

# Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

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**ALABAMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 3% very short, 18% short, 70% adequate, 9% surplus. Most of the state experienced a hotter, drier week. Corn 74% doughed, 50% dented, 67% 1998, 64% avg.; 17% mature, 34% 1998, 24% avg.; 2% poor, 17% fair, 46% good, 35% excellent. Pasture feed 3% poor, 18% fair, 58% good, 21% excellent. Livestock 1% poor, 13% fair, 50% good, 36% excellent.

**ALASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.5. Topsoil 20% short, 80% adequate. Subsoil 30% short, 70% adequate. Cool, cloudy, rainy conditions slowed the producers hay harvest. Daytime high temperatures were mostly in the sixties with lows mostly in the forties. Oats 5% boot earlier, 70% headed, 25% in dough. Barley, 50% headed, 50% in dough. Oat 5% poor, 15% fair, 60% good, 20% excellent. Barley 10% poor, 30% fair, 40% good, 20% excellent. Hay harvested 75%. Potato plants 30% bloomed, 19 in. height; 30% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Crop growth 10% slow, 85% moderate, 5% rapid. Wind damage to small grain fields 85% none, 5% light, 5% moderate, 5% severe. Major activities included: Harvesting lettuce, greens, radishes, squash, broccoli, peas, beets, Chinese vegetables, weed control, cutting hay, harvesting hay when conditions allowed, machinery repair.

**ARIZONA:** Widespread rains throughout the State last week continued to improve pasture conditions. Range, pasture feed 6% very poor, 45% poor, 34% fair, 15% good. Cotton squaring equal to 1998 but is slightly behind the average. As of July 25, 99% squared, the same as the 1998, 100% avg.; 77% setting bolls, 86% 1998, 87% avg.; 1% very poor, 14% poor, 32% fair, 38% good, 15% excellent. Alfalfa harvest 34% not being harvested, 12% light, 28% moderate, 26% active; 5% poor, 16% fair, 65% good, 14% excellent. Central producers shipped a variety of fruits, vegetables, melons last week. Grape shipments included beauty, black, flame seedless, thompsons. Vegetable shipments consisted of parsley. Melon shipments included cantaloupe, honeydew, watermelons. Eastern producers shipped greenhouse tomatoes. Western producers harvested a variety of grapes, melons. Melon shipments included cantaloupes, honeydew, watermelons while grape shipments included beauty seedless, flame seedless, thompsons.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork: 7. Topsoil moisture 13% very short, 52% short, 34% adequate, 1% surplus. Livestock were reported in good condition. Temperatures for the week were hot, dry. Most crops were reported in good condition. The main farm activities: Fertilizing cotton, corn, rice, warm season forages, finishing harvesting wheat, hay. Other activities: Irrigating corn, soybeans, cotton, sorghum, rice, cultivating cotton, spraying cotton for boll weevils, bollworms, fields for insects, weeds, putting down lime, scouting for sheath blight in rice, spraying of rice, cotton, soybean fields for weeds, applying mid-season nitrogen applications to rice, tree fruit, small fruit harvesting, treating cattle for external parasites for summer insect control by dusting, ear tagging cattle, vaccinating cattle, weaning calves. Cotton 100% squared, 90% setting bolls, 3% poor 26% fair 49% good 22% excellent; Soybeans 48% bloomed, 15% setting pods, 1% very poor 7% poor 34% fair 44% good 14% excellent; Sorghum 79% headed, 13% turning color, 1% very poor 7% poor 38% fair 47% good 7% excellent; Wheat 100% harvested; Oats 100% harvested; Alfalfa 27% fair 67% good 6% excellent; Other Hay 5% poor, 35% fair, 50% good, 10% excellent; Range, pastures, 7% poor 36% fair 49% good 8% excellent

**CALIFORNIA:** Field activities progressed normally under ideal conditions in most areas. Grain harvests of wheat, barley, oats were virtually complete except at higher elevations. Harvested small grain, oat hay fields were burned or stubble was disced. Rice weed treatments were winding down; fields continued to exhibit excellent growth. Cotton fields were blooming, squaring, setting bolls in the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys. Cotton growers were actively spraying for armyworms, leafhoppers, lygus, mites, fields were still being thinned, weeded. Seed alfalfa was treated for aphids, lygus, weevils in the San Joaquin Valley. Black eye beans were maturing rapidly, drying for harvest. Sunflowers were sprayed for head moth. Safflower bloom was approximately one half complete in the Sacramento Valley. Old crop sugar beet harvest continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Corn silage was harvested in southern counties. Alfalfa, sudangrass were cut for hay, greenchopped. Some alfalfa fields were treated for worms. Grape growers were applying sulfur, insecticides to control powdery mildew, insects. The harvest of grapes for fresh use continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Early pickings included Perlette, Flame Seedless varieties. Fresh market grape harvest in the Coachella Valley was nearing completion. Other cultural activities: Included weed control, irrigation of vineyards, orchards. Harvest of apricots, nectarines, freestone peaches, plums continued. Good quality was noted. Apple trees were treated for codling moth. Picking of early variety apples began. Olive trees exhibited good set, were maturing well. Bartlett pear harvest began in the Sacramento river delta area. Tree limbs in almond orchards were supported to bear the heavy nut set. Pistachio trees were sprayed with fungicides. Walnut trees were treated for blight. Valencia oranges, lemons were picked in southern areas. Some strawberry fields have been plowed under, were being prepared for the next planting. Processing tomato harvest was underway in Fresno County. The crop was beginning to color in Tulare County. Hot weather forced growers to spray a few processing tomato fields with white wash to prevent sunburn. Less mature tomato fields were treated for tomato fruitworm, stink bugs, cabbage looper, thrips. Harvest of fresh market tomatoes was very active. All types of lettuce were harvested. Various melons were harvested in both the Imperial Valley, the San Joaquin Valley. Potatoes were being dug in the Stockton delta area. Garlic harvest was in full swing with smaller, good quality cloves. However, some of the later fields were still being treated for rust. Eggplants, peppers, other summer vegetables were thriving, but the heat has caused some blossom drop, may also affect the set. Among the crops harvested were squash, snap beans, broccoli, cauliflower, box Chay, leeks, onions, sweet corn. Producers irrigated pastures, both in the valleys, at higher elevations, were in good to excellent condition. Non-irrigated, higher elevation pastures were drying in some areas, but cool temperatures had slowed the maturation. High grasshopper populations on some foothill pastures in the central area were still causing loss of rangeland grass. Livestock were in generally good condition; cooler temperatures relieved the stress on milk cows. Bees were pollinating central areas seed alfalfa, melon fields.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil 7% very short, 34% short, 57% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 5% very short, 37% short, 55% adequate, 3% surplus. Seasonal weather patterns prevailed last week with warm temperatures, widely scattered, afternoon thunderstorms. The weather allowed producers to make excellent progress in harvesting small grains. Winter wheat 99% ripe, 98% 1998, 96% avg. Spring wheat 56% turning color, 58% 1998, 47% avg.; 15% harvested, 11% 1998, 7% avg.; 5% poor, 19% fair, 53% good, 23%

excellent. Spring barley 72% turning color, 75% 1998, 64% avg.; 10% harvested, 14% 1998, 13% avg.; 4% poor, 16% fair, 50% good, 30% excellent. Oats 66% turning color, 69% 1998, 67% avg.; 33% harvested, 32% 1998, 35% avg.; 2% poor, 27% fair, 60% good, 11% excellent. Dry onions 3% poor, 11% fair, 61% good, 25% excellent. Sugar beets 5% poor, 10% fair, 48% good, 37% excellent. Dry beans 37% flowered, 42% 1998, 42% avg.; 1% poor, 14% fair, 55% good, 30% excellent. Summer potatoes 1% poor, 5% fair, 70% good, 24% excellent. Fall potatoes 7% poor, 12% fair, 42% good, 39% excellent. Alfalfa 48% 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting, 44% 1998, 49% avg.; 4% poor, 22% fair, 55% good, 19% excellent. Pasture, range feed in mostly good condition

