which was -0.66 inches from normal. Corn harvest is complete, soybean harvest is nearing completion. Rain raised humidity levels improving tobacco stripping conditions. Tobacco market opening delayed until after Thanksgiving, November 29. Wheat seeding nearing completion, emerged mostly good to fair condition. Poor pasture feed provide limited feed to cattle.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Soil moisture 49% very short, 38% short, 13% adequate, 0% surplus. Pecans 61% harvested, 64% 1998, 52% avg. Pecan harvest continued. Sugarcane 17 % fair, 51% good, 32% excellent; 55% harvested, 50% 1998, 52% avg. Sugarcane harvest continued. Sweet potatoes 99% harvested, 98% 1998, 93% avg. Wheat 5% very poor, 28% poor, 60% fair, 7% good.; 90% planted, 94% 1998, 81% avg.; 73% emerged, 85% 1998, 67% avg. Wheat planting was slow due to the lack of rain. Livestock 3% very poor, 12% poor, 41% fair, 40% good, 4% excellent. Vegetables 6% very poor, 26% poor, 44% fair, 22% good, 2% excellent. Pastures 20% very poor, 31% poor, 36% fair, 12% good, 1% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 18% short, 80% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 7% short, 78% adequate, 4% surplus. Soybeans 85% harvested, 92% 1998, 83% avg. Sorghum 96% harvested, 98% 1998, 84% avg. Tobacco 24% stripped, 30% 1998, 26% avg. Clover, other hays 94% 4th cutting, 99% 1998, 94% avg. Alfalfa 90% 5th cutting, 85% 1998, 77% avg. Wheat 11% fair, 78% good, 11% excellent; 93% seeded, 96% 1998, 93% avg. Barley 16% fair, 67% good, 17% excellent. Rye 1% poor, 7% fair, 75% good, 17%

excellent; 92% seeded, 96% 1998, 95% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 4% poor, 25% fair, 61% good, 9% excellent. Hay supplies 5% very short, 37% short, 57% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Late fall hay harvesting continued due to warm weather, soybean, corn harvesting making great progress.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Corn harvest was wrapping up with mild weather conditions. Temperatures were 2 to 3° above normal with light precipitation in the latter part of the week.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 18% very short, 34% short, 43% adequate, 5% surplus. Average temperatures for the week were over 8.5° above normal. Less than 2 tenths of an inch of rainfall was received in the Northeastern, East Central districts, the remaining districts received virtually no precipitation. Substantial rains before the ground freezes would be welcome in most areas. Most field work is completed. The mild, dry weather has allowed many producers to complete ongoing projects, including installing drainage tiles.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Soil moisture, 25% very short, 40% short, 33% adequate, 2% surplus. Wheat 96% planted, 98% 1998, 93% avg.; 82% emerged, 88% 1998, 84% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 35% fair, 53% good, 6% excellent. Hay supply 48% short, 48% adequate, 4% surplus. Cattle, 1% very poor, 10% poor, 36% fair, 46% good, 7% excellent. Weather conditions continue to be dry across most of the state.

MISSOURI: Topsoil moisture remains very short to short. Another week of dry weather provided no relief to pastures, winter wheat crop. Some intended wheat was not seeded due to dry conditions. Plant growth, root development of wheat are below normal for this time of year. Pasture are mostly in very poor to poor condition. Stock ponds are low in many areas, some farmers are hauling water.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.00. Topsoil 44% very short, 33% short, 23% adequate. Subsoil moisture 28% very short, 54% short, 18% adequate. Cattle, calves moved from summer 92% ranges, 96% 1998, 94% avg. Sheep, lambs moved from summer 95% ranges, 97% 1998, 96% avg. Lack of moisture is causing concern with the winter wheat crop. There are some reports of producers having to replant to spring wheat next spring if moisture isn't received soon. Other farming activities: Occurring are fencing, shipping cattle to market, getting equipment ready for winter.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for field activities 6.7. Topsoil 64% very short, 31% short, 5% adequate. Subsoil moisture 42% very short, 39% short, 19% adequate. Temperature across areas averaged 7 to 10° above normals. Precipitation was light across the State with amounts ranging from traces to thirteen hundredths at Niobrara. Some wheat fields showed more bare grounds than growing wheat. Wheat 9% very poor, 12% poor, 29% fair, 43% good, 7% excellent. Pasture, range 18% very poor, 35% poor, 37% fair, 10% good. Livestock producers were moving cattle off parched pastures, rangeland because of the growing threats of wildfires. It has been noted that some producers were having trouble with weaned calves, confined livestock because of dust, respiratory problems. Producers were applying water to decrease the dust. Main activities included: Fencing, caring for livestock, putting away harvest equipment, reviewing financial records for current year, cattle processing.

