

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

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ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 35% very short, 44% short, 21% adequate. Cotton 77% harvested, 78% 1998, 66% avg. Soybeans 98% dropping leaves, 95% 1998, 90% avg. Wheat 28% planted, 37% 1998, 38% avg. Pasture feed 23% very poor, 26% poor, 36% fair, 14% good, 1% excellent. Livestock 12% very poor, 16% poor, 40% fair, 27% good, 5% excellent.

ALASKA: NO DATA AVAILABLE UNTIL APRIL 2000.

ARIZONA: Cotton harvest continues throughout most of Areas with the continued dry weather, but remains about 1 week behind 1998, 2 weeks behind the 5 year average. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 34% not being harvested, 8% light, 23% moderate, 35% active. Alfalfa was reported as 5% poor, 26% fair, 57% good, 12% excellent. Pasture feed declined throughout the state last month with lack of rain. Pastures throughout the state ranged from good to excellent condition. Livestock were reported in good condition with pastures beginning to dry out. Most ranchers reported no rain for the month of October. The ranges are beginning to dry out. Both stockwater, soil moisture were adequate. Insect damage was widely reported as light. Overall, Northern grazing conditions were good during October but many ranchers were reporting that pastures were drying out. High, low level pastures were reported in excellent to good condition while mid level pasture was reported in good to excellent condition. Livestock condition was good while both stock water supplies, soil moisture were reported as adequate. Cattle are beginning to be moved to lower pastures. Insect damage was widely reported as light. Central Areas pasture feed were in fair to good condition. Ranchers reported receiving no rain in October. Pastures are beginning to dry out. Livestock conditions were good to excellent. Stock water was reported as adequate while soil moisture was reported as short to adequate. Insect damage was widely reported as light. Southern pasture feed were excellent to good at low elevations, good to excellent at mid, high level elevations. Livestock conditions were good with no supplemental feeding reported for the month of October. Ranchers report the range is in starting to dry out. Both stock water, soil moisture were reported as short to adequate. Insect damage was light to moderate. Last week central Areas producers shipped cabbage, cantaloupes, cilantro, green onions, mixed greens, watermelons. Eastern Areas producers shipped apples, chile peppers, hot house tomatoes, lettuce, pumpkins. Producers in western Areas shipped cantaloupes, honeydews, orange flesh melons. Central Areas citrus producers harvested lemons, western citrus producers harvested lemons, navels last week.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 25% very short, 43% short, 32% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures in the state were above normal for most areas. No areas in the state had below freezing temperatures for this past week. Most areas were below precipitation for the month. Livestock were reported in fair condition. Many farmers were feeding supplemental hay early this year because of the summer drought conditions. Brucellosis vaccinations, fall calving, pregnancy checking spring bred cows, selling cull cows, weaning calves underway. The main farm activities were: Finishing rice harvesting, harvesting cotton (some second pickings), soybeans, planting wheat. Other activities included: Liming, fertilizing pastures, bush hogging, land leveling, overseeding small grains, preparing fall pastures, spraying fields for insects, weeds, preparing land for planting of annual forages such as rye, ryegrass, treating cropland, pastures for armyworms, fields were being subsoiled, plowed, tree fruit harvesting winding down, Corn 100% harvest, Cotton

94% harvested, 1% very poor, 10% poor, 41% fair, 35% good, 13% excellent; Soybeans 94% shedding, 76% harvested, 11% very poor, 18% poor, 29% fair, 31% good, 11% excellent; Sorghum 100% mature, 100% harvested; Wheat 60% planted, 31% emerged, 1% very poor, 2% poor, 24% fair, 57% good, 16% excellent; Alfalfa 12% very poor, 25% poor, 38% fair, 25% good, 0% excellent; Other Hay 20% very poor, 30% poor, 34% fair, 16% good, 0% excellent; Range, pastures feed 22% very poor, 38% poor, 33% fair, 7% good, 0% excellent.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally in most areas despite light to moderate rainfall at midweek. Seeding of wheat, barley, forage crops, new alfalfa was ongoing, except at higher elevations. Earlier seeded wheat, oat hay, alfalfa fields showed good germination, emergence. Rice harvest was virtually complete in all growing areas. Cotton harvest was active in the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys. Defoliation was rapidly winding down on all varieties. Plowdown of harvested cotton fields immediately followed harvest. Corn for grain, silage, blackeye beans, sugarbeets were harvested. Harvested corn, cotton fields were being prepared for wheat, winter forage plantings. Sugarbeet fields were sprayed for worms in the northern San Joaquin Valley. Vinaseed harvest neared completion in the Sacramento Valley. Alfalfa, sudangrass were cut for hay or greenchopped. Fall fruit, nut harvests were winding down; many neared completion. Picking of grapes for fresh use was declining. Raisin grape harvest was nearly complete in the San Joaquin Valley. Picking of wine grapes was still active, but mainly in the coastal areas. Fig harvest was near completion. Apple, olive, kiwifruit harvests were in full swing. Asian pear, pomegranate harvests were also active in the San Joaquin Valley. Early season walnuts have been harvested, the harvest of mid-season walnuts continued. Pecans were starting to show hull split. Grapefruit, lemons were picked in southern areas. Picking of new crop navel oranges began in the Edison area of Kern County. Strawberry growers cut runners, weeded fields. A few fall strawberries were picked, but volume was light. The fall lettuce harvest continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Remaining fields of lettuce were irrigated, fertilized. Garlic harvesting was nearly completed. Some growers began preparing fields for year 2000 crops. The harvest of organic cilantro for processing was underway. Taro root (elephant ears) harvest was underway for farmers' markets in Tulare County. Broccoli, cauliflower were progressing well. Some broccoli was starting to form heads. Sweet corn picking continued; good road side demand, sales were reported. Carrots, cabbage were harvested in Kern County. Seed onions were being planted. Peppers, salad mix greens were harvested in the Hollister area. Harvest of radicchio began in the Merced area. Among the numerous vegetable crops harvested were bok choy, bitter melon, chayote, cucumbers, mushrooms, parsley, pumpkins, squash, sweet potatoes, turnips. Winter foothill pastures were in poor to very poor condition in central, northern areas. Light rain started new growth in some areas, while in other areas there was not enough moisture to change conditions. The recent warm, dry fall weather has caused heavy supplemental feeding of hay to cattle on foothill pastures. Some operators report stock water was plentiful. Cattle, sheep were in good condition. Fall calving continued. Most cattle, sheep have been shipped from higher elevation pastures. Stock ewes continued to lamb, while grazing in alfalfa, tomato or cantaloupe fields.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 2% very short, 22% short, 67% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 20% short, 71% adequate, 6% surplus. Unusually warm, dry conditions prevailed during the week, permitting good progress to be made in harvesting late season row crops. Sugar beets 69% harvested, 81%