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**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 5% very short, 77% short, 18% adequate. Subsoil 3% very short, 79% short, 18% adequate. Winter wheat 98% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Field corn 16% poor, 30% fair, 43% good, 11% excellent; 74% silked, 68% 1998, 61% avg.; 14% dough, 13% 1998, 10% avg. Soybeans 14% poor, 29% fair, 53% good, 4% excellent; 23% bloomed, 18% 1998, 31% avg.; 11% setting pods, 9% 1998, 6% avg. Sorghum 1% poor, 45% fair, 51% good, 3% excellent; 13% headed, 17% 1998, 13% avg. Sweet corn 22% harvested, 24% 1998, 30% avg. Snap beans 39% harvested, 21% 1998, 32% avg. Cantaloupes 13% harvested, 15% 1998, 18% avg. Watermelons 13% harvested, 19% 1998, 12% avg. Cucumbers 25% harvested, 35% 1998, 40% avg. Lima beans 20% harvested, 19% 1998, 8% avg. Tomatoes 18% harvested, 11% 1998, 16% avg. Potatoes 33% harvested, 28% 1998, 27% avg. Clover, other hay 75% 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting, 94% 1998, 80% avg.; 65% 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting, 59% 1998, 21% avg. Alfalfa hay 90% 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting harvested, 97% 1998, 92% avg.; 58% 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested, 35% 1998, 22% avg. Hay supplies 38% short, 62% adequate. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 41% poor, 28% fair, 28% good. Apples 16% fair, 75% good, 9% excellent. Peaches 21% fair, 72% good, 7% excellent; 26% harvested, 27% 1998, 24% avg. Activities: Hay, vegetable harvests continue. Maintaining irrigation equipment.

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**FLORIDA:** Topsoil moisture, Panhandle, mostly adequate, pockets of short, surplus supplies. Peninsula topsoil moisture short to adequate, a few localities very short. Afternoon, evening storms brought varying amounts of moisture to many localities. Rainfall, major stations, ranged from none at West Palm Beach, Jacksonville to about 3.50 in. Orlando. Temperatures mostly 2° above normal. Daytime highs mostly 90s; nighttime lows mostly 70s. Cotton, soybean, sugarcane, tobacco growth mostly normal. Peanut 15% fair, 66% good, 19% excellent. Peanuts pegged 93%. Tomato planting active, Quincy. Bell pepper planting continues, southeastern coast. Land preparation for vegetable planting active, central, southern Peninsula. Lots of rain all citrus areas, some excessive moisture, abundant new growth. New crop fruit, varying sizes, making good progress. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, fertilizing, herbiciding, pushing, burning dead trees, some resetting in larger groves. Pasture feed 30% fair, 65% good, 5% excellent. Condition of cattle 15% fair, 80% good, 5% excellent. Condition of pastures, cattle decreased past week due to dry conditions. Hay making continued Panhandle between rain showers, increased east central. Northeast pastures dry, while west central pasture improved due to recent showers.

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**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for field work 5.7. Soil moisture 3% very short, 18% short, 72% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 79% dent, 77% 1998, 79% avg.; 41% mature, 32% 1998, 36% avg.; 4% harvested for grain, 3% 1998, 3% avg. Hay 1% very poor, 3% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 10% excellent. Peanuts 99% blooming, 98% 1998, 99% avg. Sorghum 3% very poor, 8% poor, 34% fair, 47% good, 8% excellent. Tobacco 7% very poor, 15% poor, 36% fair, 40% good, 2% excellent; 42% harvested, 29% 1998, 47% avg. Watermelons 92% harvested, 93% 1998, 90% avg. Apples 14% fair, 56% good, 30% excellent; 1% harvested, 2% 1998, 2% avg. Peaches 83% harvested, 88% 1998, 92% avg. Pecans 1% very poor, 4% poor, 29% fair, 53% good, 13% excellent. Temperatures for the week were in the mid to high 90's, which is well above normal. Scattered afternoon showers, thunderstorms were also part of the weather pattern for the week. The showers did bring temporary relief from the heat. Despite the above normal temperatures, crop conditions remained stable. Corn development continues ahead of 1998 and average. Corn condition is fair to good. Soybean progress is ahead of 1998, five year average. Soybean condition is fair to mostly good. Cotton condition was fair to mostly good. Insect pressure was on the increase in the cotton crop. Development of the crop was slightly behind normal. Tobacco harvesting was active during the week, but behind normal. Tobacco condition was

fair to good. Peanut development continued at a normal pace. Growers were kept busy during the week spraying fungicides, insecticides as well as irrigating the peanut crop. Peanut condition was mostly good to excellent. Watermelon harvest was winding down. Apple condition was mostly good to excellent. Apple harvesting just started. Harvesting of peaches was active last week, but remains behind 1998 and average. Weeds were becoming a problem in most row crops. Other activities: Include weed control, spraying fungicides, insecticides, harvesting vegetables, routine care of livestock and poultry.

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**HAWAII:** Crop made fair progress under variable weather conditions. Trade winds brought light to moderate showers to windward, interior sections of most islands. Leeward areas were generally dry. Prolonged dry conditions are hampering crop development in areas dependent solely on rainfall. Banana orchards were in good condition due to favorable mixture of sunshine, showers. Most papaya orchards were in good to fair condition. Fields infected with the papaya ring spot virus were in poor condition. Head cabbage plantings were in fair to good condition. An increase in insect pressure was noticed. Harvesting of sweet corn, watermelons steady; crop conditions fair to good. Ginger root plantings made good progress.

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**IDAHO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil, 6% very short, 38% short, 56% adequate. Fourth consecutive week of minimal precipitation. Dry land cereals, summer range need rain. Irrigation 65% excellent, 25% good, 9% fair, 1% poor. Alfalfa hay 52% 2nd cutting, 43% 1998, 39% avg.; 3% 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting, 1% 1998. Oats 94% headed. Cherries 97% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Mint 5% harvested, 7% 1998, 15% avg. Peaches 2% harvested, 2% 1998, 12% avg. Dry Peas 9% harvested, 13% 1998, avg. 8%. Potatoes 12" high 97%, 93% 1998, 95% avg.; 84% closing middles, 74% 1998, 80% avg. Barley 92% headed, 88%, 1998 93% avg.; 37% turning color. Spring wheat 93% headed, 90% 1998, 95% avg.; 37% turning color. Winter wheat 1% harvested, 4% 1998, 5% avg.; 78% turning color. Activities: Irrigating, spraying weeds, harvesting, monitoring for disease, attending field tours.

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**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil 16% very short, 49% short, 34% adequate, 1% surplus. The recent heat wave across the state, joined with prolonged dryness in some areas, are causing stress on livestock ,crop conditions to worsen. Oat harvest is staying ahead of schedule. Other activities: Included hauling grain, baling hay, straw, mowing weeds, scouting fields, spraying pesticides. Corn 1% dented, 1% 1998, 1% avg. Oats 99% turning yellow, 98% 1998, 93% avg. Oats 89% ripe, 83% 1998, 67% avg. Oats 52% harvested, 38% 1998, 33% avg. Alfalfa 94% 2nd cut, 87% 1998, 79% avg. Alfalfa 19% 3rd cut , 15% 1998, 10% avg. Alfalfa condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 31% fair, 54% good, 8% excellent.

