

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

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ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil 2% very short, 29% short, 68% adequate, 1% surplus. Soybeans 75% harvested, 83% 1998, 62% avg. Wheat 36% planted, 40% 1998, 47% avg. Pasture feed 12% very poor, 26% poor, 39% fair, 21% good, 2% excellent. Livestock 2% very poor, 9% poor, 50% fair, 33% good, 6% excellent.

ALASKA: NO DATA AVAILABLE UNTIL 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 avg. As of November 7, cotton harvested was reported as being 53% complete compared to 62% 1998, 68% for the 5-year avg. Cotton condition is reported as 5% poor, 37% fair, 41% good, 17% excellent. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 43% not being harvested, 8% light, 22% moderate, 27% active. Alfalfa 7% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 11% excellent. Range, pasture feed was reported as 1% poor, 15% fair, 58% good, 26% excellent. Central Areas producers shipped cabbage, cantaloupes, cilantro, green onions, honeydew, kale, mixed greens last week. Eastern Areas producers shipped apples, chile peppers, hot house tomatoes, head lettuce. Producers in western Areas shipped cantaloupes, honeydews, orange flesh melons. Central Areas citrus producers harvested lemons, western citrus producers harvested grapefruit, lemons last week.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 11% very short, 31% short, 56% adequate, 2% surplus. A cold front early in the week brought much needed rain to most of the state, about of sub-freezing temperatures. Even with the sub-freezing temperatures the average temperatures for the week were well above normal. Livestock were reported in fair condition. Many farmers were feeding supplemental hay early this year because of the summer drought conditions. The main farm activities were: Harvesting cotton (some second pickings), soybeans, planting wheat. Other activities included: Liming, fertilizing pastures, harvesting hay, bush hogging, land leveling, overseeding small grains, preparing fall pastures, spraying fields for insects, weeds, preparing land for planting of annual forages such as rye and ryegrass, treating cropland, pastures for armyworms, fields were being subsoiled, plowed, shredding cotton stalks, cleaning poultry houses, Brucellosis vaccinations, fall calving, pregnancy checking spring bred cows, selling cull cows, weaning calves. Corn 100% harvest; Cotton 98% harvested; Soybeans 97% shedding, 86% harvested, 11% very poor, 18% poor, 29% fair, 31% good, 11% excellent; Sorghum 100% mature, 100% harvested; Wheat 77% planted, 47% emerged, 0% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 59% good, 18% excellent; Alfalfa 14% very poor, 31% poor, 43% fair, 12% good, 0% excellent; Other Hay 15% very poor, 35% poor, 33% fair, 17% good, 0% excellent; Range, pastures feed 16% very poor, 38% poor, 37% fair, 9% good, 0% excellent.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally under favorable conditions in most areas. Seeding of small grains, winter forages, new alfalfa gained momentum in central, southern counties. Dryland wheat, barley growers were waiting for fall rains prior to planting. Rice harvest was still underway in the San Joaquin Valley, in a few scattered Sacramento Valley fields. Cotton harvest was in full swing in the San Joaquin, Sacramento, desert valleys. Some second picking was being