1998, 83% avg. Alfalfa 90% 4th cutting, 81% 1998, 70% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 16% excellent. Pasture, range feed in mostly good condition.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 3% short, 81% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% short, 90% adequate, 7% surplus. Field corn 92% harvested for grain, 91% 1998, 86% avg. Soybeans 94% shedding leaves, 89% 1998, 93% avg.; 31% harvested, 46% 1998, 40% avg. Sorghum 65% harvested, 49% 1998, 45% avg. Apples 93% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Clover, other hay 95% 4th cutting, 89% 1998, 76% avg. Alfalfa hay 94% 4th cutting, 99% 1998, 94% avg.; 33% 5th cutting, 39% 1998, 43% avg. Hay supplies 27% short, 73% adequate. Pasture 3% poor, 19% fair, 70% good, 8% excellent. Barley 3% fair, 97% good; 70% seeded, 88% 1998, 85% avg. Wheat 8% fair, 90% good, 2% excellent; 35% seeded, 56% 1998, 49% avg. Activities: Small grains seeding, row crop harvest continue to be slow from wet ground condition, heavy fog.

FLORIDA: Cool weather first part week, warmed during last part. Temperatures 2 to 4° below normal for week. Some northern, north central localities recorded lows 30s; frost in a few extreme northern, Panhandle localities. Most lows 40s, 50s; most highs 70s, 80s. Most localities recorded no measurable rain; a few reported from traces to 0.50 in. Panhandle, north soil moisture very short to short. Central soil moisture, short to adequate. East Coast, Glades: some fields still flooded, but most fieldwork returned to normal. Southeast: fields dried out well, soil moisture adequate. Southwest: soil moisture mostly adequate to surplus, but some more northern locations short on moisture. Soybean, cotton harvest continued, Panhandle. Ninety-seven percent of peanuts harvested. Peanut yields reported low. Cooler temperatures all vegetable areas helped plant blooming, fruit setting, sizing of older fruit. Cucumber harvesting began East Coast. Picking of squash started Palmetto-Ruskin area. Harvesting of regular, plum, cherry tomatoes started around Immokalee. Vegetable marketed: tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers pickles, squash, sweet corn, okra, eggplant, watermelons. Cool, dry most of week all citrus areas with some winds. New growth slowing, some increased fruit droppage due to splitting, brown rot. Harvesting increasing for fresh use. Packers shipping Navels, Ambersweet oranges, grapefruit, early tangerines, K-early citrus fruit. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, pushing out dead trees, planting new resets. Pasture feed 5% poor, 20% fair, 75% good. Cattle 15% fair, 85% good. Panhandle stock pond levels very low. Planting of small grains for forage delayed due to dry soil condition. Already planted small grains suffering from lack of moisture. Frost hit early last week in Panhandle, north, slowing grass growth more than usual. Hay quantity high but quality low. Central: coolest weather of season reported. Also, less army worms noted with infestation not as bad as 1998. West Central: grass growth slowing seasonally. Some southern pastures in good condition; other pasture still had standing water from Hurricane Irene. Cattle, calves condition mostly good.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 6.6. Soil moisture 9% very short, 39% short, 50% adequate, 2% surplus. Cotton 22% very poor, 26% poor, 27% fair, 21% good, 4% excellent; 97% bolls open, 93% 1998, 95% avg. Peanuts 98% dug, 95% 1998, 98% avg. Rye 68% planted, 67% 1998, 71% avg. Sorghum 78% harvested for grain, 90% 1998, 79% avg. Soybeans 25% very poor, 30% poor, 33% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent; 94% dropping leaves, 96% 1998, 96% avg.; 29% harvested, 32% 1998, 24% avg. Other small grains 49% planted, 51% 1998, 53% avg. Onions 1% transplanted, 0% 1998, 1% avg. Apples 98% harvested, 96% 1998, 97% avg. Pecans 8% very poor, 16% poor, 29% fair, 40% good, 7% excellent; 19% harvested, 29% 1998, 23% avg. The sunny, mild conditions dried soils in many areas of the State, according to the Georgia Agricultural Statistics Service. Soil moisture conditions decreased compared with the previous week. Farmers took advantage of the weather to continue harvesting crops, complete some land preparation. Soybean leaf drop remained slightly behind 1998 pace. The soybean harvest was ahead of the five year average pace. The soybean condition decreased. Sorghum harvest was slightly behind the five year average pace. The dry weather allowed cotton harvesting to be active last week. The cotton harvest was slightly ahead of 1998 pace. Cotton condition decreased from the previous week. Peanut digging, combining was winding down with combining slightly behind the five year avg pace. Dry soil conditions delayed small grain planting in some areas. Rye planting continued behind the five year average pace. Other small grain

planting remained behind the five year avg pace. Wheat planting, emerging were at 1998 pace. The wheat condition was mostly fair to good. Farmers were cutting and baling late crop hay. Pasture over seeding was active in some areas. The pasture feed decreased. Apple harvest was active, almost complete. Pecan harvest remained behind 1998 pace. The pecan condition decreased slightly 1998. Other activities included: Taking soil samples, winterizing machinery, preparing land for carrots, onions.

