

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

Released August 17, 1999, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories" call Mark E. Miller at (202) 720-7621, office hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 38% very short, 44% short, 18% adequate, 0% surplus. High temperatures, scarce precipitation hurt crop condition, soil moisture supplies. Corn 86 dough stage%, 80% dented, 91% 1998, 91% average. Corn 55% mature, 72% 1998, 63% average. Corn 9% harvested, 27% 1998, 17% average. Corn condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 25% fair, 48% good, 19% excellent. Pasture feed 8% very poor, 22% poor, 36% fair, 32% good, 2% excellent. Livestock feed 6% poor, 41% fair, 38% good, 15% excellent. Shedding of squares, small bolls observed in some cotton fields. Some cattlemen have resorted to feeding hay due to poor pasture feed.

ALASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil 5% short, 90% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 10% short, 90% adequate. Weather conditions for the week were mild, damp. Rain delayed farm work in many areas. Daytime high temperatures ranged from the fifties to the seventies. Nighttime lows were mostly in the forties, fifties, with some dips into the mid-thirties. Oats 65% in dough or earlier, 35% turning color. Oat 25% fair, 50% good, 25% excellent. Barley 30% in dough or earlier, 70% turning color. Barley 5% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent. Hay 1st cutting 90%, 2nd cutting just underway. Second crop condition 5% poor, 50% fair, 35% good, 10% excellent. Wind damage to small grain crops, 95% none, 5% light, 5% moderate. Major activities included: Harvesting vegetables, weed control, cutting, raking hay, harvesting hay when conditions allowed, prep work for combining grains, spraying, irrigating potatoes, planting rye grass, machinery repair.

ARIZONA: Cotton continues to progress. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 28% not being harvested, 4% light, 25% moderate, 43% active. Alfalfa condition was reported as 2% poor, 18% fair, 67% good, 13% excellent. As of August 15, Range, Pasture feed was reported as 6% poor, 21% fair, 39% good, 34% excellent. Last week central areas producers shipped a variety of melons including cantaloupe, casaba, crenshaw, golden honeydew, honeydew, orange flesh, santa claus.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork: 7. Topsoil moisture 41% very short, 47% short, 12% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperature normals were as much as 7° higher. This month may be the 4th hottest on record if the temperatures hold. A weak cold front did provide some relief on Friday with a few isolated severe storms. Most areas are well below in rainfall. Rain is needed for pasture growth. Most crops were reported in good condition. Livestock were reported in good condition, but the hot, humid weather was causing deaths in poultry, livestock. The main farm activities were: Fertilizing cotton, corn, rice, warm season forages, finishing harvesting hay, planning for fall pastures. Other activities: Irrigating corn, soybeans, cotton, sorghum, rice, draining of rice, cultivating cotton, spraying cotton for insects, other fields for insects, weeds, starting corn harvesting, scouting for sheath blight in rice, scouting for and treating webworms in soybeans, spraying of rice, cotton, soybean fields for weeds, tree fruit, small fruit harvesting, melon harvesting, dusting, ear tagging cattle for external parasites, giving Brucellosis vaccinations, weaning calves. Cotton 100% setting bolls, 2% opening bolls, 6% poor, 29% fair, 44% good, 21% excellent; Soybeans 91% bloomed, 62% setting pods, 3% very poor, 14% poor, 35% fair, 37% good, 11% excellent; Sorghum 99% headed, 64% turning color, 1% very poor, 9% poor, 38% fair, 46% good, 6% excellent; Alfalfa 9% very poor, 13% poor, 31% fair, 42% good, 5% excellent; Other Hay 8% very poor, 21% poor, 46% fair, 24% good, 1% excellent; Range, pastures feed 9% very poor, 32% poor, 40% fair, 18% good, 1% excellent.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally under optimal conditions in most areas. Wheat, barley, oat harvests for grain were complete except at higher elevations. Seedbed preparations for fall-seeded small grains were underway. Rice heading continued, although warmer temperatures would assist pollination. Sacramento Valley rice fields were treated for weeds, San Joaquin Valley rice fields were being drained. Cotton boll setting was nearing completion in the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys; growth was still being slowed by cool temperatures. Cotton fields were sprayed for aphids, pink bollworm, whitefly. Garbanzo bean harvest gained momentum, blackeye bean harvest began in central, southern counties. Some fields of blackeye beans were sprayed for lygus. Safflower harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley, but was just getting underway in the Sacramento Valley. Seed alfalfa was harvested in the San Joaquin, Imperial valleys. Sugarbeet harvest continued; later maturing sugarbeets were treated for armyworms, beet webworms, grasshoppers. Corn silage harvest was ongoing in the central valleys. Growers were finished putting in second crop plantings of corn on the harvested small grain fields. Sunflower harvest began in the Sacramento Valley; some fields were sprayed for weeds. Alfalfa was cut for hay or greenchopped. The fresh market harvest of San Joaquin Valley grapes gained momentum. Varieties picked included Perlette, Flame Seedless, Thompson Seedless. Vineyard floors were being prepared for the upcoming wine, raisin grape harvests. Other cultural activities in orchards, vineyards included extensive weed control, irrigation. Harvest of plums, nectarines, clingstone peaches, freestone peaches continued. Good quality was noted. Apple trees were treated for codling moth. Picking of early variety apples was active. Olive trees exhibited a good fruit set that was maturing well. Bartlett pear harvest continued in the Sacramento River delta area. Asian pear harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley. Tree limbs in almond orchards remain supported to bear weight of the heavy nut set. The crop was nearing full maturity with some hull splitting reported. Growers were preparing orchards for harvest. Valencia oranges, lemons were picked in southern areas. The cooler than normal weather has favored fruit set for peppers, eggplant, gourds, squash, cucumbers. However, the processing tomato harvest was slowed by the cool temperatures. Tomato fields were treated to control leafminers, armyworms, fruit worms, aphids. The sweet potato harvest continued; some fields were treated for worms. The San Joaquin Valley fall broccoli, cauliflower crops were planted; some earlier planted fields were beginning to emerge. Fields for the fall crop of head lettuce were being prepared. Preparations for fall planting were also underway in the Imperial Valley, where fields were being treated for nematodes. Harvest of vineseed began in the Sacramento Valley. Cucumbers, sweet corn were being harvested. Watermelon, cantaloupe harvests continued, with less mature fields still being treated for aphids in some locations. Honeydew melons were harvested; quality was good. Ground preparation for fall strawberry planting was underway. Among the numerous other vegetables harvested were bok choy, cilantro, chayote leaves, eggplant, garlic, leeks, radishes, squash, cherry tomatoes. Irrigated pastures were in fair to good condition. Non-irrigated pastures were in poor to fair condition depending on the location. Higher elevation, non-irrigated pastures were deteriorating rapidly. Foothill pastures have been dry for some time, but cooler weather has reduced the fire hazard somewhat. Livestock were in good condition. Bees continued to pollinate seed alfalfa, the remaining melon fields.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil 6% very short, 10% short, 80% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 7% very short, 13% short, 77% adequate, 3% surplus. Warmer, drier weather returned