done in pima cotton fields. Defoliation was virtually complete on all varieties. Harvested cotton fields were immediately shredded, disced for pink bollworm control. Corn for grain, silage, blackeye beans, sugarbeets were harvested. Alfalfa, winter forage fields were treated for weeds. Grain sorghum was drying down, nearly ready for harvest in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Vinseed harvest should be complete in the Sacramento Valley by the end of next week. Alfalfa, sudangrass were cut for hay or greenchopped. The almond harvest was winding down. The walnut and pistachio harvests continued. To increase yields, some growers were second-shaking pistachio, walnut trees. Pecan harvest in Tulare County was expected to begin soon. Grapes destined for wineries were still being harvested, mainly in the coastal areas. Pruning, tree removal, planting of cover crops, other such work was active in the harvested stone fruit orchards. Growers were fumigating ground being prepared for new plantings of peach, prune, walnut, almond trees. The kiwifruit harvest was in full swing; some fruit was exhibiting problems related to late frost during the early growing stage. Pomegranate harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley. Persimmon picking was active; yields of the Fuyu variety were light. Quince harvesting continued in Tulare, Fresno counties. Grapefruit, lemons were picked in southern areas. Picking of early variety new crop navel oranges was getting underway. Only a few strawberry growers were still selling fruit at roadside stands, as the late freezer strawberry harvest was underway. Harvest of fresh market tomatoes continued. As the fall lettuce harvest continued, growers began to plant the spring crop. Fresno County growers were preparing ground for 1998, garlic and onion crop. Other winter vegetables continued to develop nicely, with some broccoli heading out. Limited packing began in the earliest fields. Picking of string cucumbers was going steady. Sweet corn harvest was nearly over in many fields. Taro root harvest began, there were a few sweet potatoes at local markets. Greenhouse operations were preparing for the winter season. Sweet pea harvest continued on a twice-a-week schedule in Tulare County. The eggplant harvest was nearly complete. Several other crops were harvested, such as chili peppers, green beans, cabbage, cauliflower, cilantro, radishes, mint, parsley, okra, pumpkins, squash, turnips. Winter foothill pastures were in poor to very poor condition in most of central, northern areas. The exception was in the extreme northwestern area where rain improved conditions. Rain late in the period in other central, northern areas was expected to significantly improve pasture feed. Supplemental feeding of cattle was necessary many areas. Many sheep were grazing on alfalfa fields in central areas. Calving, lambing continued, but were winding down in some areas. Cattle, sheep were in good condition.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 5% very short, 28% short, 64% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 22% short, 72% adequate, 2% surplus. Unusually warm, dry for entire week, permitting harvest of late season crops to progress rapidly. Sugar beets 79% harvested, 85% 1998, 90% avg. Pasture, range feed 2% very poor, 8% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 8% excellent.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 2% short, 85% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% short, 88% adequate, 7% surplus. Field corn 96% harvested for grain, 96% 1998, 90% avg. Soybeans 97% shedding leaves, 94% 1998, 97% avg.; 44% harvested, 67% 1998, 52% avg. Sorghum 81% harvested, 67% 1998, 60% avg. Alfalfa hay 95% 4th cutting, 100% 1998, 97% avg.; 38% 5th cutting, 49%

1998, 54% avg. Hay 22% short, 78% adequate. Pasture 3% poor, 14% fair, 75% good, 8% excellent. Barley 100% good; 89% seeded, 96% 1998, 95% avg. Wheat 4% fair, 94% good, 2% excellent; 64% seeded, 75% 1998, 68% avg. Activities: Small grains seeding continued, corn harvest coming to a close.