HAWAII: Weather conditions were generally favorable for agriculture. Days were partly to mostly sunny after overnight, morning showers. Farming activity increased to make up delays caused by previous week's rain. Overall crop conditions were fair to good. Banana, papaya harvesting steady; fields in fair condition. Head cabbage fields in good condition. Advent of cooler temperatures slowing maturity. Ginger root progress steady.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil 9% very short, 55% short, 35% adequate, 1% surplus. Late week rain showers welcome. Topsoil moisture increased slightly helping germination of fall seeded winter wheat. Corn 31% harvested for grain, 40% 1998, 42% avg. Apples 100% harvested, 83% 1998, 89% avg. Potatoes 100% harvested, 97% 1998, 98% avg. Sugarbeets 84% harvested, 78% 1998, 77% avg. Winter wheat 95% planted, 96% 1998, 95% avg.; 61% emerged, 72% 1998, 70% avg. Activities: Fall ground preparation, wrapping up fall harvest, planting of winter wheat, winterizing irrigation equipment

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 29% very short, 46% short, 25% adequate. Last week, farmers were able to nearly wrap up harvest ahead of normal. The warm weather has helped winter wheat emergence, growth, however, concern for the crop increases as the lack of moisture continues. The pasture feed continues to suffer due to the dry weather. As harvest comes to an end, more farmers are collecting LDPs, applying fertilizer, anhydrous ammonia, completing fall tillage, cleaning equipment for next season.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 22% very short, 45% short, 33% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 35% very short, 48% short, 17% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter wheat seeding, emergence maintains an average pace. Winter wheat 3% very poor, 5% poor, 29% fair, 51% good, 12% excellent. Corn harvest 3 days behind the record pace established in 1991. Soybean harvest 2 days behind the record pace established in 1987, 12 days ahead of avg. Harvested corn moisture averaging around 15%, soybeans 11% moisture content. Range, pasture feed 26% very poor, 24% poor, 38% fair, 10% good, 2% excellent. Activities: Applying fertilizer, spreading lime, seeding winter wheat, tillage of soils, chopping stalks, hauling grain, feeding hay, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for field work 7.0. Topsoil 57% very short, 36% short, 7% adequate. Subsoil moisture 40% very short, 46% short, 14% adequate. Dry conditions allowed rapid harvest, caused problems as stubble, combine fires continue. Anhydrous ammonia applications, fall tillage limited in some areas due to dry soil conditions. The state needs rain before the ground freezes. Corn 95% harvested, 84% 1998, 74% avg. Winter wheat 87% planted, 88% 1998, 92% avg. Fall 37% tillage, 26% 1998, 23% avg.; fall fertilizer 24% applied, 22% 1998, 20% avg. Grain movement 17% none, 38% light, 33% moderate, 12% heavy. Grain storage availability eased some, but still a significant problem. Off-farm grain storage availability 40% short, 59% adequate, 1% surplus; on-farm storage 38% short, 61% adequate, 1% surplus. Dry conditions, dusty yards hard on cattle, causing respiratory problems. Use of stubble fields for grazing: 29% none, 36% limited, 27% moderate, 8% extensive. Range, pasture feed very 18% poor, 29% poor, 32% fair, 17% good, 4% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 19% very short, 50% short, 30% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 38% short, 54% adequate. Fair weather across most of the State for most of the week has helped fall harvest but slowed wheat seeding, resulted in declining wheat conditions. Over the weekend, rain showers moved across the State, with most of the precipitation confined to the east central, southeastern districts. Despite the rainfall, farmers were able to work in the fields nearly every day last week, enabling harvest of fall

crops to remain ahead of normal for this time of year. Sunflowers 87% harvested, 91% 1998. Hay, forage supplies 4% short, 84% adequate, 12% surplus. Pasture quality is declining rapidly due to lack of rainfall. Stock water supplies are mostly adequate to surplus, but in a few areas ponds are starting to dry up. Last week ranchers were busy moving cattle to row crop stubble or wheat pasture, weaning calves, working cattle.