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**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil 21% very short, 44% short, 34% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 14% very short, 49% short, 37% adequate, 0% surplus. Continued hot weather, several 90° days. Showers helped some areas. Major crops under stress. Corn, soybean condition declined. Very dry conditions, northern region. Wheat harvest complete. Pastures, hay crops deteriorating rapidly. Second cutting alfalfa complete, 80% 1998, 67% avg. Livestock under stress. Activities: Harvesting wheat, irrigating crops, spraying, topping tobacco, selling grain, mowing roads, pastures, baling hay, straw, harvesting vegetables, repairing equipment, monitoring fields for insects, attending fairs, caring for livestock.

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**IOWA:** Days suitable for field work 3.6. Topsoil 6% very short, 19% short, 57% adequate, 18% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 16% short, 64% adequate, 18% surplus. Heavy rains, wind, hail knocked down crops left some acres flooded. Some fields replanted for third time were lost. Crops looking good in areas not hit by flooding. Spotty rains in southern districts left most areas dry; crops beginning to show signs of heat stress. Potato leaf hoppers causing damage to alfalfa in south central, south eastern areas. Corn 88 tasseled%, 92% 1998, 70% avg.; 73% silken, 79% 1998, 54% avg.; 9% milk stage, 13% 1998, 10% avg. Corn 3% very poor, 6% poor, 18% fair, 46% good, 27% excellent. Soybeans 87% blooming, 88% 1998, 78% avg.; 40% setting pods, 46 1998, 31% avg. Soybean 3% very poor, 6% poor, 18% fair, 47% good, 26% excellent. Oats 58%

harvested, 59% 1998, 41% avg.; 1% very poor, 6% poor, 19% fair, 51% good, 23% excellent. Winter wheat harvested, 87% 1998, 85% avg. Hot, humid weather stressed livestock; some losses occurred due to high heat. Some pinkeye reported, especially in west central, south central districts. Range, pasture condition: 3% very poor, 11% poor, 27% fair, 45% good, 14% excellent. 75% 2nd cutting of alfalfa, 69% 1998 avg.; 64% 2nd cutting, 45% clover hay, 29% 1998, 27% avg. Hay 1% very poor, 6% poor, 22% fair, 52% good, 19% excellent.

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**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 30% short, 64% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 14% short, 82% adequate, and 4% surplus. Much of the state has had several days of temperatures in the upper 90's, with very little rainfall. In some areas, crops are beginning to show signs of stress, are in need of rain, cooler weather. Sunflower 1% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 64% good, 13% excellent. Sunflowers blooming 15%, 40% 1998, 2nd 100% cutting alfalfa, 97% 1998, 97% avg. 3rd 30% cutting alfalfa, 48% 1998, 34% avg. Insect pressure is increasing in crops across the state. Insect infestation 9% moderate, 32% light, 59% no infestation. Common insects reported include corn borers, corn rootworms, grasshoppers, greenbugs, aphids, alfalfa weevils. Disease infestation remains at mostly minimal levels. Major field activities: Irrigating, cultivating row crops, working wheat stubble, summer fallow, putting up hay. Hay, forage supplies 1% short, 86% adequate, 13% surplus. Livestock producers continue to move cattle from short-season pastures. Pinkeye, flies remain a problem in some areas. Stock water supplies are mostly adequate to surplus.

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**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 31% very short, 46% short, 22% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 35% very short, 39% short, 25% adequate, 1% surplus. Above normal temperature dominated the weather throughout state. Rainfall provided much needed moisture to some areas in the Eastern sections of the state while only scattered showers fell in other areas. Black shank remains leading problematic disease in burley tobacco, with reports of blue mold in several areas. Burley tobacco 53% blooming or beyond, topped 27%. Dark tobacco was 57% topped. Tobacco 5% very poor, 13% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, 10% excellent. Pastures 10% very poor, 20% poor, 44% fair, 24% good, 2% excellent. Farmers continue to feed hay to livestock because of the declining pasture conditions. Hay 8% very poor, 16% poor, 43% fair, 27% good, 6% excellent.

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**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Soil moisture 1% very short, 24% short, 63% adequate, 12% surplus. Corn 4% poor, 24% fair, 59% good, 13% excellent; 99% dough stage, 100% 1998, 97% avg.; 56% mature, 75% 1998, 51% avg.; 2% harvested, 7% 1998, 3% avg. Corn harvest was in full swing with high yields being reported. Cotton irrigation was underway. Hay 100% 1st cutting, 97% 1998, 98% avg.; 20% final cutting, 23% 1998, 34% avg. Hay producers continued with harvest. Peaches 100% harvested, 87% 1998, 81% avg. Rice 34% ripe, 30% 1998, 19% avg.; 18% harvested, 11% 1998, 8% avg. Sorghum 1% ripe, 3% 1998, 3% avg. Sweet potatoes 1% harvested, 0% 1998, 1% avg. Sugarcane 1% poor, 9% fair, 52% good, 38% excellent. Sugarcane growth was excellent due to great growing conditions. Livestock 2% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 15% excellent. Vegetables 2% very poor, 8% poor, 34% fair, 51% good, 5% excellent.

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**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Subsoil 28% very short, 40% short, 32% adequate. Topsoil 38% very short, 49% short, 13% adequate. Winter wheat 97% harvested, 99% 1998, 97% avg. Rye 92% harvested, 98% 1998, 92% avg. Corn 10% very poor, 18% poor, 42% fair, 27% good, 3% excellent; 70% silked, 68% 1998, 58% avg.; 23% dough, 20% 1998, 11% avg. Soybeans 3% very poor, 14% poor, 33% fair, 48% good, 2% excellent; 45% bloomed, 33% 1998, 28% avg.; 16 setting pods, 17% 1998, 7% avg. Sorghum 35% poor, 37% fair, 28% good; 20% headed, 44% 1998, 16% avg. Tobacco 4% very poor, 14% poor, 45% fair, 37% good; 45% bloomed, 44% 1998, 42% avg. Snap beans 39% harvested, 46% 1998, 36% avg. Cucumbers 48% harvested, 44% 1998, 47% avg. Potatoes 57% harvested, 45% 1998, 53% avg. Sweet Corn 39% harvested, 46% 1998, 36% avg. Tomatoes 26% harvested, 20% 1998, 22% avg. Cantaloupes 34% harvested, 42% 1998, 40% avg. Lima beans 10% harvested, 15% 1998, 5% avg. Watermelons 17% harvested, 24% 1998, 21% avg. Peaches 35% fair, 52% good, 13% excellent; 21% harvested, 39% 1998, 20% avg. Apples 1% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 16% excellent. Clover, other hays 78% 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting

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harvested, 74% 1998, 62% avg; 35% 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting, 44% 1998, 14% avg. Alfalfa 33% 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested, 26% 1998, 22% avg. Pasture feed 20% very poor, 35% poor, 36% fair, 9% good. Hay 7% very short, 46% short, 47% adequate. Activities: Hay, vegetable harvests continue.