NEVADA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE:

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 4% short, 83% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 7% short, 79% adequate, 14% surplus. Pasture feed 16% very poor, 12% poor, 31% fair, 39% good, 2% excellent. Rhode Island potatoes 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% average.; condition fair to poor. Snow in northern areas. Major farm activities included: Digging potatoes in RI; preparing for xmas tree sales; spreading manure; preparing equipment for winter storage.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 6. Adequate topsoil moisture was reported in most areas. Temperatures averaged 42° North, 45° Central 46° South. Extremes were 73° at several locations on the 21st, 17° at Charlotteburg on the 18th. Weekly rainfall averaged 0.05 inches North, 0.05 inches Central, 0.00 inches South. The heaviest 24 hour total was 0.15 inches at Canoe Brook on the 20th to the 21st. Pastures are between fair, poor condition. Farmers are busy cleaning up their fields after finishing harvesting their crops. Planting of cover crops (wheat, rye) is still underway in many areas of the state. Harvest of corn, soybeans is still very active in the central, northern counties. Harvest of fall cabbage, lettuce, spinach, other minor fall vegetables is decreasing. Harvest of apples is near completion.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 6.9.. Topsoil moisture continued to decline across the state. This past week was another unseasonably warm, dry week in areas. Temperatures were well above normal everywhere, with a statewide average between 9, 10° above normal for the second consecutive week. Main farm activities were: Harvesting sorghum, red chile, cotton, plowing ground for next year. Peanut harvest is about over for the year. Sorghum continued in mostly good condition, while wheat conditions were mostly in fair condition due to the dry weather. Ranchers were busy buying, storing hay for winter, watering, general maintenance activities. Pasture, Range feed 6% very poor, 11% poor, 42% fair, 38% good, 3% excellent. Cattle, sheep conditions continued in fair to good condition. Supplemental feeding increased as pasture conditions weakened.