FLORIDA: Temperatures remained cool during October 31 through November 6, averaging from one to four⁰ below normal for week. Some northern areas recorded lows 30s. Lows range 30s in the North to 50s in the South. Most highs averaged in 80s. Rainfall at major stations varied from no rain in West Palm Beach to over two inches in Tallahassee. Moisture southern Peninsula adequate to surplus. Topsoil moisture throughout rest of state mostly short to adequate with some areas very short or surplus. First frost in Panhandle, north areas on November 4. No major frost damage. Soybean harvest winding down. Sugarcane grinding active. Haying winding down. Forage growth improving with increased moisture. Cotton harvest active. Ninety-nine percent peanuts harvested. Cooler temperatures continued to help plant blooming, fruit setting, sizing of older fruit. Development of most crops generally slow to normal for week. Vegetables marketed during week include tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, pickles, squash, sweet corn, okra, eggplant, watermelons. Cool temperatures, very little rain citrus area. Some irrigation by week's end. Almost no new growth. Packing houses shipping Navel, Ambersweet, Hamlin oranges, white colored grapefruit, early tangerines, K-Early citrus fruit, a few tangelos. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying. Dead tree removal continues along with some resetting. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 5% poor, 45% fair, 45% good. Condition of cattle 35% fair, 65% good. Panhandle, north recent rains improved planting condition of small grains for winter forage. Stock pond levels still low after recent rains. Frost hurt warm season pastures. Central: grass growth much slower due to seasonally cool weather. West-Central: pasture growth slowed due to cool weather. Cows, calves condition fair to good. Southeast; heavy rain left many pastures with standing water. Statewide, cattle, calf condition fair to good.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 5.6. Soil moisture 5% very short, 28% short, 63% adequate, 4% surplus. Cotton 98% bolls open, 95% 1998, 96% avg. Peanuts 99% dug, 99% 1998, 100% avg. Rye 72% planted, 76% 1998, 78% avg. Sorghum 84% harvested for grain, 92% 1998, 85% avg. Soybeans 25% very poor, 29% poor, 32% fair, 13% good, 1% excellent; 97% dropping leaves, 99% 1998, 99% avg. Other small grains 59% planted, 60% 1998, 61% avg. Onions 3% transplanted, 7% 1998, 7% avg. Pecans 6% very poor, 15% poor, 29% fair, 41% good, 9% excellent; 30% harvested, 37% 1998, 36% avg. A frost last week hit many areas of the state. The frost slowed some harvesting, planting progress. Rains on Monday, Tuesday helped soil moisture conditions. Soil moisture improved from the previous week. The soybean condition changed slightly from the previous week. Soybean leaf drop neared completion slightly behind 1998. The soybean harvest remained ahead of the five year average pace. Sorghum harvest continued behind 1998. Cotton bolls opening was almost complete last week. The cotton harvest was at 1998. There was concern of damage to peanuts dug before the frost if they had high moisture content. Peanut digging wound down last week with combining ahead of 1998. Winter wheat planting, emerging were slightly ahead of 1998. Condition improved from the previous week. The rains helped small grains planting to progress in some areas. Rye planting remained behind the five year average pace. Other small grains planting was slightly behind 1998. Pasture over seeding continued last week. Vegetable picking was slowed by the frost last week. The pecan harvest continued behind the five year average pace. Pecan condition improved from the previous week. Other activities included: Working cattle, winterizing machinery.

HAWAII: Weather conditions were fair for agriculture. Crop progress in coastal areas were slowed by broken to cloudy skies, light to moderate showers. Major vegetable-growing regions at the higher elevations experienced drier, more favorable weather. Banana harvesting will remain active, although slowing down in some areas. Papaya harvesting also active. Orchards were in mostly fair condition. Head cabbage harvesting will be steady, overall quality was good. Ginger root progressing well, main harvest about a month away.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 9% very short, 58% short, 33% adequate. Northern areas received timely moisture boosting

winter wheat emergence. Southern areas continue to be dry delaying winter wheat emergence, fall tillage. Corn harvested 45% for grain, 50% 1998, 54% avg. Sugarbeets 96% harvested, 93% 1998, 91% avg. Winter wheat 97% planted, 98% 1998, 98% avg.; 77% emerged, 84% 1998, 79% avg. Activities: Fall ground preparation, wrapping up fall harvest, planting winter wheat, marketing yearling cattle.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 31% very short, 50% short, 19% adequate. Continued lack of rain last week has some farmers concerned for the winter wheat crop. Application of anhydrous ammonia continues in full force, however, the warm, dry weather has increased concern of evaporation. Sorghum harvest continues well ahead of normal. Other activities for last week included: Hauling grain, wrapping up fall tillage, caring for livestock.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 22% very short, 49% short, 29% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 39% very short, 46% short, 15% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter wheat seeding is nearing completion. Winter wheat 6% very poor, 8% poor, 30% fair, 49% good, 7% excellent. Corn harvest 99% complete, on par with the record pace established in 1991. Soybean harvest virtually complete, except for double crop soybean fields. Activities: Applying fertilizer, spreading lime, seeding winter wheat, tillage of soils, chopping stalks, equipment cleaning, repair, hauling grain, feeding hay, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for field work 6.8. Topsoil very short 55%; short 38%, adequate 7%. Subsoil moisture very short 48%; short 41%, adequate 11%. Corn harvest virtually complete; fall field work in progress. Some farmers holding up on fall work as a result of dry, compacted soil conditions. Concern about lack of moisture continues. In south western district some wells going dry; other producers starting to haul water for livestock. Rain is needed before winter sets in. Corn 98% harvested, 91% 1998, 87% avg. Winter wheat 94% planted, 93% 1998, 96% avg. Fall 50% tillage, 36% 1998, 31% avg.; fall fertilizer 38% applied, 30% 1998, 27% avg. Grain movement 22% none, 38% light, 33% moderate, 7% heavy. Off-farm grain storage availability: 38% short, 61% adequate, 1% surplus; on-farm storage 39% short, 60% adequate, 1% surplus. Feedlots continue to be very dry, dusty, resulting in some respiratory problems among livestock. Use of stubble fields for grazing 26% none, 30% limited, 34% moderate, 10% extensive.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 18% very short, 54% short, 28% adequate. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 41% short, 52% adequate. Wheat seeding is virtually complete across the State. Most of the acreage that remains to be seeded is in the south central, eastern districts. Wheat 6% pastured, 2% 1998, 5% avg. With the dry weather that continues to dominate most of the State, there is growing concern about the availability of wheat for grazing this fall. Sunflowers 97% harvested, 94% 1998. Hay, forage supplies 4% short, 80% adequate, 16% surplus. Stock water supplies remain at mostly adequate to surplus, but with the dry weather conditions, water levels in stock ponds are declining. Major livestock activities last week included: Moving cattle to row crop stubble or wheat pasture, weaning, marketing spring calves, working fall calves.