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**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 8% very short, 20% short, 67% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 9% very short, 27% short, 60% adequate, 4% surplus. Hay 3% poor, 18% fair, 50% good, 29% excellent. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 12% fair, 59% good, 25% excellent. All hay 58% 2nd cutting 58%, 72% 1998, 51% avg. Corn height 69", 58" 1998, 59" avg. Dry beans 56% blooming, 40% 1998, 32% avg. Dry beans 13% setting pods, 9% 1998, 2% avg. Oats 93% turning, 88% 1998, 67% avg. Heat, humidity the norm for week with highs in nineties. Southeastern part much needed rain came through. Rest of State has less need for moisture since rains have stalled oat, hay harvesting. Timely rains, above normal temperatures have kept progress of field crops ahead of normal. Second alfalfa hay cutting was slowed due to rains. Soybeans in generally good condition with concern for white mold. Hot weather, rain have kept corn progress well ahead of normal. Wheat harvest was nearly complete with good yield, quality reported. Dry beans in good condition except for some pressure from leafhoppers, low lying spots stunted from recent saturating rains. Some sugar beet fields showing enough damage from cercospora leaf spot damage to warrant treatment. Early planted potato fields bulking well. Harvest of cabbage continued. Cantaloupe harvest began. Carrot growth was slowed by high temperatures. Hand-harvest of cucumbers for pickles started. Early melons were being harvested. Pea harvest beginning to wind down with good yields reported. Peppers continued to develop well, fruit set appeared heavier than unusual. Snap beans developing rapidly. Squash yields very good. Sweet corn harvest in full swing. Processing tomatoes continued to look good. Tart cherry harvest in west central nearly complete. Harvest continued in northwestern areas, should near completion this week. Apples 2.50 in. diameter. Harvest of early apples has begun in Southwest. Peaches 2.25 to 2.5 in. diameter. Japanese plum harvest has started. Concord grapes in Southwest were at cluster tightening. Blueberry harvest continued. Sweet cherry harvest finished in the northwest.

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**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 3% very short, 8% short, 68% adequate, 21% surplus. Corn 6% milking, 13% 1998, 6% avg. Spring Wheat 53% turning ripe, 77% 1998, 49% avg. Oats 76% turning ripe, 89% 1998, 73% avg. Barley 45% turning ripe, 78% 1998, 50% avg. Winter Wheat 4% harvested, 16% 1998, 12% avg. Rye 17% harvested, 42% 1998, 28% avg. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 7% poor, 27% fair, 55% good, 8% excellent. Sugar beets 2% very poor, 6% poor, 29% fair, 51% good, 12% excellent. Sunflowers 7% very poor, 21% poor, 33% fair, 33% good, 6% excellent. Dry beans 2% very poor, 27% poor, 28% fair, 35% good, 8% excellent. Heavy downpours were widespread along the southern border, scattered elsewhere. Many producers had flooding in the same low spots that had been replanted because of earlier heavy rains. More rain was urgently needed in parts of the Central and East Central Districts. Small grain harvest will not go full scale for at least a week or two in major areas.

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**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Soil moisture 6% very short, 41% short, 51% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 90% dough, 94% 1998, 85% avg.; 70% dent, 75% 1998, 53% avg.; 9% mature, 15% 1998, 9% avg.; 22% silage harvested, 51% 1998, 26% avg.; 4% poor, 15% fair, 59% good, 22% excellent. Cotton 96% setting bolls, 99% 1998, 91% avg.; 3% poor, 19% fair, 57% good, 21% excellent. Rice 30% heading, 48% 1998, 49% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 54% good, 17% excellent. Sorghum 86% heading, 93% 1998, 85% avg.; 28% turning color, 31% 1998, 31% avg.; 2% poor, 14% fair, 61% good, 23% excellent. Soybeans 93% blooming, 91% 1998, 72% avg.; 75% setting pods, 66% 1998, 43% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 19% fair, 56% good, 19% excellent. Sweet potatoes 1% poor, 20% fair, 74% good, 5% excellent. Hay (warm-season) 69% harvested, 67% 1998, 69% avg. Watermelons 68% harvested, 67% 1998, 67% avg.; 13% fair, 62% good, 25% excellent. Cattle, 9% poor, 16% fair, 58% good, 17% excellent. Pasture feed 8% poor, 23% fair, 52% good, 17% excellent. Rain is needed in many parts of the State where continued warm temperatures have begun to stress some crops. Many reporters indicate light insect pressure.

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**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 29% very short, 44% short, 26% adequate, 1% surplus. Precipitation 0.14 in. isolated showers provided little relief. Hot dry weather stressing crops, pasture and reducing soil moisture supplies. Soybeans 46% blooming, 11% setting pods. Sorghum 30% headed and 2% coloring, 5% coloring in Bootheel. Alfalfa 89% 2<sup>nd</sup> crop cut, 89% 1998, 84% avg.; 15% 3<sup>rd</sup> crop cut, 17% 1998, 12% avg. Other hay 88%, same as year ago and avg. Pasture feed 8% very poor, 22% poor, 39% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent.

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**MONTANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 26% very short, 50% short, 24% adequate. Subsoil 27% very short, 47% short, 25% adequate, 1% surplus. Majority of the State did not receive precipitation. Sugar beets 4% fair, 46% good, 50% excellent. Winter wheat 96% turning, 88% 1998, 88% avg.; 58% ripe, 32% 1998, 22% avg.; 1% very poor, 10% poor, 29% fair, 50% good, 10% excellent. Spring wheat 27% turning, 66% 1998, 42% avg.; 2% ripe, 3% 1998, 1% avg. Barley 43% turning, 49% 1998, 39% avg.; 4% ripe, 5% 1998, 3% avg. Oats 23% turning, 54% 1998, 38% avg.; 3% ripe, 16% 1998, 6% avg.; 3% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 55% good, 16% excellent. Corn 2% fair, 52% good, 46% excellent. Potatoes 1% poor, 19% fair, 44% good, 36% excellent. Dry beans 4% fair, 72% good, 24% excellent. Alfalfa 94% 1st cutting, 92% 1998, 92% avg.; 9% 2nd cutting 9%, 11% 1998, 8% avg. Other hay 79% harvested, 66% 1998, 72% avg.

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**NEBRASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 2% very short, 33% short, 61% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 18% short, adequate. Temperatures 1 to 6° above normals. Precipitation averaged from ten hundredths in the east central district to nearly two inches in the north central district. Corn 1% very poor, 5% poor, 16% fair, 57% good, 21% excellent. Irrigated corn 78%, dryland corn 78% in good or excellent; silking 77%, 84% 1998, 61% avg. Some producers have light development of gray leaf spot lesions, rust, eye spot disease in some corn hybrids. Soybeans blooming was 73%, 78% 1998, 64% avg.; 15% setting pods, 18% 1998, 14% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 20% fair, 62% good, 14% excellent. Sorghum 10% headed, 14% 1998, 13% avg.; 2% poor, 15% fair, 79% good, 4% excellent. Dry beans 1% very poor, 5% poor, 16% fair, 70% good, 8% excellent; blooming 63%, 38% 1998, 51% avg. Wheat harvest 93%, 89% 1998, 80% avg. Wheat harvest was slowed where rains were received. Oats 63% harvest, 64% 1998, 62% avg. Second cutting of alfalfa 88%, 83% 1998, 78% avg.; 1% very poor, 1% poor, 18% fair, 68% good, 12% excellent. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 53% good, 19% excellent. Wild hay 1% poor, 13% fair, 67% good, 19% excellent. Pastures, as well as other dryland crops, were under some stress due to hot temperatures. Producer activities; irrigating, cutting hay, moving grain, marketing grain, livestock, harvesting crops.

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**NEVADA:** Weather in the Silver State was dry and temperatures were slightly below normal. No precipitation was reported. In spite of this, irrigation water supply remains adequate in most parts of the State. Slightly cooler than normal temperatures were beneficial to pasture, range, hay, row crops. Majority of pasture, range was reported to be in good condition. Second cutting of alfalfa is nearing completion throughout the State. Dry weather has left the hay crop in good condition. Garlic harvest began in Douglas County. Over half of the grain crop had begun turning color, and was also in good condition. Corn had tasseled and sweet corn was ready for picking. Main farm and ranch activities: irrigating, haying, checking livestock, applying pesticides.