during the week allowing producers to resume field activities, late row crops to progress towards maturity. Spring wheat 87% turning color, 80% 1998, 86% avg.; 39% harvested, 28% 1998, 41% avg.; 7% poor, 18% fair, 51% good, 24% excellent. Spring barley 98% turning color, 95% 1998, 86% avg.; 30% harvested, 36% 1998, 33% avg.; 6% poor, 19% fair, 54% good, 21% excellent. Corn 15% dough, 32% 1998, 32% avg. Oats 87% turning color, 89% 1998, 88% avg.; 50% harvested, 51% 1998, 55% avg. Dry onions 5% harvested, 18% 1998, 15% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 12% fair, 65% good, 20% excellent. Sugar beets 5% poor, 13% fair, 45% good, 37% excellent. Dry beans 87% flowered, 91% 1998, 89% avg.; 1% cut, 1% 1998, 0% avg.; 2% poor, 14% fair, 63% good, 21% excellent. Summer potatoes 9% harvested, 10% 1998, 15% avg.; 1% very poor, 1% poor, 4% fair, 69% good, 25% excellent. Fall potatoes 7% poor, 13% fair, 42% good, 38% excellent. Alfalfa 75% 2nd cutting, 86% 1998, 85% avg.; 14% 3rd cutting, 12% 1998, 12% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 53% good, 14% excellent. Pasture, range feed in mostly good condition.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 30% very short, 66% short, 4% adequate. Subsoil 35% very short, 64% short, 1% adequate. Field corn 22% very poor, 33% poor, 28% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent; 55% dough, 53% 1998, 55% avg.; 26% dented, 22% 1998, 24% avg.; 20% mature, 15% 1998, 6% avg.; 27% harvested for silage, 18% 1998, 9% avg. Soybeans 10% very poor, 30% poor, 33% fair, 25% good, 1% excellent; 42% bloomed, 39% 1998, 59% avg.; 33% setting pods, 25% 1998, 33% avg.; 5% turned, 4% 1998, 1% avg. Sorghum 8% poor, 56% fair, 36% good; 48% headed, 44% 1998, 61% avg.; 13% turned, 9% 1998, 5% avg. Sweet corn 53% harvested, 50% 1998, 67% avg. Snap beans 58% harvested, 49% 1998, 62% avg. Cantaloupes 42% harvested, 69% 1998, 70% avg. Watermelons 50% harvested, 49% 1998, 52% avg. Cucumbers 55% harvested, 69% 1998, 73% avg. Lima beans 40% harvested, 31% 1998, 24% avg. Tomatoes 39% harvested, 42% 1998, 52% avg. Potatoes 58% harvested, 59% 1998, 69% avg. Apples 8% fair, 92% good; 15% harvested, 18% 1998, 19% avg. Peaches 7% fair, 93% good; 51% harvested, 55% 1998, 64% avg. Clover, other hay 94% 2nd cutting, 100% 1998, 98% avg.; 85% 3rd cutting, 68% 1998, 53% avg.; 27% 4th cutting, 19% 1998, 6% avg. Alfalfa hay 90% 3rd cutting harvested, 86% 1998, 76% avg.; 15% 4th cutting, 19% 1998, 10% avg. Hay supplies 7% very short, 66% short, 27% adequate. Pasture 9% very poor, 67% poor, 14% fair, 10% good. Activities: Corn maturing at rapid pace, farmers harvesting large amounts of corn for silage, continued vegetable harvesting.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture mostly short to adequate. Hot temperatures continued, weekly averages near normal to 3^o above at major stations. Daytime highs 90s; Tallahassee, Gainesville reported at least one high at 100 or more. Nighttime lows 70s. Scattered rain ranged from traces at Ft. Pierce, Daytona Beach to about 3.33 in. at Gainesville, Tallahassee, Bradenton. Tobacco harvest winding down. Tobacco marketing active. Cotton, soybean, sugarcane condition normal. Haying active. Peanut growers preparing to start harvest. Peanut 13% fair, 64% good, 23% excellent. Mostly clear weather allowed land preparation for fall vegetable planting to proceed on schedule. Quincy: Tomato transplanting nearly finished, 1^o of acres left to plant. About 3^o of tomato acres lost to dry conditions, late July, growers replanted. Palmetto-Ruskin-Tomatoes fair to good, planting slowly increasing. Workers making first ties of oldest tomato plants, spraying to control disease, insects. Planting cherry, plum tomatoes gaining momentum, both rated fair to good. Watermelon planting underway. Planting of eggplant expected to start within next 5 to 7 days. East Coast - Scattered rains eased dry soil conditions. Pepper planting steady. Tomato transplanting slow as season gets underway. Growers starting to plant eggplant. Southwest - Producers laying plastic for transplanting tomatoes, to begin within next two weeks. Dade - Okra harvesting continues, good quality available. Growers to begin transplanting U-Pic tomatoes within next 5 to 7 days. Planting of tomatoes for out-of-State shipment to start around September first. Snap bean planting to begin about mid-September. Hot, humid weather all citrus areas with scattered rains, thunderstorms. Abundant new foliage, new crop fruit progressing well. Some splitting of early oranges, Navels, growers testing fruit for early shipments. Caretakers cutting cover crops, herbiciding, spraying, fertilizing, replanting. Pasture feed; 50% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Condition of cattle; 20% fair, 75% good, 5% excellent. Panhandle; cattle, calves in fair condition. Growing conditions at most locations excellent for grass. Central; cattle, calves fair condition due to only fair pasture; grass growth limited. West central; cattle fair to good condition, pastures good, green,

some pastures wet. Southwest; rain spotty, with cattle, range fair to good condition.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 6.6. Soil moisture 44% very short, 37% short, 18% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 87% mature, 91% 1998, 87% avg.; 33% harvested for grain, 31% 1998, 24% avg. Hay 17% very poor, 30% poor, 35% fair, 17% good, 1% excellent. Sorghum 13% very poor, 28% poor, 35% fair, 18% good, 6% excellent; 4% harvested for grain, 10% 1998, 4% avg. Tobacco 75% harvested, 55% 1998, 76% avg. Watermelons 96% harvested, 97% 1998, 96% avg. Apples 26% fair, 54% good, 20% excellent; 8% harvested, 7% 1998, 10% avg. Peaches 99% harvested, 98% 1998, 99% avg. Pecans 6% very poor, 13% poor, 33% fair, 40% good, 8% excellent. Another week of dry, hot weather continued to have a negative effect on crops, pastures. Temperatures remained hot with scattered showers occurring in some areas. Poultry continued to be stressed due to the heat. Conditions helped corn harvest continue ahead of 1998, the five year average pace. Timely rains in some southwestern counties helped the crop condition slightly. The soybean condition fell. Pod set was ahead of the five year average pace. The sorghum condition declined with harvest at the average pace. Cotton continued to suffer. Some areas reported lost bolls due to the hot, dry weather. The peanut condition also dropped. Some farmers were applying fungicides to peanuts. Tobacco harvest continued ahead of 1998 pace. Pasture, hay fields continued to deteriorate with the dry weather. Some cattle producers have begun supplemental feeding, evaluating their herd size. Pecan tree spraying continued in some areas as condition declined. Watermelon, peach harvests neared completion. Other activities included: Irrigating crops, preparing land for fall vegetable planting.

HAWAII: Variable weather conditions were fair for crops. Trade wind weather prevailed most of week. Mostly sunny with moderate winds, few showers in windward areas. Tropical Storm Eugene passed south of State late Thursday. Western half of State remained sunny while southern islands received some showers. Most notable were windward areas of areas island which received moderate to heavy rain. Banana orchards were in mostly good condition. Harvesting is very heavy; peak levels in some areas. Papaya orchards ranged from good to poor condition. Harvesting is active. Moderate to heavy irrigation ensured normal progress for head cabbage plantings. Harvesting remained steady.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 7% very short, 37% short, 55% adequate, 1% surplus. Thundershowers have slowed hay, small grain harvesting. Potato harvest is underway in Southwestern, South central counties. Irrigation supply 63% excellent, 30% good, 6% fair, 1% poor. Alfalfa hay 2nd cutting 86%, 84% 1998, 80% avg.; 3rd cutting 24%, 16% 1998, 12% avg. Oats harvested for 25% grain, 16% 1998, 25% avg. Mint 38% harvested, 61% 1998, 69% avg.. Peaches 19% harvested, 15% 1998, 41% avg.. Dry Peas 30% harvested, 46% 1998, 44% avg. Dry Beans 1% harvested, 0% 1998, 1% avg.. Lentils 22% harvested, 13% 1998, 22% avg. Onions 3% harvested, 4% 1998, 4% avg. Prunes, plums 8% harvested, 3% 1998, 8% avg. Hops 3% harvested, 2% 1998, 1% avg. Sweet Corn 26 harvested, 17% 1998, 9% avg. Potatoes with vines dead/kill 5%, 5% 1998, 5% avg.. Barley 94% turning color, 14% harvested, 32% 1998, 30% avg. Spring wheat 96% turning color, 16% harvested, 25% 1998, 25% avg. Winter wheat 32% harvested, 56% 1998, 52% avg. Activities: Irrigating, weed control, spraying insects, preparing for potato harvest, harvesting small grains, fruit, mint, dry peas, lentils, onions and hay.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil moisture 18% very short, 39% short, 39% adequate, 4% surplus. Thunderstorms late last week provided much needed rain across most of the state. However, this was accompanied by strong winds that caused damage in some fields. The moisture combined with cooler temperatures, helped relieve stress on the crops caused by extremely dry weather which began nearly six weeks ago. The corn crop is progressing ahead of normal. Better weather conditions have also helped the soybean crop. Before the heavy rains hit, farmers were busy baling hay, mowing roadsides, caring for livestock. Oats 99% harvested, 98% 1998, 96% avg. Alfalfa 99% 2nd cut, 98% 1998, 97% avg. Alfalfa 3rd cut 49% cut, 43% 1998, 37% avg.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil 35% very short, 44% short, 21% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 34% very short, 51% short,