KENTUCKY: Day suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 28% very short, 57% short, 15% adequate. Subsoil moisture 47% very short, 43% short, 10% adequate. For the week, temperatures avg 57°, 4° above normal, 8° warmer than previous week. No measurable rain fell in the Commonwealth for the week. Rainfall Statewide was 0.0 inches. Late tobacco was being harvested last week. Condition of stripped tobacco was 3% very poor, 15% poor, 44% fair, 33% good, 5% excellent. Burley stripped 24%, 25% 1998, 23% avg. Wheat 87% seeded, 78% 1998, 77% avg. Rain needed to ensure good germination, maintain growth. Pasture feed 14% very poor, 39% poor, 35% fair, 2% good. Farmers continue feeding hay to livestock.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Soil moisture 17% very short, 42% short, 39% adequate, 2% surplus. Cotton harvest edged closer to completion. Hay 99% final cutting, 93% 1998, 98% avg. Pecans 3% very poor, 12% poor, 42% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent; 29% harvested, 23% 1998, 21% avg. Sugarcane 1% poor, 13% fair, 60% good, 26% excellent; 36% harvested, 22% 1998, 27% avg. Sweet potatoes 91% harvested, 85% 1998, 83% avg. Sweet potato harvest made good progress. Wheat 57% planted, 51% 1998, 35% avg.; 29% emerged, 31% 1998, 19% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 8% poor, 41% fair, 44% good, 6% excellent. Vegetables 4% very poor, 13% poor, 39% fair, 40% good, 4% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 5% short, 78% adequate, 17% surplus. Corn 85% harvested for grain, 84% 1998, 81% avg. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 7% short, 73% adequate, 10% surplus. Soybeans 95% shedding leaves, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 47% harvested, 59% 1998, 51% avg. Sorghum 74% harvested, 68% 1998, 59% avg. Apples 91% harvested, 99% 1998, 93% avg. Tobacco 15% stripped, 15% 1998, 12% avg. Clover, other hays 89% 4th cutting, 94% 1998, 82% avg. Alfalfa 84% 4th cutting, 100% 1998, 98% avg.; 56% 5th cutting, 49% 1998, 55% avg. Wheat 1% poor, 12% fair, 62% good, 25% excellent; 63% seeded, 66% 1998, 63% avg. Barley 15% fair, 65% good, 20% excellent; 90% seeded, 93% 1998, 89% avg. Rye 13% fair, 75% good, 12% excellent; 66% seeded, 82% 1998, 73% avg. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 6% poor, 26% fair, 51% good, 15% excellent. Hay supplies 9% very short, 47% short, 43% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Continued small grain seeding, corn, soybean harvesting. Activities slowed due to wet ground conditions.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 7% very short, 33% short, 59% adequate, 1% surplus; subsoil 10% very short, 56% short, 34% adequate, 0% surplus. Hay 4th 90% cutting, 86% 1998, 85% avg. Harvest continued rapidly throughout State as farmers took advantage of good weather. Temperatures rose, above normal which broke run of cooler temperatures. Most counties in Lower Peninsula reported temperatures in upper 70's. A very dry week wrapped up drier than normal month of October. The good harvest weather this week helped crop harvesting move at full speed. Corn harvest going well as corn drying quickly. Soybean harvest coming to an end with many farmers completing harvest. Fourth cutting of hay continued. Sugarbeet harvest in full swing. Winter wheat planting continued, should be complete in two weeks. Winter wheat emergence proceeded well even though conditions dry. Potato harvest winding down.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 13% very short, 38% short, 41% adequate, 8% surplus. Soybeans 77% stubble worked, 76% 1998, 65% avg. Corn 16% moisture content, 17% 1998, 19% avg.; 64% stubble worked, 56% 1998, 42% avg. Sunflowers 74% harvested, 61% 1998, 82% avg. Potatoes 98% harvested, 98% 1998, 98% avg. Pasture feed 10% very poor, 22% poor, 33% fair, 32% good, 3% excellent. Dry weather allowed farmers to continue a quick harvest. Corn harvest was one week ahead of the 5-year average. Hard, dry ground was making tillage difficult in the southern third. Many farmers are concerned about the lack of moisture for next spring's crops, are hoping for a couple inches of rain before the ground freezes.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Soil moisture, 19% very short, 36% short, 42% adequate, 3% surplus. Cotton 97% harvested, 97% 1998, 87% avg. Soybeans 94% harvested, 94% 1998, 81% avg. Sweet potatoes 93% harvested, 89% 1998, 88% avg. Wheat 71% planted, 70% 1998, 65% avg.; 39% emerged, 42% 1998, 44% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 37% fair, 54% good, 3% excellent. Cattle, 1% very poor, 9% poor, 41% fair, 44% good, 5% excellent. Pasture 9% very poor, 25% poor, 37% fair, 27% good, 2% excellent. The cotton, soybean harvests are nearing completion in most parts of the state. Despite recent rains, many parts of the state still need moisture for fall pastures, winter grasses.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. The lack of any significant rainfall furthered the decline in topsoil moisture. The moisture supply was 47% very short, 39% short, 14% adequate. The central, east-central, south-central districts had top soil moisture ratings of almost 70% very short. With the continued warm, dry weather, Areas farmers are nearing completion of row crop harvesting. Ninety-one percent of the corn was harvested, about two weeks ahead of the same date 1998, of the 5-year avg 75%. The northern third of the State reported almost 90% of the corn harvested while the central third is about 94% complete. The soybean harvest is 89% complete, 11 days ahead of 1998, 2 weeks ahead of the 5-year average of 76%. Harvesting progress ranges from 68% in the south-central district, 77% in the southwest, to 93% in the large-producing northwest district. Harvesting of the grain sorghum crop is 89% complete. Cotton harvesting is 96% complete. The rapid cotton harvest was about a month ahead of both 1998, the 5-year avg of 75%. Fall seeding of winter wheat was 81% complete, about 2 weeks ahead of the 61% seeded a year ago by this date, 4 days ahead of the 5-year avg of 76%. Seeding in the northeast, the southeast are most advanced at almost 90% complete. Forty-eight percent of the intended crop has emerged. Thirty percent of the ground intended for spring crops (excluding no-till) has been worked at least once. Tillage was about a week ahead of 1998, 10 days ahead of the 5-year avg. Pasture, range feed declined to 44% very poor, 31% poor, 21% fair, 4% good. The worst pasture feed were in the central, south-central districts where over 90% are in very poor to poor condition. Precipitation for week ending October 24, 1999 avg. 0.07 inch.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 18% very short, 47% short, 35% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 20% very short, 48% short, 32% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures last week were slightly cooler for much of the state. The exceptions were in the South Central, Southeastern parts of the state where temperatures were slightly warmer. Much needed moisture was received in the North Central, Northwestern parts of the state. However, the remainder of the state was relatively dry. Sugar beets 99% harvested, 87% 1998, 92% avg. Sugar beet harvest progressed smoothly with no problems. Yields are reported to be above normal with good sugar content. Potatoes 95% harvested, 94% 1998, 94% avg. Cattle, calves moved from summer 81% ranges, 83% 1998, 80% avg. Sheep, lambs moved from summer 89% ranges, 85% 1998, 85% avg. High winds occurred over much of the state on Sunday with the highest being reported in the Northeast, North Central areas. As a result, fires burned a lot of open range, caused some damage to the winter wheat crop. Other farming activities occurring are fencing, shipping cattle to market, getting equipment ready for winter.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for field activities 7.0. Topsoil 39% very short, 43% short, 18% adequate. Subsoil moisture 27% very short, 38% short, 35% adequate. Temperatures across areas avg 3 to 6° above normals for the week. Precipitation was light across the State with amounts ranging from traces to twenty-one hundredths at Taylor. Corn 87% harvest reached, ahead of 82% 1998, 70% avg. Corn was being stored in alternative sites due to a shortage of space in some local elevators. Soybean 99% harvest complete at, above 91% 1998, 95% avg. Sorghum 87% harvest rated complete, just ahead of 85% 1998, 78% avg. Wheat acreage 98% emerged rated, slightly below 99% 1998, avg. Wheat conditions rated 5% very poor, 10% poor, 26% fair, 50% good, 9% excellent. Proso Millet harvest was near completion at 98%. Pasture, range feed 14% very poor, 19% poor, 38% fair, 26% good, 3% excellent. Cattle continued to graze corn stalks. Several producers who intend to feed utilized piling the grain on the ground, or in old trench silos. Many cow-calf pairs were being moved off grass for weaning. Feedlot

placements were heavy. Preconditioning of calves was also occurring. Activities included: Moving, marketing grain, fall tilling, preparing for the winter, building fences, weaning calves.