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**NEW ENGLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 39% very short, 43% short, 18% adequate. Subsoil 37% very short, 40% short, 23% adequate. Pasture feed 13% very poor, 37% poor, 39% fair, 11% good. Maine potatoes <5% harvested, 0% 1998; condition excellent to good. Massachusetts potatoes <5% harvested, 5% 1998, 5% avg.; condition good. Rhode Island potatoes 5% harvested, 0% 1998; condition fair. Oats in Maine <5% harvested, 0% 1998; condition good to excellent. Barley in Maine 100% emerged, condition excellent to good. Field corn 100% emerged, condition good to excellent. Sweet corn 25% harvested, 10% 1998, 10% average; condition good to fair. Shade tobacco 25% harvested, 50% 1998, 25% avg.; condition good. Broadleaf tobacco 5% harvested, 15% 1998, 5% avg.; condition good. First cut hay 95% harvested, 90% 1998, 95% avg.; condition good to fair. Second cut hay 45% harvested, 40% 1998, 30% avg.; condition good to fair. Third cut hay <5% harvested, 0% 1998, 0% avg.; condition fair to poor. Apples set

average, size average, condition good. Peaches 10% harvested; set average, size average to below average, condition fair. Pears set average, size below average to average, condition fair to poor. Strawberries 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% average, set average, size average, condition good. Cranberries 99% petal fall, condition good to excellent. Highbush blueberries 25% harvested, 35% 1998, 30% average, set average, size average, condition good to fair. Wild Blueberries <5% harvested, 0% 1998, 0% average; set average, size average, condition good. Major farm activities: Harvesting vegetables including sweet corn, tomatoes; fruit including blueberries, raspberries, peaches; hay, tobacco. Irrigating where available. Monitoring for pest, applying pesticides where required. Spreading manure and mowing weeds. Preparing equipment, storage units for upcoming potato, barley, oat, silage corn harvests.

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**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Temperatures averaged much above normal. Extremes 60°; 103°. Rainfall 0.23 in. north, 0.36 in. central, 0.42 in. South. Heaviest 24 hour total was 0.62 in. at Pomona on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Estimated soil moisture in percent of field capacity, this past week 58% north, 47% central, 44% south. Four inch soil temperatures 78° north, 78° central, 77° south. Harvest of wheat, barley, rye has been ahead of schedule across the State due to the extremely dry, hot weather conditions. Some fields in northern areas are still standing. Quality has been rated between good to fair. Corn is between good, fair condition in the south, between fair, poor in central, northern areas. Some fields are starting to tassel before they reach 30 in. height. Most fields are in the silk stage in south, central areas. Condition of single crop soybeans is similar to corn and most fields are in the bloom stage. Double crop soybean fields have been rated between fair and poor condition. Sporadic growth is occurring in some areas. Condition of the second hay crop is in poor condition. A second cutting is not occurring or expected in some areas. Pastures are very dry across the State. Cattle continue to suffer heat stress, supplemental feeding is occurring extensively. Most irrigated vegetable fields are in good condition. Non-irrigated vegetable fields are in poor condition. Some irrigation may occur soon in sweet potato fields, which are usually not irrigated. Harvest of early snap beans, early cabbage is winding down in the southern counties. Harvest of other vegetables such as tomatoes, squash, sweet corn, peppers, cucumbers, eggplant, potatoes continues. Good quality has been reported. Although some fields are being prepared for seeding of fall vegetables, some farmers are waiting to see if the conditions improve within the next few weeks. Volume of peaches from southern area is increasing. Good color, size, flavor have been reported. The condition of peaches in northern area has been rated as good with sizes being somewhat smaller. Apples are in good and fair condition but water is needed in non-irrigated orchards. Blueberry harvest is past its peak in south, it is picking up in central areas. The quality of the fruit is between good, excellent.

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**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Last week was typical for mid-summer, with scattered afternoon, evening thunderstorms each day. About 90 percent of the reporting stations measured rainfall. Some of the heaviest downpours of the season affected the southwest part of the State. Clouds and occasional precipitation kept temperatures a little below normal everywhere except the extreme east. Statewide 2° below normal. Activities remained about the same as most farmers got into their summer routine of cutting hay, cultivating, irrigating, weed, insect control, and fertilizing. Alfalfa conditions fell slightly as rains delayed cutting of mature fields and damaged hay on the ground. Ranch activities continued to center around maintenance. While many areas reported "looking the best they have in years" with favorable growth conditions, plenty of stock tank water the spotty rains continued to leave a few very dry areas causing supplemental feeding and hauling water. Range, pasture feed 5% very poor, 12% poor, 32% fair, 43% good, 8% excellent. Cattle, sheep were stable with cattle in mostly good condition, sheep mostly fair to good condition.

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**NEW YORK:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Soil moisture 26 % very short, 44 % short, 30% adequate. Pasture feed 17 % very poor, 40 % poor, 12 % fair, 31 % good. Second cutting alfalfa 72%, 59% 1998, 47% avg.; 13 % poor, 50 % fair, 31 % good, 6 % excellent. Corn 6% poor, 19% fair, 44% good, 31% excellent. Development well ahead of normal. Wheat 80% combined, 84% 1998, 49% avg. Excellent yields reported. Dry beans showing stress. Yields expected to suffer. Sweet corn harvest

continued ahead of normal. Non-irrigated vegetables in poor condition. Tart cherry harvest active. Apples, grapes in good condition.

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**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9, 3.4 last week. Soil moisture levels 3% very short, 20% short, 71% adequate, 6% surplus. Dry weather returned to most of State with the exception of a few scattered thunderstorms. Highs in the 90's were recorded throughout the State making this the hottest week of the year. Limited soil moisture is becoming a concern in some areas. Even though the weather enabled farmers to get into the fields, activities were limited. Tobacco topping, potato harvesting were among major activities conducted last week. Other activities included weed control in all crops, baling hay, harvesting peaches, sucker control, tending livestock.

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**NORTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 1% very short, 11% short, 76% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil 7% short, 76% adequate, 17% surplus. Hot, humid weather aided the development of row crops, allow producers to make progress on the hay harvest. Spraying for wheat midge, scab, rust was reported. Durum wheat 46% heading, 95% 1998, 80% avg.; 21% milk, 63% 1998, 39% avg.; 3% turning, 22% 1998, 9% avg. Canola 19% turning, 31% 1998. Corn 51% tasseling, 70% 1998, 47% avg. Dry edible beans 72% blooming, 94% 1998, 72% avg. Flaxseed 79% blooming, 93% 1998, 66% avg.; 3% turning, 13% 1998, 4% avg. Potatoes 81% blooming, 97% 1998, 87% avg.; 77% rows filled, 87% 1998, 67% avg. Soybeans 53% blooming, 82% 1998, 72% avg. Sunflowers 3% blooming, 10% 1998, 8% avg. Condition of small grains declined due to hot, humid weather. Emerged crop condition: durum 6% poor, 33% fair, 53% good, 8% excellent; canola 3% poor, 21% fair, 56% good, 20% excellent; corn 2% very poor, 5% poor, 18% fair, 65% good, 10% excellent; dry edible beans 7% poor, 22% fair, 52% good, 19% excellent; flaxseed 3% poor, 23% fair, 59% good, 15% excellent; potatoes 5% poor, 9% fair, 51% good, 35% excellent; soybeans 7% poor, 24% fair, 57% good, 12% excellent; sugar beets 1% very poor, 5% poor, 13% fair, 54% good, 27% excellent; sunflower 3% poor, 22% fair, 62% good, 13% excellent. Stock water supplies 1% short, 87% adequate, 12% surplus. Hay 4% above normal.