15% adequate, 0% surplus. Much needed rain, central, northern areas. Topsoil subsoil remain very dry, most areas. Corn condition improved slightly. Soybean condition declined. Corn 31% good to excellent. Soybean 30% good to excellent. Pastures, hay crops continue to deteriorate. Feeding hay some areas. Third cutting alfalfa, 75% complete, 41% 1998. Tobacco 9% harvest complete. Activities: Chopping silage, selling corn, soybeans, irrigating crops, cleaning grain bins, harvesting tobacco, mowing roads, baling hay, harvesting vegetables, monitoring fields, attending state fair, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for field work 4.9. Topsoil 5% very short, 16% short, 75% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 5% very short, 22% short, 70% adequate, 3% surplus. Heavy rains in southern areas scattered showers in the north. Corn 87% milk stage, 89 1998%, 75% avg.; dough 52% stage, 38% 1998, 30% avg.; dent 12% stage, 7% 1998, 5% avg. Corn 3% very poor, 7% poor, 21 fair%, 47% good, 22% excellent. Soybeans setting 93% pods, 94% 1998, 88% avg. Soybean 2% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 48% good, 24% excellent. Cooler temperatures continue to benefit areas livestock. Some cases of pinkeye reported. Range, pasture feed 3% very poor, 16% poor, 32 fair%, 41% good, 8% excellent. Third 25% cutting of alfalfa, 12% 1998, 14% avg. Second 76% cutting of clover hay, 81% 1998, 75% avg. Hay 2% very poor, 11% poor, 33% fair, 43% good, 11% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork Topsoil 5% very short, 32% short, 61% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 20% short, 74% adequate, 4% surplus. Warmer, drier conditions returned to the State last week causing conditions to decline slightly. Corn 4% mature, 8% 1998, 4% average. Sunflower 1% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 63% good, 12% excellent. Sunflowers 86% blooming, 91% 1998, NA average. Ray flowers 19% dry, 24% 1998, NA average. Bracts 10% turning yellow, 10% 1998, NA average. Third 88% cutting alfalfa, 91% 1998, 85% average. Fourth 24% cutting alfalfa, 17% 1998, 14% average. Crop insect populations are rated at mostly light to none, with a few reports of corn borers, fall armyworms, grasshoppers, webworms in alfalfa, sorghum, soybeans. Producers were busy cutting hay, working summer fallow, wheat stubble, cultivating, spraying weeds. Hay, forage supplies 2% short, 85% adequate, 13% surplus. Stock water supplies are mostly adequate.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 61% very short, 35% short, 4% adequate. Subsoil 59% very short, 37% short, 4% adequate. Scattered showers did not bring any drought relief. Crops continue to be in desperate need of moisture. Later planted corn has been more severely stressed by the hot, dry weather than earlier planted fields. Harvest has begun for some early planted corn, yields were reported as mostly good to fair with some low test weights. Most soybeans are at the critical pod fill stage, need significant rainfall in the next couple of weeks for pod fill. Without rain soon many second crop soybeans will produce little to no beans. Burley tobacco 75% topped, 22% cut. Dark tobacco 93% topped, 23% cut. Tobacco 14% very poor, 26% poor, 36% fair, 20% good, 4% excellent. Blank shank continues to be a serious problem statewide. Drought conditions have produced short plants on all but early planted or irrigated fields. Pasture feed 38% very poor, 33% poor, 22% fair, 6% good, 1% excellent. Farmers continue to feed hay due to poor pasture conditions. Unless rain is received soon, fall hay harvest will be minimal. Hay 30% very poor, 34% poor, 26% fair, 9% good, 1% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil 23% very short, 34% short, 39% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 7% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 11% excellent; 53% harvested, 60% 1998, 37% avg. Cotton, that was not irrigated, was showing signs of stress. Hay 47% final cutting, 48% 1998, 58% avg. Rice 83% ripe, 71% 1998, 55% avg. Sorghum 72% ripe, 56% 1998, 39% avg.; 27% harvested, 13% 1998, 8% avg. Soybeans 17% leaves turning, 21% 1998, 9% avg.; 8% leaves shedding, 8% 1998, 4% avg. Sugarcane 11% fair, 59% good, 30% excellent; 23% planted, 2% 1998, 3% avg. Sugarcane growers were spraying for borers, planting. Sweetpotatoes 3% poor, 36% fair, 56% good, 5% excellent; 9% harvested, 4% 1998, 7% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 55% good, 12% excellent. Vegetables 6% very poor, 24% poor, 43% fair, 25% good, 2% excellent. Vegetable crops were suffering from the heat and high levels of insects.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Subsoil 72% very short, 22% short, 6% adequate. Topsoil 62% very short, 27% short, 11% adequate. Corn 19% very poor, 33% poor, 33% fair, 13% good, 2% excellent; 48% dough, 57% 1998, 49% avg.; 25% dent, 29% 1998, 19% avg.; 16% mature, 15% 1998, 4% avg. Soybeans 14% very poor, 26% poor, 48% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent; 66% bloomed, 81% 1998, 74% avg.; 51% setting pods, 61% 1998, 48% avg. Sorghum 13% very poor, 34% poor, 50% fair, 3% good; 75% headed, 89% 1998, 77% avg.; 10% turning color, 14% 1998, 4% avg. Tobacco 16% very poor, 36% poor, 39% fair, 9% good; 80% bloomed, 79% 1998, 89% avg.; 49% topped, 65% 1998, 64% avg.; 18% harvested, 28% 1998, 23% avg. Snap beans 60% harvested, 69% 1998, 69% avg. Cucumbers 70% harvested, 79% 1998, 67% avg. Potatoes 78% harvested, 100% 1998, 93% avg. Sweet Corn 72% harvested, 76% 1998, 68% avg. Tomatoes 65% harvested, 68% 1998, 60% avg. Cantaloupes 73% harvested, 81% 1998, 77% avg. Lima beans 20% harvested, 24% 1998, 15% avg. Watermelons 65% harvested, 69% 1998, 65% avg. Peaches 5% poor, 33% fair, 61% good, 1% excellent; 62% harvested, 68% 1998, 62% avg. Apples 22% fair, 78% good; 7% harvested, 10% 1998, 7% avg. Clover, other hays 87% 2nd cutting harvested, 89% 1998, 87% avg; 39% 3rd cutting, 52% 1998, 31% avg. Alfalfa 72% 3rd cutting harvested, 58% 1998, 66% avg.; 15% 4th cutting, 25% 1998, 11% avg. Pasture feed 46% very poor, 29% poor, 21% fair, 4% good. Hay supplies 14% very short, 57% short, 29% adequate. Activities: Hay supplies getting short, livestock producers selling off parts of herd, hay yields extremely light.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 7% very short, 23% short, 67% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 16% very short, 28% short, 54% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay 1% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Dry beans 0% very poor, 5% poor, 14% fair, 59% good, 22% excellent. Oats 2% very poor, 6% poor, 32% fair, 42% good, 18% excellent. Hay 2nd 83% cutting, 99% 1998, 86% avg. Hay 3rd 24% cutting, 29% 1998, 14% avg. Corn 83% milk, 83% 1998, 49% avg. Dry beans 97% blooming, 98% 1998, 88% avg. Dry beans 81% setting pods, 76% 1998, 68% avg. Dry beans 6% turning leaves, 3% 1998, 3% avg. Soybeans 2% turning leaves, 2% 1998, 2% avg. Normal temperatures constant as rainfall was variable. In Upper Peninsula, northern sections of Lower Peninsula, there has been too much rain. The lower half is experiencing the need for rain. Field crops continued to mature ahead of normal. Too much rain has made hay, small grain harvest difficult in the Upper Peninsula, the northern part of the Lower Peninsula. Second, 3rd hay cuttings progressed in the south. Corn was in good condition with few reports of insect pressure. Both dry beans, soybeans were sprayed for white mold. Sugarbeets have benefitted from widespread gentle rains, but spraying continued for Cercospora leafspot. As potato vines matured, fresh market harvest increased. Cantaloupe harvest was active and quality was good. Carrot harvest continued with good growth. Harvest of cucumbers for pickles continued and quality improved. Eggplant volume was increasing. Pepper harvest was in full swing with excellent quality. Pumpkin vine growth was good with some disease problems, concern over early maturity. Snap bean harvest was active with good yields, quality. Zucchini, summer squash harvest continued. Sweet corn supplies remained heavy although development has slowed a little. Market tomato harvest continued and quality was good. Apples fruit 2.5 inches diameter. Peach harvest continued. Stanley plum harvest will begin this week. Concord grapes coloring. Clapp's Favorite pears harvested. Fall raspberry bloom began. Blueberry harvest was winding down.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 14% short, 67% adequate, 18% surplus. Corn 87% milking, 96% 1998, 73% avg. Winter Wheat 78% harvested, 96% 1998, 79% avg. Rye 87% harvested, 98% 1998, 85% avg. Sweet corn 37% harvested, 54% 1998, 30% avg. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 11% poor, 27% fair, 51% good, 9% excellent. Sugarbeets 1% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, 17% excellent. Sunflowers 2% very poor, 20% poor, 39% fair, 37% good, 2% excellent. Dry beans 1% very poor, 12% poor, 36% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent. The harvest of wheat, other crops in the Northwest District is being held up by persistent rainy weather. At the same time, parts of the state are still hoping for some much-needed rain. In the Southwest District, corn, soybeans are in need of some additional moisture to complete filling of ears, pods.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Soil moisture 44% very short, 33% short, 21% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 100% dent, 96%