KENTUCKY: Day suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 22% very short, 49% short, 29% adequate. Subsoil moisture 46% very short, 42% short, 12% adequate. For the week, temperatures averaged 54⁰, 3⁰ above normal, 3⁰ warmer than previous week. Rainfall Statewide was 0.9 inches, near normal. Corn harvest is complete. Soybean harvest is nearing completion. Condition of stripped tobacco was 4% very poor, 17% poor, 39% fair, 37% good, 3% excellent. Burley stripped 33%, 31% 1998, 30% avg. Winter wheat 90% seeded, 92% 1998, 88% avg.. Pasture feed 14% very poor, 32% poor, 40% fair, 14% good. Farmers continue feeding hay to livestock.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 18% very short, 37% short, 42% adequate, 3% surplus. Hay 100% final cutting, 96% 1998, 99% avg. Pecans 1% very poor, 11% poor, 45% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent; 43% harvested, 44% 1998, 31% avg. Sugarcane 3% poor, 16% fair, 53% good, 28% excellent; 38% harvested, 31% 1998, 34% avg. Sugarcane harvest continued. Sweet potatoes 94% harvested, 93% 1998, 88% avg. Sweet potato harvest continued. Wheat 84%

planted, 68% 1998, 49% avg.; 45% emerged, 45% 1998, 30% avg. Wheat planting made excellent progress. Livestock 2% very poor, 9% poor, 42% fair, 41% good, 6% excellent. Vegetables 4% very poor, 17% poor, 39% fair, 35% good, 5% excellent. Pastures 12% very poor, 25% poor, 39% fair, 21% good, 3% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 4% short, 82% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil moisture 12% very short, 8% short, 70% adequate, 10% surplus. Corn 92% harvested for grain, 91% 1998, 87% avg. Soybeans 61% harvested, 73% 1998, 63% avg. Sorghum 83% harvested, 83% 1998, 67% avg. Tobacco 20% stripped, 20% 1998, 16% avg. Clover, other hays 91% 4th cutting, 95% 1998, 88% avg. Alfalfa 71% 5th cutting, 59% 1998, 65% avg. Wheat 1% poor, 8% fair, 88% good, 3% excellent; 71% seeded, 84% 1998, 77% avg. Barley 3% very poor, 16% fair, 76% good, 5% excellent; 94% seeded, 99% 1998, 95% avg. Rye 13% fair, 79% good, 8% excellent; 88% seeded, 91% 1998, 84% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 66% good, 10% excellent. Hay 12% very short, 50% short, 37% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Continued small grain seeding, corn, soybean harvesting. Apple harvest virtually complete.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 9% very short, 30% short, 60% adequate, 1% surplus; subsoil 20% very short, 46% short, 34% adequate, 0% surplus. Pasture 9% very poor, 19% poor, 38% fair, 31% good, 3% excellent. Hay 4th 95%, 90% 1998, 93% avg. Scattered rains came early this week giving farmers needed moisture, but rest of week dry. Temperatures also varied through week but averaged out to around normal. Farmers had another good week of harvest weather, winding down harvest season. Corn harvest moving along smoothly but some farmers slowing down due to lack of storage space at their local elevators. Soybean harvest completed in most areas of State with only a few fields still remaining. Little fourth cutting of hay this year since little regrowth occurred after third cutting. Sugarbeet harvest wrapping up as all fields should be finished this coming week. Winter wheat planting completed as farmers wait for rains to help wheat stands become established.