NEW YORK: Days suitable 6.0. Soil moisture 95% adequate, 5% surplus. Pasture feed fair to good. Corn for grain, soybean harvest progressed under ideal conditions. Apple growers continued orchard clean-up work, grading and packing apples. Potatoes, onions moving from storage, being graded, packed. Livestock condition good, aided by mild weather. Many growers attended meetings, some took time off for hunting.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4 compared to 6 days last week. For the second consecutive week farmers took advantage of the warm, dry weather. Cotton, soybean harvest dominated the field activities for the majority of the Coastal Plains. Encouraged by the continued dry weather, small grain farmers advanced their plantings. Currently, soil moisture across the State is rated 2% very short, 23% short, 64% adequate, 11% surplus. Peanut, sweet potato, sorghum harvest is drawing to a close. Other activities during the week included: Shearing, marketing Christmas trees, harvesting vegetable crops, field equipment service and repairs.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 12% very short, 35% short, 51% adequate, 2% surplus. Dry conditions continued across the state.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 17% very short, 45% short, 37% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn harvested 98% for grain, 96% 1998, 88% avg. Winter 100% wheat emerged, 100% 1998, 96% avg. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 14% excellent. Activities for the week include: Fall tillage, harvesting; land leveling; tiling; applying lime, fertilizer, manure; cleaning equipment; winterizing buildings; fencing corn fields for animal grazing; digging nursery stock; cutting firewood; inspecting livestock waste tanks; sowing cover crops hauling grain; hauling water, hay to livestock; weaning, selling calves.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 42% very short, 42% short, 16% adequate. Subsoil moisture 26% very short, 51% short, 23% adequate. All areas of state remain dry, soil moisture at lowest level since September 1998. Oats 10% very poor, 19% poor, 50% fair, 21% good; 82% planted, 93% 1998, 86% avg.; 51% up-to-stand, 80% 1998, 70% avg. Sorghum 95% harvested, 91% 1998, 83% avg. Soybeans 93% harvested, 82% 1998, 82% avg. Peanuts 95% combined, 77% 1998, 88% avg. Alfalfa Hay 4% very poor, 15% poor, 38% fair, 41% good, 2% excellent; 91% 4th cutting, 89% 1998, 98% avg.; 47% 5th cutting, 48% 1998, 76% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 5% poor, 29% fair, 62% good, 3% excellent; Pasture, range 13% very poor, 25% poor, 41% fair, 21% good. Feeder cattle over 500 pounds averaged \$77.50 per cwt. for heifers to \$83.50 per cwt. for steers.

OREGON: Activities: Winter wheat planting about finished. Christmas tree harvest continued. Livestock continued to be fed. Movement off rangeland completed. Continuing to cleanup the barns, mend fences, other repairs as needed for next season. Cool weather for the week with off, on rainfall was the weather pattern for the week.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for field work 6.2. Soil moisture 11% very short, 33% short, 53% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn 90% harvested, 88% 1998, 81% avg. Soybeans 94% harvested, 94% 1998, 85% avg. Fall 90% plowing, 87% 1998, 90% avg. Wheat 93% emerged, 94% 1998. Apple 97% harvest, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Activities include: Harvesting corn, soybeans, apples, cool weather vegetables; machinery maintenance; hauling, pumping, spreading manure; cleaning out manure storages; shredding corn stocks; caring for livestock; cutting hay; plowing for the fall.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Soil moisture 10% very short, 36% short, 52% adequate, 2% surplus. Livestock 4% poor, 29% fair, 54% good, 13% excellent. Pasture Feed 2% very poor, 15% poor, 43% fair, 36% good, 4% excellent. Sorghum 92% harvested, 99% 1998, 91% avg. Sweet Potatoes 98% harvested, 100% 1998, 84% avg. Winter Grazings 93% planted, 91% 1998, 90% avg.; 86% emerged, 79% 1998, 80% avg.; 1% very poor, 6% poor, 47% fair, 43% good, 3% excellent. Winter Wheat 43% planted, 46% 1998, 48% avg.; 26% emerged, 37% 1998, 33% avg.; 1% very poor, 1% poor, 52% fair, 43% good, 3% excellent. Barley 86% planted, 100% 1998, 86% avg.; 70% emerged, 83% 1998, 77% avg.; 25% fair, 36% good, 39% excellent. Oats 89% planted, 82% 1998, 84% avg.; 72% emerged, 69% 1998, 73% avg.; 45% fair, 41% good, 14% excellent. Rye 88% planted, 86% 1998, 81% avg.; 79% emerged, 69% 1998, 67% avg.; 2% poor, 52% fair, 41% good, 5% excellent. Pecans 45% harvested, 59% 1998, 53% avg.; 71% fair, 29% good.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork, 5.5. Topsoil 24% very short, 47% short, 25% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 41% short, 41% adequate, 8% surplus. Seasonably cooler temperatures moved in late last week behind light precipitation. The change greatly reduced fire threat, the wet snow helped to reduce dust in confinement pens. With row crops harvest virtually completed the weather has little impact now.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 20% very short, 30% short, 49% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 28% very short, 32% short, 40% adequate. Burley 70% stripped, 75% 1998, 72% avg. Winter wheat 95% seeded, 95% 1998, 88% avg.; 80% emerged, 74% 1998; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 61% good, 15% excellent. A cold front moved through the State late last week bringing much needed rainfall to most of areas. More precipitation is still needed to replenish soil moisture, improve winter wheat, pasture feed. Cattle producers continued to feed hay, purchase additional supplies to last through the winter.