1998, 90% avg.; 84% mature, 79% 1998, 55% avg.; 24% harvested, 35% 1998, 14% avg.; 58% silage harvested, 79% 1998, 63% avg.; 1% very poor, 6% poor, 27% fair, 51% good, 15% excellent. Cotton 26% open bolls, 30% 1998, 17% avg.; 3% very poor, 10% poor, 29% fair, 49% good, 9% excellent. Rice 89% heading, 89% 1998, 90% avg.; 10% mature, 8% 1998 14% avg.; 2% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 49% good, 17% excellent. Sorghum 99% heading, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 76% turning color, 84% 1998, 79% avg.; 36% mature, 32% 1998, 31% avg.; 10% harvested, NA 1998, NA avg.; 18% silage harvested, 21% 1998, 19% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 34% fair, 50% good, 10% excellent. Soybeans 98% setting pods, 92% 1998, 82% avg.; 41% turning color, 27% 1998, 15% avg.; 21% shedding leaves, 9% 1998, 6% avg.; 7% very poor, 19% poor, 32% fair, 35% good, 7% excellent. Sweet potatoes 10% harvested, 2% 1998, 5% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 17% fair, 77% good. Hay (warm-season) 78% harvested, 76% 1998, 79% avg. Watermelons 89% harvested, 89% 1998, 90% avg. Cattle, 2% very poor, 13% poor, 29% fair, 51% good, 5% excellent. Pasture 12% very poor, 28% poor, 29% fair, 28% good, 3% excellent. Above average temperatures and dry conditions prevailed across most of the state.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 42% very short, 37% short, 21% adequate. Subsoil moisture was rated 33% very short, 42% short, 25% adequate. Dry weather continues to take a toll on row crops. Cattle producers in some districts are starting to feed hay due to the lack of forage in pastures. Corn in the Bootheel continues to be more advanced than the rest of the state with 64% mature, north-central, northeast districts least advanced with one-third in dent stage 2nd mature. Soybean blooming ahead of normal, but pod development behind normal due to hot, dry weather. Sorghum 46% coloring in Bootheel. Cotton opening bolls is several days ahead of the 4% normal for this date. 3rd crop alfalfa cut 63%. Pasture conditions continue to decline 21% very poor, 34% poor, 35% fair, 10% good. Precipitation for week ending August 15, 1999 avg. 0.24 in.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 22% very short, 39% short, 37% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 20% very short, 47% short, 32% adequate, 0% surplus. The week started out hot, dry. But as the week progressed, conditions became cooler, many areas of the state received some amounts of precipitation. Sugar beets 0% very poor, 1% poor, 27% fair, 41% good, 31% excellent. Winter wheat 96% ripe, 92% 1998, 87% avg. Spring wheat 94% turning, 100% 1998, 95% avg. Spring wheat 50% ripe, 72% 1998, 53% avg. Barley 93% turning, 100% 1998, 93% avg. Barley 52% ripe, 68% 1998, 55% avg. Oats 92% turning, 99% 1998, 93% avg. Oats 54% ripe, 65% 1998, 51% good, 15% excellent. Dry beans 0% very poor, 2% poor, 10% fair, 58% good, 30% excellent. Alfalfa 2nd 47% cutting, 36% 1998, 46% avg. Other hay 90% harvested, 88% 1998, 90% avg. Summer fallow fieldwork is reported as being finished on schedule. Evidence of the July 15th frost in many parts of Glacier county is evident. White heads are reported on wheat, other small grains, but it is still questionable at this point as to whether it will be worth harvesting or not.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Statewide, temperatures averaged from two to fourth below normals. Precipitation across the State averaged from .14 of an inch in the Northwest to 2.31 inches in extreme eastern counties. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 15% short, 77% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 18% short, 78% adequate, and 1% surplus. Corn 1% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 53% good, 19% excellent. Irrigated corn 76%, dryland corn 65% in good or excellent; corn 70% dough, 67% 1998, 53% avg.; corn 12% dent, below 14% 1998, above 11% average. Soybeans 77% setting pods, 89% 1998, 76% avg. Soybean 1% very poor, 6% poor, 29% fair, 47% good, 17% excellent. Sorghum 71% headed, 89% 1998, 76% average.; turning 5% color, 4% 1998, 5% avg. Sorghum 4% poor, 35% fair, 52% good, 9% excellent. Dry beans 1% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 69% good, 6% excellent; 74% setting pods, above 40% 1998 same as avg. Oats 97% harvest rated, slightly below 98% of 1998 average. Third cutting of alfalfa 43% complete above 42% 1998, 34% average. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 58% good, 13% excellent. Pasture, range 2% very poor, 7% poor, 26% fair, 54% good, 11% excellent. Wild hay 4% poor, 17% fair, 62% good, 17% excellent. Livestock were doing better with last

week's cooler weather. Producer activities; Haying, moving grain to market, caring for livestock, preparations for fall seeded wheat.