NEVADA: Temperatures in areas were above normal though temperatures were quite cool in the evenings. Some precipitation was experienced in the Northern portion of the State. Corn harvest was near completion, some of which will be combined. Some fall tillage occurred during the week. Livestock movement to fall/winter range continued. Main farm, ranch activities: Fall maintenance, livestock movement, fence repairs, some fall tillage.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 2% short, 74% adequate, 24% surplus. Subsoil 11% short, 79% adequate, 10% surplus. Pasture feed 7% very poor, 14% poor, 50% fair, 28% good, 1% excellent. Maine potatoes 99% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; condition excellent to good. Massachusetts potatoes 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; condition good to fair. Rhode Island potatoes 95% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; condition fair to poor. Field corn 95% harvested, 100% 1998, 95% avg.; condition good to fair. Second cut hay 95% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; condition good to fair. Third cut hay 95% harvested, 90% 1998, 95% avg.; condition fair. Apples 95% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; size avg to below avg, condition good. Cranberries 99% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; size avg, condition good to excellent. Major farm activities included: Chopping hay, corn, digging potatoes, picking apples, harvesting cranberries, spreading manure, lime, plowing, cleaning fields, picking rocks, preparing equipment for winter storage.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 7. Temperatures averaged 50° North, 53° Central, 54° South. Extremes were 76° at Toms River on the 31st, 25° at Charlotteburg on the 28th. Weekly rainfall averaged 0.00 inches across the state. The heaviest 24 hour total was 0.01 inches at Canoe Brook, Pomona on the 29th to the 30th. Adequate irrigation water supply, topsoil moisture was reported in most areas. Planting of cover crops continued. Double crop wheat is being planted as the soybean harvest progresses. The dry conditions during the week permitted a significant progress in the harvest of grain corn, soybeans. Below average yields are being reported for both crops. The condition of the remaining grain corn fields is poor while the late planted soybean crop is in fair condition. Harvest of summer vegetables is near completion. Harvest of fall cabbage, lettuce, spinach, other minor fall vegetables is in full swing. The condition of most fall vegetables is between good, fair. Some insect problems have been reported in spinach, cabbage fields. Harvest of sweet potatoes, pumpkins is very active. Harvest of apples continued, good quality has been reported. Harvest of cranberries also continued, the condition of the crop is between good and fair.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 6.8 during the week. Most of the areas experienced a dry week with temperatures close to normal. The statewide averages was one degree above normal. Some spotty precipitation fell over the north Friday, Friday night, but no amounts greater than one quarter inch were reported. Most areas of the State are starting to need moisture as topsoil moisture declined. Farmers continued the harvest of fall crops, planting of onions. Ranchers remained active moving cattle to winter pastures, marketing calves, installing fences, pipelines. Lettuce, Red chile harvest picked up during the week. Corn, sorghum for grain harvest continued, cotton stripping increased in the eastern producing areas of the State. Peanut harvest continued with excellent yields reported. Sorghum, wheat conditions remained in mostly fair to good condition. Pasture, Range feed were reported at 5% very poor, 7% poor, 43% fair, 40% good, 5% excellent. Cattle, sheep conditions were in fair to good condition, with good weight gains being reported.