TEXAS: Harvest of remaining summer crops continued under dry, unseasonably warm conditions. Land preparation for the 2000 crops continued slowly in most areas. Livestock forage conditions continued to be unfavorable, supplemental feeding continued to increase. Livestock conditions continued to decline statewide. Herd reduction continued to increase in many areas while herd sell out possibilities increased as hay supplies decreased. Many ranchers have resorted to hauling water in an effort to hang on to their existing herds. Citrus harvest continued in the Rio Grande Valley as did peppers, greens, cabbage, onions. Carrot, turnip harvest remained active on the Plains along with late sunflowers.

Crops: Small Grains: Seeding of wheat, oats were mostly at a stand still as the dry conditions prevailed. Seedling death, spotty stands remained as evidence of the dry conditions. Green bugs and grasshoppers were a problem in some locations. Statewide wheat condition was rated at 46% of normal compared with 67% 1998. Oats 77% Published, 90% 1998, 86% Avg. Corn: Land preparation for the 2000 crop continued. Cotton: Harvest continued under unseasonable warm, dry, windy conditions. Cotton stalk destruction continued to be active in many locations. Bolls Opening 100% Published, 100% 1998, 99% Avg. Peanuts: Harvest continued to be active on the Plains but was

winding down. Harvest neared completion in Central, South Areas where some peanuts were bailed for hay as a result of the dry growing conditions. Sorghum: Harvest was winding down on the High Plains. Sorghum harvest that was earlier delayed during cotton harvest was progressing well. Sprouting in the head remained a problem in a few locations. Harvested 98%, 91% 1998, 95% Avg. Soybeans: Harvest of remaining fields on the High Plains continued to wind down. Yields remained favorable. Published 98%, 96% 1998, 96% Avg.

Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans: Rio Grande Valley, harvest continued to be active for bell peppers, greens, cabbage. Onions continued to progress well. Citrus ripening, harvest of early fruit continued. Quality remained good, yields were average. Land preparation remained active. Harvesting of sugar cane continued. San Antonio-Winter Garden, cabbage, onion planting was completed, land preparation for later winter vegetables continued to be active. East Areas planting of fall crops, gardens remained slow to inactive as the dry conditions continued. Pine tree harvest continued and the Pine saw fly remained a problem. High Plains, bean harvest was mostly completed with generally good yields. Carrot harvest was winding down, turnip harvest remained active. As the crop continued to mature, harvest activities were increasing. Quality remained variable as the effects of dry weather became more evident.