NEVADA: Fires ran rampant through norther areas range lands. Lightning fires, a few man caused fires burned over 1 million acres of range land in the Northern portion of the State during the past few weeks. The Reno area received the majority of the precipitation from these thunder storms at .53 inches. Elko, Ely, Winnemucca received only minimal precipitation, at .01, .03, .04, respectively. Southern areas received only trace amounts of precipitation. Temperatures were normal, cooled as the week progressed. The cooler temperatures, rainfall were beneficial to the range land that had not burned. The majority of the irrigation water supplies remained adequate though shortages were reported in Douglas county. Some farmers had already completed third cutting of alfalfa. Most farmers were mid way through 3rd cutting, the quality also remained good. Other hay continued to be harvested, quality remained good. Grain harvest was well underway, including burning stubble. Some wheat was reported as testing light. Cool nights have slowed vegetable growth, some potatoes began blooming. Garlic harvest continued. Main farm, ranch activities: Irrigating, harvesting hay, planting alfalfa, grain harvest, vegetable harvest preparation, garlic harvest, checking livestock.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil 23% very short, 44% short, 33% adequate. Subsoil 30% very short, 47% short, 23% adequate. Pasture feed 30% very poor, 25% poor, 33% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent. Maine potatoes <5% harvested; condition good to excellent. Massachusetts potatoes 20% harvested, 25% 1998, 25% average; condition good to fair. Rhode Island potatoes 30% harvested, 10% 1998, 10% average; condition fair. Oats in Maine 15% harvested, 10% 1998, 20% average; condition good to excellent. Barley in Maine 40% harvested, 35% 1998; condition good to excellent. Field corn <5% harvested; condition good. Sweet corn 50% harvested, 50% 1998, 45% average; condition good to fair. Shade Tobacco 75% harvested, 95% 1998, 75% average, condition good. Broadleaf Tobacco 75% harvested, 65% 1998, 60% average; condition good. First cut hay 99% harvested, 99% 1998, 99% average, condition good to fair. Second cut hay 65% harvested, 70% 1998, 60% average; condition good to fair. Third cut hay 20% harvested, 10% 1998, 15% average; condition fair. Apples 5% harvested, 5% 1998, <5% average; size average, condition good to fair. Peaches 45% harvested, 35% 1998, 30% average; size average to below average, condition fair. Pears <5% harvested, 5% 1998, <5% average; size average to below average, condition fair to poor. Cranberries size average, condition good to excellent. Highbush blueberries 85% harvested, 75% 1998, 70% average, size average, condition good to fair. Wild Blueberries 65% harvested, 60% 1998, 45% average; size average, condition good to fair. Major farm activities included: Harvesting summer vegetables, tobacco, oats, barley, potatoes, picking fruit including early varieties of apples, peaches, pears. Blueberry harvest continues. Harvesting second, third cuttings of hay where possible. Mowing weeds, hoeing fields, marketing produce at roadside stands, farmer's markets. Scouting for pest, spraying where necessary. Side dressing fields.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work averaged 6. Temperatures Averaged Much Above Normal. Extremes Were 96^o at Several Locations on The 13th, 45^o at Charlotteburg on The 10th. Weekly Rainfall Averaged 1.87 Inches North, 2.51 Inches Central, 2.00 Inches South. The Heaviest 24 Hour Total Was 4.10 Inches at Trenton on The 13th to The 14th. Estimated Soil Moisture, in Percent of Field Capacity, This Past Week Averaged 73% North, 69% Central, 48% South. Four Inch Soil Temperatures Averaged 73^o North, 75^o Central, 75^o South.. Irrigation is occurring across the state. The weekend rainfall probably arrived too late to help field corn. However, rains did ease the shortfall in the irrigation water supply. Most of the benefit occurred in the central district where irrigation water supply is now short to adequate. The supply in the north remains short, while over most of the south irrigation water supply is very short to short. Some farmers are reporting their corn for grain as a total loss. Harvesting of corn for silage is occurring, both yields, nutrient content are below normal. The soybean crop is between fair to poor condition. Farmers report the pods are falling off and there is insect damage. The condition of the 2nd alfalfa cutting is between fair, poor. Some areas did not get a 2nd alfalfa cutting. No 3rd cutting is expected in many areas. The condition of the other hay crop is in poor condition, no 2nd cutting is expected at all in some areas. Pasture condition remains very poor in most of the state despite the recent rainfall.

Supplemental feeding of cattle is occurring extensively. Some farmers are already using their winter feed supplies. Most irrigated vegetable fields are in good, fair condition but heat stress has affected even irrigated fields. Some sun damage has been reported in tomato, peppers fields. Significant damage to the pumpkin crop is expected since the crop is mostly non-irrigated. Potato sizes have been reported to be somewhat smaller than normal, yields are down. Harvest of tomatoes, squash, sweet corn, peppers, cucumbers, melons, eggplant, potatoes, other minor vegetables continued. There is a limited supply of green beans due to the high temperatures. Seeding of irrigated fall vegetables is occurring in South areas. Harvest of peaches continued. Apples are also being harvested in the southern counties. Apple condition is between good, fair experiencing reduced fruit size, premature fruit drop. Blueberry harvest is virtually complete in Central areas. The water supply for cranberries is tight, there has been some scalding due to the sun.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 6.0. Areas experienced a typical week for mid-August. Scattered thunderstorms were around each day, except for a brief dry period Thursday, Friday. The statewide temperature was 1° below normal. In general, temperatures were a little above normal in the plains, slightly below normal elsewhere. As the state dried out farmers were able to return to normal activities of harvesting, irrigating, preparing land for fall planting. Haying activities were active with some rain damaged hay still being removed from fields. Chile, silage harvest were well underway in the southern part of the state. Ranchers were able to concentrate on maintenance since there was little need to haul feed or water for livestock. Pasture, Range feed conditions remained steady at 1% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 52% good, 19% excellent. Cattle, sheep continued to improve slightly with approximately 85% of both being reported in good to excellent condition.

NEW YORK: Days suitable 5.8. Soil moisture 44% very short, 47% short, 9% adequate. Pasture feed 37% very poor, 42% poor, 6% fair, 15% good. Hay 38% poor, 38% fair, 24% good. Alfalfa 2nd cutting 96% complete, 88% 1998, 85% average. Third cuttings 45% complete, 30% 1998, 27% average. Haying slowed due to lack of regrowth. Wheat harvest complete. Good yields reported. Oats 85% harvested, 70% 1998, 48% average. Low to moderate yields reported. Corn 16% poor, 37% fair, 37% good, 10% excellent. Silage harvest expected to begin early. Sweet corn, snap bean, cabbage harvest active. Apples fair to good condition - size still a concern in non-irrigated orchards. Grapes good condition - sugar levels expected to be high. Cooler temperatures brought relief to heat-stressed livestock.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. compared to 6.5 last week. Soil moisture levels continue to decline, are rated 33% very short, 46% short, 19% adequate, 2% surplus. High pressure dominated as hot, dry weather continued throughout most of the week. However, by the weekend a cool front pushed it's way along the eastern sea board spawning severe weather for a large portion of the Piedmont, Coastal areas. The slow moving system brought widespread rainfall to major agriculture areas of the State. Most reports did not reflect the weekend showers. Tobacco harvesting, marketing were among the major activities. Due to the dry weather, corn for silage harvest has picked up, is well ahead of normal. The cotton, soybean crops are developing on schedule, should benefit from the most recent rains. Other activities: Included weed control in all crops, baling hay, harvesting peaches, vegetables, crop scouting, tending livestock. Irrigation activities continued with reports of water shortages. Dry pastures benefited from the recent precipitation.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 1% very short, 9% short, 74% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil 0% very short, 10% short, 76% adequate, 14% surplus. Significant rainfall across most of the State last week slowed the small grain harvest but improved row crop conditions. Harvest of spring wheat, oats, barley, canola was at a standstill by midweek due to the many showers, thunderstorms. Row crops benefitted from the rainfall. Durum wheat 83% milk, 100% 1998, 92% avg.; 39% turning, 87% 1998, 65% avg.; 2% combined, 22% 1998, 9% avg. Canola 73% turning, 92% 1998; 36% swathed, 69% 1998; 3% combined, 14% 1998. Corn 73% milk, 91% 1998, 75% av.g; 10% denting, 17% 1998, 7% avg. Dry edible beans 91% podding, 100% 1998, 97% avg.; 51% fully podded, 90% 1998, 68% avg.; 20% lower leaves yellowing, 58% 1998, 30% avg. Flaxseed 39% turning, 87% 1998, 53% avg.; 1% combined, 12% 1998, 3% avg. Potatoes 7% vines killed, 19%