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**OHIO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 35% very short, 40% short, 24% adequate, 1% surplus. Soybeans 88% blooming, 75% 1998, 62% avg.; 30% setting pods, 23% 1998, 13% avg. Oats 98% ripe, 80% 1998, 82% avg.; 62% harvested, 31% 1998, 24% avg. Alfalfa 92% 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting, 80% 1998, 69% avg.; 17% 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting, 9% 1998, 2% avg. Other hay 71% 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting, 55% 1998, 42% avg.; 5% 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting, 0% avg. Corn 85% silked, 53% 1998, 36% avg.; 10% in dough, 7% 1998, 2% avg. Summer apples 48% harvested, peaches 27% harvested. Tobacco 6% topped, 5% 1998. Potatoes 5% harvested, cucumbers 31% harvested. Pasture feed 23% very poor, 27% poor, 32% fair, 16% good, 2% excellent. Corn 6% very poor, 12% poor, 34% fair, 38% good, 10% excellent. Soybeans 3% very poor, 9% poor, 32% fair, 45% good, 11% excellent. Activities include: Baling straw, hay; mowing CRP ground; detasseling seed corn; spraying weeds; cultivating vegetable crops; repairing buildings, machinery; scouting crops; hauling grain; hauling manure; combining clover seed; hauling water for livestock; tiling; constructing waterways. Reported weed pressures include Canadian thistle, morning glory, sourdock, velvetleaf, buttonweed, foxtail, ragweed, hemp dogbane, milkweed, quack grass, poison ivy, broadleaf, chickweed, lambs quarter, Johnson grass. Reported insects include spider mites in soybeans; leaf hoppers in alfalfa; rootworms, earworms in corn; beetles in soybeans, corn, cucumbers, squash. Reported diseases include root rot in soybeans; Stewart's' wilt in popcorn; virus on melons, squash; dry rot on tomatoes; mildew on pumpkins; gray leaf spot on corn; black shank, sore shin, fusarium wilt on tobacco. Fruit, vegetable crop is fair to good in the northern part of the State. An Ashtabula county reporter mentioned that mildew was showing up in grapes due to humid weather. Crop losses are reported in the southern part of the State due to the drought. Reporters comment that berries are smaller than normal, sweet corn is short, irrigation sources are drying up. Pasture, grass conditions range from very poor to good. Much of the grass is dormant while some pastures have been slow to regrow. Harrison county reporter commented that 2nd, 3rd cuttings of hay are very poor, there are virtually no second cuttings of grass hay. Hot, humid conditions are affecting livestock as feed intake, milk production are declining. A Guernsey county reporter mentioned that cattle are stressed, calving early.

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**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Subsoil 2% very short, 13% short, 84% adequate, 1% surplus. Topsoil 4% very short, 37% short, 58% adequate, 1% surplus. Hot, dry weather sapped soil moisture supplies to lowest level since early March. High temperatures exceeded 100° in every district. Wheat 86% plowed, 76% 1998, 83% avg.; Oats 88% plowed, 77% 1998, 81% avg. Corn 2% fair, 94% good, 4% excellent; 70% tasseled, 96% 1998, 81% avg.; 12% milk-to-soft, 20% 1998, 30% avg. Sorghum 99% up-to-stand, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Soybeans 25% fair, 58% good, 17% excellent; 90% up-to-stand, 99% 1998, 97% avg.; 37% flowering, 57% 1998, 57% avg.; 19% setting pods, 18% 1998, 25% avg. Peanuts 25% setting pods, 41% 1998, 46% avg. Watermelons 90% fruit set, 100% 1998, 90% avg.; 40% harvested, 41% 1998, 22% avg. Alfalfa hay 1% poor, 19% fair, 70% good, 10% excellent; 98% 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 59% 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting, 58% 1998, 55% avg. Other hay 91% 1<sup>st</sup> cutting, 88% 1998, 92% avg.; 32% 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting, 3% 1998, 31% avg. Livestock 1% poor, 10% fair, 73% good, 16% excellent. Feeder cattle prices unchanged from last week.

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**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 21% very short, 55% short, 23% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 18% very short, 50% short, 30% adequate, 2% surplus. Barley 7% harvested, 10% 1998, 17% avg. Spring wheat 3% harvested, 2% 1998. Winter wheat 19% harvested, 8% 1998, 18% avg. Range, pasture feed 2% very poor, 10% poor, 35% fair, 47% good, 6% excellent. Activities: Grain harvest underway on east side. Reported yields below average to average, with quality generally good. Some spring wheat in the driest areas of Mid Columbia Basin will not be harvested. Haying continued. Canola harvest nearing completion in northeast, good yields reported. Klamath Basin sugar beets fair to good. West side grass seed harvest in full swing. Haying continued. Mint harvest proceeded, field corn close to tassel stage in Willamette Valley. Greenhouses, nurseries irrigating, doing summer maintenance work. Christmas tree shearing underway. Iris tuber digging started in Willamette Valley. On southern coast Easter Lilies left to bloom for market promotion. Early potato digging continued in Northeast, yields, quality looked excellent. Klamath basin potato rows 70% closed, Malheur County onions, potatoes doing well, with no threat of late blight. Onions on west side enjoying warmer temperatures, growth of other vegetables accelerated. Green beans almost ready, salad vegetable harvest active in Willamette Valley. Willamette Valley strawberry harvest completed, Marion berries being picked, evergreen blackberries continued to size. Apples, pears ripening, hazelnuts developing. Rogue River Valley most berries picked. On south coast cranberries sizing. Hood River Valley cherries being harvested throughout the mid valley. Northeast cherry harvest underway. Eastern ranges drying out rapidly limiting forage production. Southern dryland grass dried up, irrigated pastures remain good to excellent. Pastures in Willamette Valley still producing forage, drying out quickly. Irrigation working full time where available. Livestock condition mostly good.

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**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Soil moisture 58% very short, 35% short, 7% adequate. Corn 58% silked, 50% 1998, 40% avg.; 17% dough, 2% 1998, 1% avg.; 57 in. height, 58 in. 1998, 57 in. avg. Corn 17% very poor, 36% poor, 25% fair, 19% good, 3% excellent. Soybean 6% very poor, 29% poor, 42% fair, 18% good, 5% excellent. Wheat 98% ripe, 100% 1998, 95% avg.; 93% harvested, 90% 1998, 76% avg. Oats 84% turning yellow, 87% 1998, 81% avg.; 54% ripe, 52% 1998, 45% avg.; 33% harvested, 19% 1998, 19% avg. Oat 2% very poor, 18% poor, 40% fair, 34% good, 6% excellent. Alfalfa 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting 78% complete, 73% 1998, 64% avg.; 19% 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting 19%, 14% 1998, 5% avg. Timothy clover 96% 1<sup>st</sup> cutting, 93% 1998, 94% avg.; 28% 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting, 30% 1998, 24% avg. Quality of hay 6% very poor, 9% poor, 32% fair, 35% good, 18% excellent. Peach 16% harvest, 28% 1998, 9% avg.; 1% poor, 14% fair, 73% good, 12% excellent. Apple 4% poor, 27% fair, 56% good, 13% excellent. Activities included: Harvesting wheat, oats, fruits, vegetables; machinery maintenance; filling silos; hauling manure; spreading fertilizers; caring for livestock; building, repairing fences; cutting hay; making haylage; irrigating crops.