NEW YORK: Days suitable 6.0. Soil moisture 90% adequate, 10% surplus. Soil moisture 40% fair, 60% good. Pasture feed 40% fair, 60% good. Corn for grain, soybean harvest continued. Apple harvest near completion. Growers grading, packing apples, making cider. Orchard clean-up underway. Late season vegetable harvest continued. Onion grading, packing continued. Wine making in full swing.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7 compared to 2.9 last week. Statewide, With the exception of an isolated shower in the Mountain region, areas received no precipitation this week. Although virtually no precipitation fell, some areas saw limited field activities because it is just now dry enough to allow equipment into the fields. The harvest of corn, cotton, peanuts are still well behind their respective five-year averages for this date. Small grain farmers were able to make some progress, but likewise are well behind the avg for this time of the season. Other activities during the week included: Harvesting soybeans, sweet potatoes, sorghum, shearing, marketing Christmas trees, marketing tobacco, harvesting vegetable crops, field equipment service, repairs. Areas in the mountains experienced their first major frost of the season on Monday.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 3% very short, 22% short, 71% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 18% short, 75% adequate, 6% surplus. Producers continued to make excellent progress on the row crop harvest due to favorable weather during the week. White mold continues to be reported a problem for sunflowers. Producers were busy trying to finish fall tillage, application of anhydrous. Corn for grain 78% harvested, 82% 1998, 76% avg. Soybeans 97% harvested, 93% 1998, 94% avg. Sunflowers 68% harvested, 82% 1998, 80% avg. Emerged crop corn for grain 2% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 63% good, 9% excellent; sunflower 4% very poor, 16% poor, 32% fair, 44% good, 4% excellent. Ranchers remained busy weaning calves, moving hay for winter feeding. Stock water 0% very short, 2% short, 93% adequate, 5% surplus.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 18% very short, 41% short, 41% adequate, 0% surplus. Soybeans 95% harvested, 96% 1998, 90% avg. Corn 81% harvested for grain, 68% 1998, 53% avg. Winter wheat 97% planted, 99% 1998, 96% avg. Winter wheat 84% emerged, 88% 1998, 74% avg. Fall, winter apples 92% harvested, 96% 1998, 90% avg. Tobacco 20% stripped, 19% 1998. Pasture 17% very poor, 27% poor, 34% fair, 20% good, 2% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 3% poor, 20% fair, 61% good, 16% excellent. Activities for the week include: Harvesting, fall tillage, planting wheat, other cover crops, tiling, hauling grain, leveling land, cleaning, repairing equipment for winter storage, applying for LDP loans, drying grain, emptying waste storage ponds, pressing cider, cutting firewood, baling corn stalks, spreading lime, fertilizer, installing water systems, testing soil, cutting late hay. Weed pressure has dwindled due to killing frosts although velvet leaf, foxtail, Canadian thistle, lambsquarter, ragweed, Johnson grass was still reported. Reported diseases include white mold in soybeans, gray leaf spot on corn, fly speck, scab on apples. Fall fruits, vegetables such as apples, pumpkins, winter squash, peppers, cabbage, greens continue to be harvested. A Wayne county reporter commented that apple quantity, quality was average to slightly below average. Pasture, grass conditions are fair to poor in most parts of the state. Reporters comment on slow to no regrowth. Rain is still needed for wintering. Livestock producers are trying to locate hay. Liquidation of poor producing cows, light weight poultry continues. A Warren county reporter commented that some livestock have had compacted stomachs.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 12% very short, 52% short, 36% adequate. Subsoil moisture 14% very short, 44% short, 42% adequate. "Million dollar" rain saved many wheat fields across state. Oats 5% very poor, 3% poor, 40% fair, 51% good, 1% excellent; 82% planted, 86% 1998, 69% avg.; 31% up-to-stand, 59% 1998, 41% avg. Soybeans 62% harvested, 63% 1998, 60% avg. Peanuts 64% combined, 57% 1998, 57% avg. Alfalfa Hay 2% very poor, 9% poor, 41% fair, 43% good, 5% excellent; 90% 4th cutting, 88% 1998, 97% avg.; 34% 5th cutting, 31% 1998, 60% avg. Livestock 5% poor, 28% fair, 64% good, 3% excellent. Feeder steer prices \$1 to \$2 below last week.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 46% short, 28% short, 26% adequate. Subsoil 60% very short, 23% short, 17% adequate. Barley Planted 59%, 48% 1998, 45% avg. Winter Wheat 50% poor, 40% fair, 10% good. Winter Wheat 71% planted, 86% 1998, 85% avg. Winter Wheat 26% emerged, 68% 1998, 59% avg. Range, pasture 7% very poor, 45% poor, 30% fair, 18% good. Activities: Rain finally arrived across State, but producers could use more as fall grain planting continued. Haying finished, herbicide, fertilizer applications on grass seed fields made as weather permitted. In eastern counties, sugarbeet

harvest nearly complete. Field crop yields generally down due to low temperatures. Fall rains came last week, irrigation finally stopped at nurseries. Sales of container, balled trees increasing. Greenhouses still busy with fall plants, Christmas poinsettias. Christmas tree growers getting ready for harvest. Easter lily bulb harvest stopped due to heavy rains on southern area Coast. Shipping of bulbs continued with bulb size near normal. Harvest of late fall vegetables continued last week. Squash, broccoli, cauliflower harvest continued. In Willamette Valley, U-Pick pumpkins had mostly small pumpkins left after Halloween crowd. In eastern regions of State, potato, onion harvest almost completed. Some onions lost due to frost; in northeast yields down but quality good. Malheur County reported no storage space remaining. All bins in county full; there no movement due to very poor market. In Willamette Valley, hazelnut harvest continued & recent stormy weather brought down nuts remaining in trees. In Rogue River Valley, still some picking of apples, pears, grape harvest well underway. On south coast cranberry harvest continued. In the Hood River Valley, Fuji apple harvest winding down in lower valley. All other fruit picked. Livestock in mostly good condition, some fair on driest ranges, pastures, some excellent on best ranges, pastures in Rogue River Valley, Klamath Basin. Gathering cattle off high ranges mostly finished except in, southwest. Grasses continued to dry out despite recent rainfall; in most areas winter dormancy is nearing. Supplemental hay feeding required in most areas.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for field work 5.9. Soil moisture 24% short, 72% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 92% mature, 97% 1998, 94% avg. Corn 55% harvested, 59% 1998, 50% avg. Corn crop 14% very poor, 33% poor, 30% fair, 21% good, 2% excellent. Soybeans 41% harvested, 54% 1998, 50% avg. Soybean crop 17% very poor, 33% poor, 34% fair, 9% good, 7% excellent. Potato 96% harvest, 94% 1998, 92% avg. Fall 84% plowing, 76% 1998, 80% avg. Wheat 82% planted, 83% 1998, 86% avg. Wheat 60% emerged, 59% 1998. Barley 90% planted, 97% 1998, 96% avg. Barley 85% emerged, 79% 1998. Alfalfa 4th 86% cutting, 89% 1998, 80% avg. Quality of hay made 10% very poor, 6% poor, 45% fair, 31% good, 8% excellent. Apple 85% harvest, 91% 1998, 90% avg. Activities include: Harvesting corn, soybeans, apples, grapes, cool weather vegetables, potatoes, corn silage, planting barley, wheat, cover crops, machinery maintenance, fixing fences, storing; filling silos; hauling, pumping, spreading manure, spreading lime, emptying manure pits, caring for livestock, cutting hay, plowing for the fall, repairing buildings.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 2% very short, 17% short, 71% adequate, 10% surplus. Apples 91% harvested, 99% 1998, 96% avg. Livestock 4% poor, 32% fair, 52% good, 12% excellent. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 14% poor, 43% fair, 36% good, 4% excellent. Sorghum 98% matured, 100% 1998, 75% harvested, 82% 1998, 79% avg.; 12% very poor, 26% poor, 48% fair, 14% good. Sweet Potatoes 75% harvested, 93% 1998, 70% avg.; 22% very poor, 28% poor, 33% fair, 17% good. Tobacco 100% stalks destroyed, 99% 1998, 99% avg. Winter Grazings 80% planted, 77% 1998, 74% avg.; 66% emerged, 61% 1998, 56% avg.; 2% poor, 40% fair, 54% good, 4% excellent. Winter Wheat 23% planted, 29% 1998, 23% avg.; 14% emerged, 19% 1998, 14% avg.; 47% fair, 41% good, 12% excellent. Barley 55% planted, 74% 1998, 58% avg.; 40% emerged, 42% 1998, 40% avg.; 7% fair, 19% good, 74% excellent. Oats 55% planted, 65% 1998, 58% avg.; 38% emerged, 44% 1998, 41% avg.; 19% fair, 65% good, 16% excellent. Rye 61% planted, 65% 1998, 57% avg.; 45% emerged, 48% 1998, 43% avg.; 35% fair, 58% good, 7% excellent. Pecans 20% harvested, 38% 1998, 28% avg.; 10% poor, 77% fair, 13% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: March cooler than normal, last week temperatures quite mild, above normal. Precipitation drier than normal. Statewide, there was an average snow depth of 4.7 inches. Winter rye 1% poor, 11% fair, 72% good, 16% excellent. Hay, roughage supplies 8% very short, 18% short, 66% adequate, 8% surplus. Grain, concentrate supplies 1% very short, 17% short, 69% adequate, 13% surplus. Cattle 1% very poor, 5% poor, 28% fair, 60% good, 6% excellent. Calving 24% complete. Newborn calf death losses since March 1st 7% below normal, 75% normal, 16% above normal, 2% severe. Cattle moved to pasture 4% completed. Sheep 3% poor, 24% fair, 62% good, 11% excellent. Lambing 39% completed. Newborn lamb death losses since March 1st 7% below normal, 77% normal, 14% above normal, 2% severe. County road conditions as of March 28th 80% open, 17% difficult, 3% closed.