1998, 6% avg. Soybeans 96% podding, 97% 1998, 95% avg.; 54% fully podded, 65% 1998, 53% avg.; 5% lower leaves yellowing, 8% 1998, 9% avg. Sunflowers 72% blooming, 92% 1998, 83% avg. Sprout damage to swathed wheat was reported in the eastern part of the State. Emerged crop condition: durum 0% very poor, 4% poor, 37% fair, 54% good, 5% excellent; canola 0% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, 16% excellent; corn for grain 2% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 58% good, 13% excellent; corn for silage 1% very poor, 3% poor, 23% fair, 63% good, 10% excellent; dry edible beans 0% very poor, 4% poor, 15% fair, 58% good, 23% excellent; flaxseed 0% very poor, 2% poor, 26% fair, 59% good, 13% excellent; potatoes 0% very poor, 0% poor, 6% fair, 51% good, 43% excellent; soybeans 4% very poor, 11% poor, 24% fair, 51% good, 10% excellent; sugarbeets 1% very poor, 1% poor, 7% fair, 53% good, 38% excellent; sunflower 1% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 56% good, 12% excellent. Stockwater supplies rated 0% very short, 1% short, 95% adequate, 4% surplus. Hay condition rated 7% above normal.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 40% very short, 41% short, 19% adequate, 0% surplus. Soybeans 97% setting pods, 83% 1998, 66% avg. Alfalfa hay 3rd cutting 64%, 42% 1998, 25% avg. Alfalfa hay 4th cutting 5%. Other hay 2nd cutting 83%, 85% 1998, 77% avg. Other hay 3rd cutting 27%, 22% 1998, 9% avg. Corn 83% in dough, 56% 1998, 42% avg. Corn 27% dented, 9% 1998, 5% avg. Corn harvested 3% for silage, 0% 1998, avg. Summer apples 82% harvested, 77% 1998, 41% avg. Peaches 68% harvested, 74% 1998. Tobacco 56% topped, 35% 1998. Tobacco 13% harvested, 6% 1998. Processing tomatoes 6% harvested, 7% 1998, 4% avg. Potatoes 25% harvested, 33% 1998, 21% avg. Cucumbers 67% harvested. Pasture 30% very poor, 31% poor, 27% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent. Corn 9% very poor, 18% poor, 36% fair, 31% good, 6% excellent. Soybeans 6% very poor, 14% poor, 37% fair, 36% good, 7% excellent. Activities: Include mowing CRP, seeding CRP, filter strips, making hay, plowing wheat stubble, spraying fence rows, seeding alfalfa, hauling manure, hauling grain, scouting for insects, preparing for harvest, attending fairs, harvesting flowers, tiling, chopping corn, visiting FSA for drought, relief information, feeding hay, hauling water to livestock. Reported weed pressures include yellow foxtail, pigweed, velvetleaf, lambs quarters, Canadian thistle, giant ragweed, poison ivy, morning glory, sourdock, quack grass, Johnson grass, mare's tail, ironweed, wild carrot, smartweed. Reported insects include spider mites, nematodes on soybeans; leaf hoppers in alfalfa, rootworms, earworms in corn, beetles in soybeans, corn. Reported diseases include sudden death syndrome, white mold, root rot in soybeans, gray leaf spot on corn, fungus on seed corn, blossom end rot, blight on tomatoes, soft rot on cabbage, scab on apples, mildew on vegetables. Fruit, vegetable conditions range from poor to excellent across the state. In Huron county, the peach crop is in excellent condition. In Medina county, sweet corn yields are high while tomatoes, peppers, pumpkins are in good condition. A Portage county reporter indicated peaches, apples are small due to dry conditions. In Jackson county, drought, blight are taking its toll on pumpkins. In Washington county, producers continue to irrigate vegetable crops. Pasture, grass conditions are fair to poor throughout the state. Spotty rains have regenerated growth in some areas although pastures are sparse where rains have missed. Pasture, grass in the northern half of the state are in better condition than much of the southern half of the state where grass is dry, dormant, weedy, short. Many producers have had no 2nd cutting of grass hay. Cooler weather this past week has improved livestock conditions. Milk production was reported up in Wayne, Medina counties but most livestock producers in the southern part of the state report that livestock are still being stressed by flies, heat. Producers continue to liquidate herds.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 32% short, 59% adequate. Topsoil moisture 18% very short, 46% short, 36% adequate. Dwindling soil moisture accentuates drought stress, particularly south. Subsoil moisture lowest since October, 1998. Wheat 90% plowed, 91% 1998, 94% avg.; 23% seedbed prepared, 22% 1998, 28% avg. Anhydrous ammonia applications spreading north. Oats 91% plowed, 85% 1998, 95% avg.; 8% seedbed prepared, 18% 1998, 12% avg. Corn 1% poor, 3% fair, 93% good, 3% excellent; 66% milk-to-soft, 100% 1998, 96% avg.; 9% mature, 15% 1998, 15% avg. Harvest has begun south. Sorghum 3% mature, 2% 1998, 6%, avg. Soybeans 1% very poor, 8% poor, 36% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent; 73% flowering, 91% 1998, 87% avg.; 60% setting pods, 51% 1998, 61% avg.; 4% mature, 5% 1998, 8% avg. Peanuts 98% pegging, 99% 1998, 98% avg.; 91% setting pods, 89% 1998, 86% avg. Spider mites becoming troublesome. Cotton 100% squaring, 98% 1998, 99% avg. Few fields