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**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 3% very short, 24% short, 70% adequate, 3% surplus. Cantaloupes 94% harvested, 93% 1998, 88% avg. Corn 73% doughed, 88% 1998, 87% avg.; 5% very poor, 16% poor, 33% fair, 41% good, 5% excellent. Hay 2% poor, 33% fair, 58% good, 7% excellent. Peaches 63% harvested, 69% 1998, 67% avg.; 6% poor, 30% fair, 34% good, 30% excellent. Snapbeans 98% harvested, 98% 1998, 83% avg. Sorghum 70% headed,

71% 1998; 1% very poor, 6% poor, 13% fair, 66% good, 14% excellent. Sweet potatoes 3% poor, 18% fair, 79% good.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 8% short, 75% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil 5% short, 77% adequate, 18% surplus. Hot, humid weather quickly advanced row crop development this week. Producers report the humid conditions slowing winter wheat harvest with fog in the early mornings. Corn 66 in. height., 72 in. 1998, 59 in. avg.; 93% 2nd cultivation, 97% 1998, 93% avg.; 46% tasseled, 71% 1998, 46% avg.; 27% silked, 49% 1998, 26% avg. Winter rye 2% poor, 20% fair, 58% good, 20% excellent. Flaxseed 1% poor, 14% fair, 70% good, 15% excellent. Alfalfa 1% poor, 12% fair, 62% good, 25% excellent. Sunflower 2% poor, 24% fair, 57% good, 17% excellent. Winter wheat 1% poor, 12% fair, 65% good, 22% excellent; 97% ripe, 97% 1998, 80% avg. Winter rye 81% ripe, 89% 1998, 78% avg.; 13% combined, 55% 1998, 24% avg. Spring wheat 83% turning color, 92% 1998, 69% avg.; 28% ripe, 53% 1998, 23% avg. Oats 83% turning color, 93% 1998, 74% avg.; 41% ripe, 63% 1998, 40% avg. Barley 77% turning color, 90% 1998, 73% avg.; 28% ripe, 52% 1998, 28% avg. Flaxseed 63% blooming, 85% 1998, 77% avg.; 4% ripe, 54% 1998, 12% avg. Sunflower 7% blooming, 32% 1998, 14% avg. Alfalfa 51% 2nd cutting, 66% 1998, 51% avg. Other hay 69% harvested, 69% 1998, 67% avg. Cattle 7% fair, 64% good, 29% excellent. Sheep 4% fair, 61% good, 35% excellent. Stock water supplies 3% short, 77% adequate, 20% surplus.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 7% very short, 28% short, 62% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 5% very short, 24% short, 67% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 96% tasseled, 94% 1998, 93% avg.; 52% dough stage, 45% 1998, 45% avg.; 10% dent, 16% 1998, 13% avg.; 3% poor, 22% fair, 55% good, 20% excellent. Tobacco 36% topped, 23% 1998, 28% avg.; 2% very poor, 8% poor, 22% fair, 54% good, 14% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 9% poor, 32% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Alfalfa 2nd cutting 88%, 92% 1998, 93% avg.; 2% poor, 27% fair, 61% good, 10% excellent. All other hay 8% poor, 33% fair, 51% good, 8% excellent. Hot, dry conditions prevailed last week with daily temperatures at or above normal levels, only scattered afternoon showers or thunderstorms. Crop conditions deteriorated slightly from the previous week due to the heat and lack of moisture, remained in mostly good condition. Most crops are beginning to show some signs of stress, rain is needed soon in order for them to reach their full yield potential. As of 25th, crop development for all major row crops was on a normal pace, or slightly ahead of the five-year average. Tobacco farmers topped an additional 16 percent of the State's acreage in addition to treating for insects, applying sucker control. Pasture conditions declined slightly from last week, remained in mostly good to fair condition.

**TEXAS:** Scattered showers continued across the State, kept some areas moist but slowed harvest progress. Daytime temperatures were in the 90's most of the week. Most dryland crops were doing well but will need more rain in the plains, north central. Irrigation in these areas increased as the need for moisture increased. Livestock were in good condition. Pastures continued to show good growth with ample moisture, but some areas of the state need additional moisture.

**Crops:** Small Grains: Harvest neared completion on remaining fields. Yields remained very good. Corn: Recent rains helped the crop to develop in the High Plains where irrigation has continued. Fields in the Blacklands have matured more rapidly than producers anticipated. Harvest continued on limited acres but was slowed by showers. Harvest was slowed in the Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Valley due to rainy weather conditions. Producers were waiting for fields in the Upper Coast to dry so they can harvest. Fields were drying by the end of the week. 52% dented, 58% 1998, 52% avg. 40% mature, 50% 1998, 36% avg. 9% harvested, 26% 1998, 12% avg. Cotton: Progress in the Plains improved slightly with help coming from the warm weather. Insects were putting some pressure on the fields, causing more spraying. Most fields were squaring, setting bolls. Blacklands, central the crop was actively blooming, setting bolls. Insect pressure remained manageable. Defoliation was expected to start along the Upper Coast, Coastal Bend, Rio Grande. Rice: Some fields were ready to harvest but needed more dry weather along the Upper Coast. Some rice lodged from recent thunderstorms. Heavy stem borer infestations were observed in some fields. Sorghum: Fields were making good progress in the Plains and North Central during the week. Some fields continued to head out. Fields were maturing quickly in the Blacklands, central where producers were harvesting at a rapid pace. Harvest continued in the Coastal Bend,

Rio Grande Valley. Wet conditions along the Upper Coast kept harvest from progressing. 48% turning color, 54% 1998, 58% avg. 39% mature, 45% 1998, 46% avg. 36% harvested, 39% 1998, 33% avg. Soybeans: Over all conditions looked good in the Plains during the week. Fields were beginning to bloom and weed control had become a concern. Irrigation remained steady in most fields. In the Northern Blacklands most fields need to dry down for harvesting to begin. Along the Upper Coast the later beans looked very good. Other Crops: Sunflowers 97% planted, 97% 1998, 98% avg.

**Commercial Vegetables:** Rio Grande Valley, minimal activity occurred for week. San Antonio-Winter Garden, cantaloup harvest continued, rainfall caused insect, disease problems. East, the new crop of peas were being planted, grasshoppers were a problem in peas, tomatoes. High Plains, sweet corn, onion, potato harvest continued, beans, peas, squash, tomatoes, cucumbers were looking good. Trans Pecos, cucumber, cantaloup harvest continued, planting of cabbage got underway. Peaches: Harvest continued in Hill Country. Pecans: Heavy nut set remained thanks to good rainfall and moderate temperatures, powdery mildew has been a disease concern.

**Range and Livestock:** Conditions remained good most areas with good grass, water availability. Cattle, range were in good shape. Some areas were in need of additional moisture where moisture from June rains was mostly gone.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 9% very short, 29% short, 62% adequate. Subsoil 8% very short, 29% short, 63% adequate. Range, pasture feed 2% very poor, 8% poor, 34% fair, 55% good, 1% excellent. Corn height 56 in., 49 in. 1998, 50 in. avg.; 10% silked, 14% avg. Winter wheat 23% harvested, 13% 1998, 29% avg. Spring wheat 3% harvested, 3% 1998, 15% avg. Barley 6% harvested (grain), 7% 1998, 19% avg. Alfalfa hay 53% 2nd cutting, 42% 1998, 47% avg. Other hay 77% 1st cutting, 60% 1998, 67% avg. Oats 88% headed, 80% 1998, 86% avg.; harvested for hay or silage 63%, 51% 1998, 60% avg. Sweet cherries 97% picked, 94% 1998, 75% avg. Tart cherries 23% picked, 40% 1998, 41% avg. Irrigation water supply 3% very short, 18% short, 79% adequate. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 15% short, 83% adequate. Major activities included: Harvesting alfalfa hay, irrigating crops, spraying for weeds, insects.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 20% very short, 32% short, 47% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 31% very short, 32% short, 35% adequate, 2% surplus. Heavy rains, thunderstorms fell across the Commonwealth this past week. Most of the rainfall was received on 24th with more than 3 inches falling in some localities while other areas received only a trace. These rains, however, were not enough to replenish overall soil moisture levels. More than half of the topsoil in the State was reported as short despite recent rains. Pasture land continued to show improvement due to recent showers, however growth is still limited. Pasture feed 20% very poor, 27% poor, 30% fair, 21% good, 2% excellent. Livestock 2% very poor, 10% poor, 37% fair, 47% good, 4% excellent. Hay, other 28% very poor, 37% poor, 23% fair, 12% good. Hay, alfalfa 4% very poor, 26% poor, 46% fair, 21% good, 3% excellent. Corn for grain 73% silked, 62% 1998, 60% avg.; 26% dough, 25% 1998, 23% avg.; 14% very poor, 23% poor, 33% fair, 22% good, 8% excellent. Soybeans 98% planted, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 96% emerged, 97% 1998; 13% blooming, 25% 1998, 23% avg.; 6% very poor, 12% poor, 43% fair, 31% good, 8% excellent. Winter wheat 98% harvested, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Barley 99% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Tobacco, flue cured 1% poor, 10% fair, 68% good, 21% excellent. Tobacco, burley 2% very poor, 8% poor, 15% fair, 41% good, 34% excellent. Tobacco, dark fire cured 2% poor, 15% fair, 69% good, 14% excellent. Tobacco, sun cured 25% poor, 25% fair, 50% good. Peanuts 95% pegged, 93% 1998; 5% fair, 69% good, 26% excellent. Cotton 98% squaring, 98% 1998; 35% setting bolls; 9% fair, 54% good, 37% excellent. Summer potatoes 69% harvested, 64% 1998, 64% avg.; 1% very poor, 1% poor, 15% fair, 63% good, 20% excellent. Apples, all 12% poor, 64% fair, 21% good, 3% excellent. Peaches 26% harvested, 37% 1998, 24% avg.; 8% very poor, 14% poor, 53% fair, 21% good, 4%. Overall, the hay crop has improved but supplies remain short as producers are just starting the second cutting. Some producers are chopping corn to feed cattle due to limited hay supplies, short pastures. Tobacco remain virtually unchanged from previous week. Spread of blue mold continue to concern some tobacco producers as well as weather fleck, mosaic virus. Tobacco is about two weeks ahead in maturity as some producers have begun harvest. Timely rains have greatly improved peanut, cotton, late corn, soybean condition. Peanut producers are applying rootworm treatment as well as scouting