Township road conditions as of March 28th 69% open, 20% difficult, 11% closed.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 34% very short, 38% short, 28% adequate. Subsoil moisture 39% very short, 37% short, 24% adequate. Burley 40% stripped, 49% 1998, 43% avg. Pasture 35% very poor, 36% poor, 26% fair, 3% good. Winter wheat 59% seeded, 64% 1998, 61% avg.; 18% emerged. Fall harvest of both cotton, soybeans continued at a rapid pace last week as producers took advantage of clear skies, dry soil conditions. With harvest quickly winding down, producers have turned their attention to wheat seeding which is running slightly behind 1998. With soil moisture deteriorating rapidly, more rain is needed soon in order for recently planted fields to emerge properly. Other farming activities last week included: Cutting hay, stripping tobacco, overseeding pastures. With pond levels well below normal, many are restructuring their farm ponds. Temperatures across the State were above avg, while rainfall totals were much below normal for the week.

TEXAS: Harvest continued under mostly warm, open conditions with some light frost occurring in a few areas. Land preparation continued slow in most areas as the dry conditions prevailed. Livestock conditions continued to decline while supplemental feeding continued to increase. Livestock health was beginning to decline as a result of the cool nights, warm days, continued dry, dusty pastures. Herd reduction increased in many areas as stock ponds remained dry, forage production ended. Supplemental feeding increased. Apple harvest was mostly complete.

Crops: Small Grains: Seeding of wheat, oats remained slow in most areas. Seedling death increased in many locations as a result of little moisture in fields that showed some emergence, while germination has not occurred in many other locations. In a few locations improved growth continued as a result of recent rain showers. Statewide wheat condition was rated at 56% of normal compared with 50% 1998. Oats 59% Published, 76% 1998, 68% Avg. Corn: Harvest mostly complete on the High Plains. Cotton: Harvest continued under generally dry, open conditions. On the High Plains some growers are spraying cotton to aid in harvest activity while others are waiting for a hard freeze. Cotton aphids were a problem in some locations. Harvest continued to wind down in the Blacklands, Central Areas. Cotton stalk destruction remained active. Statewide cotton condition was rated at 58% of normal compared with 51% 1998. Bolls Opening 97% Published, 97% 1998, 93% Avg. Peanuts: Harvest increased on the Plains but was winding down in Central, South Areas. As a result of the dry conditions some growers were watering so that digging could occur. Statewide peanut condition was rated at 71% of normal compared with 56% 1998. Rice: Harvest of the second crop continued to wind down. Sorghum: Harvest remained active on the High Plains. Some delay was occurring with seed sorghum due to elevator capacity problems. Some growers were holding off on sorghum harvest while cotton was completed. Mature 97% Published, 98% 1998, 98% Avg. Soybeans: Harvest continued on the High Plains but was beginning to wind down with generally good yields. Published 92%, 95% 1998, 87% Avg.

Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans: Rio Grande Valley, Harvest continued for Bell Pepper various varieties of greens, fall melons. Harvest of Citrus continued to increase while yields remained avg. San Antonio-Winter Garden, cabbage, onion planting was mostly complete, preparation for other fall vegetables continued. East Areas, planting of fall crops, gardens remained slow. Many fall gardens will not be planted as a result of the continued dry conditions. Sweet potato harvest remained active but yields were below avg in some locations. Pine tree harvest continued to escalate. High Plains, pumpkin harvest was complete with only a few orders remaining. Bean harvest was mostly complete, both with generally good yields.

Pecans: The pecan crop continued to mature, harvest activities increased. Pecan aphids remained a problem in some locations. Quality was variable.