have just begun to open bolls. Watermelons 71% harvested, 80% 1998, 60% avg. Alfalfa Hay 8% poor, 35% fair, 53% good, 4% excellent; 95% 3rd cutting, 76% 1998, 83% avg.; 27% 4th cutting, 18% 1998, 21% avg. Other Hay 99% 1st cutting, 92% 1998, 96% avg.; 44% 2nd cutting, 6% 1998, 49% avg. Livestock 1% poor, 17% fair, 76% good, 6% excellent. Cattle auctions reported normal marketings. Feeder cattle prices 50 cents to \$1.50 per cwt. above last week.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 29% very short, 50% short 21%, adequate. Subsoil 28% very short, 45% short, 27% adequate. Barley 46% harvested, 62% 1998, 53% average. Spring wheat 65% harvested, 46% 1998. Winter wheat 78% harvested, 77% 1998, 79% average. Range, pasture 2% very poor, 30% poor, 38% fair, 27% good, 3% excellent. Activities: Western areas barley, spring wheat, winter wheat, hay harvest continued. Some slowing caused by rain. Most grass seed harvest done before rains. Eastern areas continued grain harvest, wheat yields ranging from the teens to single digits in Mid-Columbia Basin. Northeast grain harvest slowed by rain. Mint harvest continued. Potatoes turning in Eastern areas. Corn, pea trials below normal for Mid-Columbia Basin. Limited digging of balled, burlap nursery orders, repotting, moving of containers consumed nursery labor. Transplanting of Easter lily bulbs delayed due to fields being wet. Harvesting of potatoes for fresh market in full swing with all sheds operating in the Columbia Basin. Harvesting of early potato varieties under way in Western areas as well. Central areas Russet Norkotah potato vines are beginning to mature. Early sweet corn harvest underway. Early cannery sweet corn maturing. Brisk sales of sweet corn, green beans, tomatoes, squash, green peppers at produce stands. In the Willamette Valley, blueberry harvest passed its peak, the Marion blackberry season finished, Evergreen blackberry harvest going strong. Strawberry, Raspberry fields being renovated. Tart cherry harvest finishing up at the highest elevations, and early apple and peach picking continued. Hazelnut growers were flailing their orchards as blank nuts began to fall. In the Rogue Valley, picking of early pear varieties, including Bartletts, started. On the south coast, blueberry harvest continued, Stevens cranberries showed more color and McFarlin cranberries sizing. Northeast, cherry harvest neared completion. Ranges, pastures continued to dry up. The best conditions in the high country of Southeast. In the Willamette Valley, recent rains caused some new growth, but not enough for sustained green up. Livestock condition mostly fair to good with better reports coming from east of the Cascades. In Central areas, cattle being forced off Forest Service allotments early due to dry conditions. Some supplemental hay feeding continued in western counties.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for field work 6.2. Soil moisture 62% very short, 33% short, 5% adequate. Corn silked 89% complete, 92% 1998, 89% avg. Corn dough 45% complete, 49% 1998, 41% avg. Corn dent 10% complete, 9% 1998, 5% avg. Ensilage corn harvested 8% complete, 1% 1998, 2% avg. Soybean 28% very poor, 27% poor, 36% fair, 9% good. Oats 97% ripe, 90% 1998, 91% avg.; 83% harvested, 79% 1998, 68% avg. Potato harvest 21% complete, 7% 1998, 11% avg. Alfalfa 2nd cutting 94% complete, 94% 1998, 85% avg. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 54% complete, 51% 1998, 41% avg. Alfalfa 4th cutting 6% complete, 14% 1998, 5% avg. Timothy clover 2nd cutting 53% complete, 55% 1998, 53% avg. Quality of hay made 2% very poor, 11% poor, 34% fair, 40% good, 13% excellent. Apple harvest 16% complete, 22% 1998, 15% avg. Apple 2% very poor, 12% poor, 22% fair, 58% good, 6% excellent. Peach harvest 47% complete, 66% 1998, 43% avg. Peach 1% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 62% good, 7% excellent. Grape harvest 5% complete, 0% 1998, 3% avg. Fall plowing 13% complete, 11% 1998, 9% avg. Activities include: Harvesting oats, fruits, vegetables, potatoes, corn, silage, tobacco, machinery maintenance, filling silos, hauling manure, spreading lime, fertilizers, applying pesticides, caring for livestock, cutting hay, making haylage, baling straw, irrigating, hauling water.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Soil moisture 44% very short, 45% short, 11% adequate. Apples 4% harvested, 4% 1998, 6% avg. Cantalopes 99% harvested, 99% 1998, 96% avg. Corn 26% harvested, 28% 1998, 20% avg.; 8% very poor, 24% poor, 39% fair, 24% good, 5% excellent. Grapes 15% poor, 55% fair, 30% good. Hay 12% very poor, 27% poor, 41% fair, 18% good, 2% excellent. Peaches 90% harvested, 92% 1998, 92% avg. Sorghum 60% turned color, 64% 1998, 12% very poor, 37% poor, 43% fair, % good. Sweet Potatoes 16% poor, 59% fair, 25% good.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork, 5.9. Light spotty rains continue to allow soil moisture levels to decline around the state. Crop progress has slowed and many fields are beginning to show signs of moisture stress. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 31% short, 56% adequate and 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 20% short, 70% adequate, 9% surplus. Alfalfa 19% excellent, 57% good, 23% fair, 1% poor. Oat 18% excellent, 68% good, 14% fair. Sunflower 16% excellent, 59% good, 22% fair, 3% poor. Flaxseed 16% excellent, 66% good, 17% fair, 1% poor. Winter rye 98% harvested, 94% 1998, 93% avg. Barley 93% ripe, 97% 1998, 94% avg. Oat 95% s ripe, 99% 1998, 94% avg. Spring wheat 96% ripe, 99% 1998, 92% avg. Flaxseed 63% ripe, 93% 1998, 49% avg. Sunflower 72% blooming, 82% 1998, 80% avg. Sunflower ray flowers 22% dry, 33% 1998, 16% avg. Sunflower bracts 20% yellow, 32% 1998, 12% avg. Corn 98% tasseled, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Corn 94% silked, 97% 1998, 89% avg. Corn mature 0%, 3% 1998, 1% avg. Alfalfa 2nd cutting 85%, 87% 1998, 79% avg. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 30%, 23% 1998. Other hay 84% harvested, 82% 1998, 82% avg. Cattle 28% excellent, 64% good, 8% fair. Sheep 39% excellent, 57% good, and 4% fair. Stock water supplies 16% surplus, 79% adequate, 5% short.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 36% very short, 45% short, 19% adequate. Subsoil moisture 31% very short, 46% short, 23% adequate. Corn 94% dough, 89% 1998, 89% avg.; 75% dent, 62% 1998, 57% avg.; 25% mature, 15% 1998, 12% avg.; 40% silage harvested, 17% 1998, 19% avg.; 7% very poor, 21% poor, 38% fair, 31% good, 3% excellent. Tobacco 80% topped, 65% 1998, 68% avg.; 7% very poor, 18% poor, 37% fair, 30% good, 8% excellent. Burley 27% harvested, 13% 1998, 13% avg. Dark Air-Cured 25% harvested, 13% 1998, 13% avg. Dark Fire-Cured 25% harvested, 13% 1998, 14% avg. Pasture 14% very poor, 32% poor, 35% fair, 18% good, 1% excellent. Farmers continued to watch both crops, pastures deteriorate last week as the relentless hot, dry conditions continue. Most of the State received little to no rain last week, with the exception of parts of Middle areas which received heavy rain in the form of strong thunderstorms Thursday afternoon. The persistent dry weather continues to stress the State's agricultural industry. Crop conditions again declined, but the majority were still rated in the fair to good range, most could recover somewhat if moisture is received soon. Row crop farmers are not the only one's suffering in this drought. Poor pasture conditions have forced many cattle producers to feed hay and carry water to their animals, while others have been forced to liquidate parts of their herd. The number of cattle moving through local stockyards has increased greatly over the last few weeks. Farmers were busy last week spraying for boll weevils and boll worms in cotton, harvesting tobacco, cutting corn silage, and cutting hay.

TEXAS: Conditions hot, dry over state last week with only widely scattered showers reported in Plains, Trans Pecos. Fieldwork moved ahead under open conditions. Extremely hot temperatures caused crop conditions to decline some areas. Grain storage problems have occurred many areas due very good yields. Haying operations continued, however production slowed due hot, dry weather. Livestock conditions remained mostly good across state. Supplemental increased some dryer areas.

Crops: Corn: High Plains crop continued mature, harvest for grain should begin soon. Silage harvest continued during week. Harvest moved ahead in Blacklands, Central with good yields reported. Markets however have been very weak. Harvest progressed along Upper Coast, winding down most fields. Harvest virtually complete in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley. 54% mature, 62% 1998, 55% avg. 38% harvested, 49% 1998, 40% avg. Cotton: Good growth, development continued in Plains, however hot temperatures have caused some small boll to drop off. Irrigation remained active, fields made good progress. Bolls continued to open rapidly in Blacklands, Central. Harvest continued in Coastal Bend, good yields reported. Along Upper Coast, harvest beginning. Harvest very active under open conditions in Rio Grande Valley. Dryland fields need more rain. 16% open bolls, 28% 1998, 19% avg. 5% harvested, 13% 1998, 7% avg. Peanuts: Fields continued look good in Plains, North Central, however irrigation very active. Dryland fields need more rain. Some producers spraying for diseases. Dryland fields South Central could also use good rain. Rice: Harvest continued along Upper Coast with very good yields, excellent quality reported. Sorghum: Fields matured rapidly in Plains under hot conditions, harvest on early fields could begin within a few weeks. Dryland fields began to

stress some many areas. Harvest winding down Blacklands, virtually completed Central. Some elevators forced to store grain on ground or have stopped receiving grain until some can be moved. Harvest completed in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley. 50% mature, 53% 1998, 57% avg. 44% harvested, 50% 1998, 49% avg. Soybeans: Progress, development good in Plains, however dryland fields need more rain. Irrigation remained active. Harvest in Blacklands continued with above average yields reported. Harvest early varieties winding down along Upper Coast, good yields were reported.

Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans: Rio Grande Valley, some land preparations occurred. San Antonio-Winter Garden, some planting occurred. East Texas, sweetpotato, watermelon harvest continued under open conditions.

High Plains, onion, potato harvest winding down many fields. Trans Pecos, a few fields cantaloups remained for harvest. Peaches: Production continued to decline as harvest in Hill Country winding down. Pecans: Hot, dry conditions continued take toll on a very good crop across state. Nut drop increased over past few weeks. Shuckworms, weevils increased some groves. Spraying occurred where numbers high. Production expectations remained high despite nut drop. Rainfall critically needed for proper nut filling.