fields for diseases following the recent rainfall. Producers of potatoes, tomatoes, snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, squash, peppers, other vegetables continue harvesting their crops.

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**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 18% very short, 40% short, 42% adequate. Subsoil 16% very short, 56% short, 28% adequate. Winter wheat harvest had a slow start, was well behind 1998 and average. Qualities of winter wheat that have been harvested were reportedly good, some yields were lower due to weed populations. Spring wheat, barley harvest started but was expected to pick up to full swing in the next couple of weeks. Both crops were slightly behind years before. Growers were forced to spray for aphid infestations that were reported in the immature spring wheat and barley crops. Winter wheat 8% harvested, 20% 1998, 15% avg. Winter wheat dryland 8% very poor, 19% poor, 43% fair, 27% good, 3% excellent; irrigated 100% good. Spring wheat dryland 15% very poor, 29% poor, 41% fair, 15% good; irrigated 100% good; 100% headed, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Barley dryland 10% very poor, 28% poor, 48% fair, 14% good; irrigated, 100% good; 100% headed, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Potatoes 6% harvested, 8% 1998, 7% avg.; 7% fair, 61% good, 32% excellent. Hay, other roughage 1% very short, 2% short, 77% adequate, 20% surplus. Range, pasture feed 10% very poor, 35% poor, 40% fair, 9% good, 6% excellent. Livestock producers were busy cutting hay with the 3rd cutting of alfalfa underway. Second cutting of alfalfa was finished, 3rd cutting was well ahead of the five-year average. Dry bean harvest began, potatoes, onions, strawberries, blackberries, raspberries were also all being harvested. Apricot, nectarine, peach harvest continued as well as harvesting for mint, vegetable seed crops.

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**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 65% very short, 29% short, 6% adequate. Conditions for most of the State continue to be dry despite scattered rainfall throughout the State. Livestock producers in some localities continue marketing cattle as pastures, water and hay supplies remain short. Wheat 100% harvested, 78% 1998, 78% avg. Hay 41% very poor, 39% poor, 18% fair, 2% good; Hay 39% 2<sup>nd</sup> cut, 26% 1998, 29% avg. Corn 27% very poor, 52% poor, 16% fair, 5% good; 50% silked, 46% 1998, 46% avg.; 3% doughing, 2% 1998, 9% avg. Oats 14% very poor, 32% poor, 48% fair, 6% good; 25% harvested, 38% 1998, 42% avg. Soybeans 8% very poor, 30% poor, 62% fair; Soybeans 55% bloomed, 21% 1998, 65% avg.; 17% setting pods, 10% 1998, 22% avg. Tobacco 48% very poor, 20% poor, 32% fair; 3% topped, 7% 1998. Apples 7% very poor, 19% poor, 59% fair, 15% good. Peaches 8% very poor, 16% poor, 60% fair, 16% good. Cattle 2% very poor, 13% poor, 48% fair, 33% good, 4% excellent. Sheep 2% very poor, 7% poor, 39% fair, 39% good, 13% excellent.

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**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.5 Soil moisture 1% very short, 10% short, 52% adequate, 37% surplus. Warm, wet weather has many farmers wondering when it will cool off, dry out. Hay harvest has been slowed by the wet weather. In some places, the frequent showers have resulted in farmers chopping the hay back onto the field. In areas that did not receive as much rain, the humidity prevented farmers from making much good, dry hay. Leafhoppers have remained widespread in the second and third cuttings. Hay 67% 2nd crop, 81% 1998, 49% avg. Farmers with small grains are also wondering when it will dry out. Many tried, but with a number of rainy days, very little harvesting was accomplished last week. Substantial number of small grain fields were completely lodged by last week's storms. Fond du Lac county reporter noted that the winter wheat crop was beginning to turn dark from the excessive rainfall. Winter wheat 51% harvested, 74% 1998, 26% avg. Weeds were also becoming a problem. Corn crop continued to mature rapidly with the warm weather. Many reported corn tasseling and silking over the past week. Soybean crop was mostly good to excellent, but the corn crop was rated slightly better. Soybeans haven't been handling the excessive moisture as well as the corn. Soybean 3% poor, 10% fair, 54% good, 33% excellent; 52% bloomed, 67% 1998; 19% setting pods, 30% 1998. Berries have had a good crop with most earlier than usual. Peas appear to be yielding above average. Snap beans yields have been lowered by leafhoppers. Apple yields may be lower than 1998 according to a Sauk County reporter. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 54% good, 23% excellent.

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**WYOMING:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 5% very short, 62% short, 33% adequate. Warm weather during most of the week with

little precipitation. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 60% good, 23% excellent; 94% mature, 94% 1998, 80% avg.; 50% harvested, 49% 1998, 35% avg. Spring wheat 1% poor, 14% fair, 81% good, 4% excellent; 78% headed, 100% 1998, 87% avg.; 43% turning color, 71% 1998, 60% avg.; 16% mature, 33% 1998, 17% avg. Barley 2% fair, 70% good, 28% excellent; 85% headed, 93% 1998, 94% avg.; 67% turning color, 67% 1998, 73% avg.; 30% mature, 19% 1998, 20% avg. Oats 1% very poor, 12% fair, 80% good, 7% excellent; 73% headed, 91% 1998, 87% avg.; 19% turning color, 56% 1998, 50% avg.; 4% mature, 27% 1998, 17% avg. Sugar beet 1% poor, 5% fair, 72% good, 22% excellent. Corn 3% fair, 90% good, 7% excellent; 80% tasseled, 30% 1998, 42% avg.; 5% silked, 15% 1998, 16% avg. Dry bean 2% fair, 84% good, 14% excellent; 82% bloom, 69% 1998, 67% avg.; 18% setting pods, 26% 1998, 19% avg. Alfalfa 93% 1st cutting, 90% 1998, 93% avg.; 9% 2nd cutting, 6% 1998, 10% avg. Other hay 48% cut, 59% 1998, 57% avg. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 20% fair, 67% good, 12% excellent.