Range and Livestock: General livestock conditions remained poor at best in most locations. Heard reduction continued to increase, supplemental feeding escalated in many areas. Some ranchers were hauling water as stock ponds continued to dry up. Livestock sickness, mainly pneumonia, continued to be a problem as the dusty conditions continued. Some producers are close to heard liquidation which was becoming a reality in a few locations. Fall grazing of wheat, oat occurred mostly where irrigation was possible. Hay supplies continued to decrease, supplemental feeding of liquid feed was increasing rapidly. Native deer herds remained in generally poor condition.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 7. Topsoil 24% very short, 52% short, 24% adequate. Major activity this week was making final preparations for winter.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 12% very short, 32% short, 52% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 17% very short, 28% short, 49% adequate, 6% surplus. Beef Cattle Forage Obtained from Pastures 62%. Milk Cow Forage Obtained from Pastures 12%. Sheep Forage Obtained from Pastures 60%. Pastures 9% very poor, 16% poor, 36% fair, 32% good, 7% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 7% poor, 29% fair, 53% good, 10% excellent. Small Grain, Winter Grazing Crops 0% very poor, 5% poor, 31% fair, 57% good, 7% excellent. Corn for Grain 97% harvested, 100% 1998, 96% avg. Soybeans 70% harvested, 78% 1998, 64% avg.; 6% very poor, 12% poor, 30% fair, 40% good, 12% excellent. Winter Wheat 79% seeded, 85% 1998, 77% avg. Barley 99% seeded, 97% 1998, 97% avg. Peanuts 100% dug, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 100% combined, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Cotton 69% harvested, 98% 1998, 83% avg. Apples, Winter 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Average temperatures were in the mid-forties across the Commonwealth during the past week. While average temperatures deviated only a few degrees from normal, daytime highs for many localities reached the upper seventies. Nighttime lows reached into the mid- to lower-twenties. Precipitation was limited to trace amounts in a few isolated localities. Topsoil moisture, ground water supplies began to diminish slightly. Pasture feed remained much the same as previous week. Livestock producers continued to provide supplemental hay to their herds. The number of beef cattle, sheep obtaining the majority of forage requirements from pasture declined slightly. Mild weather conditions allowed crop producers to make great progress harvesting remaining acres of corn, soybeans, peanuts, cotton, winter apples, other crops. Producers have harvested 97% of areas grain corn acreage. Seventy percent of soybean acreage has been harvested. Producers were able to make great progress, moving ahead of the 5-year average. Good yields have been reported. Small grain producers have seeded 79% of winter wheat acreage, nearly all of the barley. Emergence of the 2000 crop has been good thus far. Aphid scouting continues. Peanut harvest is complete. While peanut producers got off to a late start harvesting their crop, they were able to finish at the same time as the five-year average. Yields have been reported in the good to excellent range. It is still not determined how many acres will be abandoned as a result of the Hurricanes. Cotton producers remain behind a normal harvest schedule. Sixty-nine percent of areas cotton acreage has been picked, compared to the five-year average of 83%. Harvest of winter apples is

complete, on schedule with the previous year, the five-year average. Other activities during the past week included: Grading of tobacco, fall-calving, fencing for fall grazing, removing plastic, drip irrigation lines from fields, attending pesticide recertification meetings, mowing cotton stalks, planting cover crops, winterizing equipment.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil was 25% short, 70% adequate, 5% surplus; subsoil moisture 9% very short, 50% short, 39% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat dryland 2% very poor, 10% poor, 63% fair, 25% good. Winter wheat irrigated 100% good. Winter wheat 100% planted, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 97% emerged, 100% 1998, 95% avg. The 2000 winter wheat crop has been planted, most of it has emerged. Moisture was received across areas which will continue to help the emerging crop. Hay, other roughage supplies were 4% short, 64% adequate, 32% surplus. Range, pasture 5% very poor, 35% poor, 45% fair, 15% good. Christmas tree harvest continued at a rapid pace in western areas. Holly growers were also harvesting for the upcoming holiday season. Most field activities were complete with the exception of sugar beets, corn for grain still being harvested.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 34% very short, 42% short, 24% adequate. Conditions remain dry across most of the State. Harvest progress is beginning to wind down for the '99 crop season. Hay 3rd cut 92%. Corn 91% harvested, 93% 1998, 86% 5-yr avg. Wheat condition 15% poor, 57% fair, 28% good; Wheat 53% emerged, 84% 1998. Cattle 1% very poor, 8% poor, 36% fair, 55% good. Sheep 1% very poor, 2% poor, 44% fair, 45% good, 8% excellent.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Soil Moisture 20% very short, 65% short, 15% adequate. There were scattered light showers with little significant rainfall during the past week, keeping soil conditions mostly dry. Temperatures averaged approximately 5° above the 30-year average.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 9% very short, 63% short, 28% adequate. Temperatures were well above normal with scattered, light precipitation across the State.