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

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 6. Top soil moisture 12% very short, 21% short, 62% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 23% short, 67% adequate. Pasture, range feed 2% very poor, 8% poor, 37% fair, 52% good, 1% excellent. Corn: height 80 inches, 71 inches 1998, 71 inches avg.; 80% silking, 76% avg 1998, 74% avg.; dough 6% stage, 8% 1998, 6% avg. Winter wheat 69% harvested, 61% 1998, 75% avg. Spring wheat 66% harvested, 65% 1998, 68% avg. Barley 70% harvested, 67% 1998, 69% avg. Alfalfa hay 2nd 89% cutting, 95% 1998, 91% avg.; 3rd 9% cutting, 15% 1998, 21% avg. Other hay 1st 92% cutting, 81% 1998, 86% avg. Oats harvested 85% for hay or silage, 79% 1998, 87% avg.; harvested 36% for grain, 25% 1998, 43% avg. Tart cherries 94% picked, 98% 1998, 96% avg. Peaches 21% picked, 20% 1998, 32% avg. Irrigation water supply 7% very short, 18% short, 75% adequate. Stock water supplies 3% very short, 20% short, 75% adequate, 2% surplus. Major activities Included irrigating, harvesting small grains, hay. Rain slowed harvest, damaged some of the cut hay crop.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil moisture 52% very short, 32% short, 16% adequate. Subsoil moisture 60% very short, 28% short, 12% adequate. Pastures 44% very poor, 29% poor, 16% fair, 10% good, 1% excellent. Livestock 2% very poor, 10% poor, 41% fair, 42% good, 5% excellent. Hay, Other 46% very poor, 34% poor, 13% fair, 6% good, 1% excellent. Hay, Alfalfa 13% very poor, 39% poor, 33% fair, 13% good, 2% excellent. Corn for Grain 63% dough, 46% 1998, 54% avg.; 35% dented, 25% 1998, 30% avg.; 16% very poor, 39% poor, 22% fair, 18% good, 5% excellent. Corn for Silage 8% harvested, 7% 1998, 4% avg. Soybeans 52% blooming, 73% 1998, 68% avg.; 28% setting pods, 46% 1998, 39% avg.; 14% very poor, 25% poor, 31% fair, 26% good, 4% excellent. Tobacco, Flue Cured 21% harvested, 20% 1998, 24% avg.; 4% poor, 22% fair, 56% good, 18% excellent. Tobacco, Burley 2% harvested, 3% 1998, 2% avg.; 2% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 47% good, 29% excellent. Tobacco, Dark Fire Cured 23% harvested, 22% 1998, 18% avg.; 7% poor, 27% fair, 46% good, 20% excellent. Tobacco, Sun Cured 2% harvested, 1% 1998, 8% avg; 10% very poor, 30% poor, 30% fair, 30% good. Peanuts 4% fair, 64% good, 32% excellent. Cotton 90% setting bolls, 99% 1998, 99% avg.; 1% bolls opening, 2% 1998, 7% avg.; 9% fair, 54% good, 37% excellent. Summer Potatoes 95% harvested, 98% 1998, 98% avg. Apples, Summer 67% harvested, 88% 1998, 48% avg. Apples, All 5% very poor, 16% poor, 49% fair, 30% good. Peaches 57% harvested, 62% 1998, 60% avg; 9% very poor, 18% poor, 54% fair, 19% good. Topsoil moisture supplies are depleting at a rapid pace despite scattered rainfall across the Commonwealth last week. Some isolated localities received about 2 inches of rainfall over the weekend limiting tobacco harvest. Most localities continue to receive below normal rainfall. Conditions are steadily declining for pasture, hay, corn, and soybeans. Livestock producers continued with supplemental hay feeding and provided water supplies. This is forcing many producers to reduce herds or liquidate entire herds. Corn silage harvest is progressing ahead

of normal as corn rapidly dries down. Some silage producers expect good quality but short quantity due to limited stalk growth. Soybean producers are hopeful for an increased amount of rainfall in mid-August as double cropped soybeans are beginning to bloom. Peanut and cotton producers anticipate better than normal yields this year. Summer fruits and vegetables such as apples, peaches, potatoes, tomatoes, and peppers are currently being harvested. Producers continued planting fall vegetables.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil moisture was 10% very short, 40% short, 45% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 18% very short, 50% short, 32% adequate.

The ripeness of the winter wheat was variable throughout the state. In many areas, harvest for both irrigated, dryland winter wheat was underway, but was halted by the end of the week due to rain showers. These showers had little effect on the crop other than slowing harvest in most areas, but knocked some wheat down. Spring wheat, barley harvests continued, but still lagged behind the historical progress. Winter wheat 45% harvested, 77% 1998, 69% avg. Winter wheat, dryland 5% very poor, 14% poor, 43% fair, 34% good, 4% excellent; irrigated 100% good. Spring wheat, dryland 16% very poor, 25% poor, 41% fair, and 18% good; irrigated 100% good. Harvested, 18%, 55% 1998, 49% avg. Barley, dryland 11% very poor, 27% poor, 47% fair, 15% good, irrigated 100% good. Harvested 17%, 61% 1998, 53% avg. Potatoes 16% harvested, 15% 1998, 14% avg. Potatoes, 3% fair, 63% good, 34% excellent. Hay and other roughage supplies were 1% very short, 6% short, 72% adequate and 21% surplus. Range and pasture, 20% very poor, 34% poor, 33% fair, 11% good, 2% excellent. Third cutting of alfalfa continued throughout last week. Some hay was damaged due to the heavy rainfall that fell across the state. Many vegetables were being harvested including sweet corn, onions, carrots, tomatoes. Potatoes were being harvested, growers were reporting some late blight problems. Peaches, pears, nectarines, plums were being harvested as well as blueberries, blackberries. Apples were also being picked, weather conditions were good for fruit development.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Drought continues to deteriorate crop, livestock, pasture conditions. Scattered rainfall brought some relief to topsoil moisture supplies, but did little to improve crop conditions. Topsoil moisture 52% very short, 41% short, 7% adequate. Hay condition 45% very poor, 33% poor, 21% fair, 1% good; Hay 2nd cut 57%, 56% 1998, 57% 5-yr avg. Corn condition 28% very poor, 44% poor, 24% fair, 4% good, Corn 75% Silked , 80% 1998, 85% 5-yr avg.; Corn 38% doughing, 35% 1998, 39% 5-avg. Oats 79%, harvested, 77% 1998, 78% 5-yr avg. Soybeans condition 26% very poor, 30% poor, 44% fair; Soybeans 76% bloomed, 61% 1998, 94% 5-yr avg.; Setting 41% pods, 33% 1998, 73% 5-yr avg. Tobacco condition 43% very poor, 32% poor, 20% fair, 5% good; Topped 29%, 39% 1998, 59% 5-yr avg. Apples condition 23% very poor, 29% poor, 42% fair, 6% good. Peaches condition 23% very poor, 29% poor, 41% fair, 7% good. Cattle 6% very poor, 17% poor, 50% fair, 25% good, 2% excellent. Sheep 2% very poor, 26% poor, 54% fair, 14% good, 4% excellent.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork: 4.1 Soil Moisture 1% very short, 13% short, 69% adequate, 17% surplus. With wet weather, very little 2nd or 3rd crop hay was harvested last week. The hay that was harvested was done between spotty showers, storms. The remaining second crop hay was reported to have high yields, but the lack of dry weather has caused a rapid deterioration in its quality. The 3rd crop harvest has also been slowed, but yields, quality were reported to be good to excellent. The cool weather reduced leafhopper numbers, but they remained a problem. Second Crop hay harvested: 91% 1999, 100% 1998, 87% 5yr average. Third Crop hay harvested 22% 1999, 45% 1999, 17% 5 yr average. The showers, high humidity also teamed up to slow the small grain harvest. The weekend provided many with a chance to finish up their oat, barley combining. Besides slowing the harvest, the damp weather was also to blame for an increased presence of weeds in the remaining fields. The corn, soybean crops are doing very well throughout most of the state. Soybean conditions 3% poor, 11% fair, 49% good, 37% excellent. Soybeans setting pods 78% 1999, 82% 1998, no 5 yr average available. Many reported that they expect near record corn yields. The late-planted corn is coming along nicely, but it could have used more substantial moisture to assist pollination. There were a few weed problems reported. Sweet corn harvest continued throughout the state last week. The potato harvest continued with good yields. The snap bean

harvest also progressed between showers. Pasture Feed Conditions: 2% poor, 18% fair, 54% good, 26% excellent.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 47% short, 47% adequate. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 40% short, 57% adequate. Winter wheat 96% harvested, 89% 1998, 89% avg. Spring wheat 74% turning color, 100% 1998, 89% avg.; mature 44%, 74% 1998, 65% avg.; 40% harvested, 38% 1998, 30% avg. Barley 90% turning color, 99% 1998, 96% avg.; 70% mature, 78% 1998, 79% avg.; 48% harvested, 41% 1998, 44% avg. Oats 77% turning color, 95% 1998, 88% avg.; 39% mature 71% 1998, 58% avg.; 19% harvested, 38% 1998, 29% avg. Corn 92% silked, 90% 1998, 87% avg.; 61% milk, 48% 1998, 57% avg.; 30% dough, 13% 1998, 20% avg. Dry bean 84% setting pods, 82% 1998, 87% avg.; leaves 28% turning, 1% 1998, 13% avg. Alfalfa 45% 2nd cutting, 44% 1998, 45% avg. Other hay 74% cut, 81% 1998, 80% avg. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 23% fair, 65% good, 11% excellent. Condition of all livestock 93% good, 7% excellent. Stock water supplies 5% short, 95% adequate. Temperatures remained warm with scattered precipitation over the State.