Range and Livestock: Livestock conditions continued to decline in most areas. Herd reduction increased, supplemental feeding increased in many areas as forage conditions continued to decline. Livestock ponds are dry in many locations, sickness is an increasing problem. The market continued to be weakened. Fall grazing from wheat, oats remained minimal. Hay supplies were decreasing in some areas. Native Deer herds were in poor condition in some locations.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 7. Topsoil 9% very short, 43% short, 48% adequate. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 31% short, 62% adequate. Pasture, range 5% very poor, 19% poor, 33% fair, 42% good, 1% excellent. Corn 95% mature, 92% 1998, 95% avg.; harvested 59% for grain, 36% 1998, 59% avg. Winter wheat 88% emerged, 89% 1998, 83% avg. Alfalfa seed 80% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Apples 90% picked, 93% 1998, 95% avg. Cattle moved from summer 92% range, 93% 1998, 96% avg. Sheep moved from summer 91% range, 97% 1998, 97% avg. Major activities included: Moving livestock off summer ranges. All counties reported extremely dry conditions.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 6% very short, 13% short, 75% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture 12% very short, 15% short, 66% adequate, 7% surplus. Pastures 4% very poor, 13% poor, 36% fair, 36% good, 11% excellent. Livestock 0% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 11% excellent. Corn for Grain 88% harvested, 92% 1998, 83% avg. Soybeans 95% dropping leaves, 98% 1998, 97% avg.; 23% harvested, 44% 1998, 30% avg.; 6% very poor, 14% poor, 31% fair, 38% good, 11% excellent. Winter Wheat 39% seeded, 28% 1998, 37% avg. Barley 86% seeded, 67% 1998, 76% avg. Peanuts 95% dug, 97% 1998, 97% avg.; 83% combined, 87% 1998, 91% avg.; 10% very poor, 11% poor, 43% fair, 35% good, 1% excellent. Cotton 31% harvested, 81% 1998, 48% avg.; 6% very poor, 17% poor, 41% fair, 36% good, 0% excellent. Apples, Fall 95% harvested, 95% 1998, 96% avg. Apples, Winter 78% harvested, 79% 1998, 83% avg. Agricultural producers benefitted from cool, dry conditions across the Commonwealth during the past week. Acreage reported to have a surplus moisture supply decreased significantly allowing six days of field work in many localities. Eighty-three percent of pasture acreage remained in fair or better condition. Livestock continued to benefit from ample forage, cool temperatures. Fall calving is nearly half completed. Producers were also busy administering medications, repairing fences, preparing their herds, facilities for winter conditions. Corn harvest remained slightly behind previous year. Soybean acreage remained in much the same condition as the previous week. Producers have harvested 23% of the soybean crop to date. Good yields have been reported. Twenty percent of areas small grain acres were seeded during the past week bringing the total seeded acres to 39% for wheat, 86% for barley. Small grain producers are now caught up to their normal schedule. Peanut producers also made great progress this past week. Ninety-five percent of areas acreage has been dug. Eighty-three percent of the total acres have been combined. Producers are working rapidly in order to reduce the risk of frost damage or disease problems in unharvested acres. Cotton producers remain well behind a normal harvest schedule. Most cotton acreage has been defoliated but remains unharvested. While the crop is ready to be picked, producers must wait until fields are dry enough to support heavy equipment. Apple harvest is nearly complete. Producers report that the fall crop is 95% harvested. Seventy-eight percent of the winter crop has been harvested. Other activities during the past week included: Marketing of livestock, harvesting vegetables, applying fertilizers, taking soil samples.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil was 10% very short, 41% short, 46% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 16% very short, 52% short, 30% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat 95% planted, 100% 1998, 97% avg.; 87% emerged, 97% 1998, 87% avg. Rain fell across areas improving the extremely dry conditions in the winter wheat growing areas. Potatoes 100% harvested, 96% 1998, 96% avg. Hay, other roughage supplies were 5% short, 75% adequate, 20% surplus. Range, pasture, 14% very poor, 39% poor, 33% fair, 13% good, 1% excellent. Potato, dry bean harvests finished while sugar beet, field corn harvests continued. U-pick pumpkin growers were still reporting excellent sales. Apple harvest was winding down with some fuji, pink lady apples still being harvested. Grape harvest was also winding down. Carrot harvest continued and fall fumigation was underway for next year's potato and onion fields. Irrigation water was shut off in may areas in preparation for winter.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 15% very short, 53% short, 32% adequate. Another dry week! Crop progress continues to lag behind schedule. Hay 3rd 79% cut, 98% 1998. Corn 95% mature; Corn 59% harvested, 73% 1998, 70% 5-yr avg. Soybeans 8% very poor, 10% poor, 30% fair, 45% good, 7% excellent; 46% Harvested, 89% 1998, 54% 5-yr avg. Apples 87% harvest. Wheat 54% planted, 77% 1998, 76% 5-yr avg; Wheat 25% emerged, 52% 1998. Cattle 1%

very poor, 8% poor, 48% fair, 41% good, 2% excellent. Sheep 2% poor, 59% fair, 33% good, 6% excellent.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork: 6.7. Soil Moisture 15% very short, 42% short, 43% adequate. Corn harvesting was the main activity for many areas crop producers last week. At 84% corn harvest was more than two weeks ahead of the five-year average. Above normal temperatures, low humidity aided harvest activities. Crop weather reporters have noted that grain storage availability is short in some areas. The lack of storage capacity may slow corn harvest as producers store their crop in the field. The dry conditions, lack of corn borer problems have kept lodging problems to a minimum. Most soybean producers finished harvesting their crop during the past week. Soybean yields continued to be reported as good to excellent. Soybeans harvested 97% 1999, 90% 1998, 89% avg. Winter wheat continued to be sown last week. Reporters noted good wheat stands where the seed has germinated, but showers would be welcome. Fall Tillage activities have been slowed due to the lack of soil moisture, are behind 1998 pace. Fall tillage completed: 43% 1999, 45% 1998, 38% avg. Chopping, baling of soybean, corn stalks for bedding took place last week. Tobacco in Vernon County sheds was curing nicely with the dry conditions. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 29% poor, 37% fair, 27% good, 3% excellent.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 4% very short, 41% short, 55% adequate. Corn 76% harvested, 37% 1998, 51% avg. Corn 1% poor, 7% fair, 79% good, 13% excellent. Sugarbeets 92% harvested, 83% 1998, 93% avg. Next year's winter wheat crop 8% fair, 90% good, 2% excellent. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 21% fair, 66% good, 12% excellent. Cattle moved from summer ranges 81%. Sheep moved from summer ranges 88%. Temperatures were above normal with scattered light precipitation in the West. Warm, sunny days excellent for harvest.