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 18% very short, 34% short, 43% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 12% very short, 32% short, 44% adequate, 12% surplus. Soybeans 89% stubble worked, 81% 1998, 75% avg. Corn 15% moisture content, 17% 1998, 19% avg.; 79% stubble worked, 68% 1998, 58% avg. Sunflowers 89% harvested, 83% 1998, 93% avg. Continued dry weather allowed the majority of fieldwork to be completed. Virtually no precipitation was recorded at stations across the state. Many farmers are still hoping for an inch or two of rain before the ground freezes to help boost next year's crops.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Soil moisture, 12% very short, 34% short, 49% adequate, 5% surplus. Cotton 99% harvested, 99% 1998, 93% avg. Soybeans 97% harvested, 98% 1998, 88% avg. Sweet potatoes 96% harvested, 94% 1998, 92% avg. Wheat 86% planted, 86% 1998, 78% avg.; 61% emerged, 50% 1998, 58% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 32% fair, 58% good, 6% excellent. Cattle, 1% very poor, 10% poor, 38% fair, 46% good, 5% excellent. Pasture 9% very poor, 27% poor, 38% fair, 24% good, 2% excellent. Cotton, soybean harvests are approaching completion in most parts of the state.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil continued to decline to 53% very short, 38% short, 9% adequate. The northwest, central, southwest districts had top soil moisture ratings of 96% or higher in very short to short. Row crop harvesting was virtually complete throughout the State. This year's harvest is the earliest completed since 1987. Ninety-six percent of the corn was harvested, about two weeks ahead of the same date 1998, of the 5-year average of 86%. Corn harvesting was nearing completion throughout the State with the northeast being least advanced with only 91% harvested. The soybean harvest is 96% complete, two weeks ahead of 1998, 19 days ahead of the 5-year average of 86%. Harvesting progress is virtually complete in all the major soybean districts. Harvesting of the grain sorghum crop is 96% complete, 16 days ahead of 1998, 88% and 17 days ahead of the 5-year average. Progress ranges from 86% in the central district to virtually complete in the northwest district and the southern third of the State. Fall seeding of winter wheat was 91% complete, about 2 weeks ahead of 1998, two weeks ahead of the 5-year average of 85%. Sixty-six percent of the

intended crop has emerged, a week ahead of 1998, but normal for this date. Condition of the emerged crop was 2% very poor, 11% poor, 60% fair, 26% good, 1% excellent. Forty-five percent of the ground intended for spring crops (excluding no-till) has been worked at least once. With the unseasonably warm weather, tillage was about three weeks ahead of 1998, the 5-year average of 30%. Pasture, range feed 49% very poor, 29% poor, 18% fair, 4% good. Precipitation for week ending November 7, 1999 avg. 0.14 inch.

MONTANA: Topsoil moisture 18% very short, 47% short, 35% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 20% very short, 48% short, 32% adequate, 0% surplus. Sugar 100% beets harvested, 93% 1998, 98% avg. Sugar beet harvest progressed smoothly with no problems. Yields are reported to be above normal with good sugar content. Potatoes 98% harvested, 98% 1998, 99% avg. Other farming activities: Fencing, shipping cattle to market, getting equipment ready for winter.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 42% very short, 43% short, 15% adequate. Subsoil moisture 31% very short, 36% short, 33% adequate. Temperatures across areas averaged 1 to 5° above normals for the week. Only a few traces of precipitation were reported across the State. Corn 94% harvest reached, ahead of 86% 1998, 83% avg. Corn was being stored in alternative sites due to a shortage of space in some local elevators. Sorghum 93% harvest complete, just ahead of 89% 1998, 88% avg. Wheat conditions 7% very poor, 9% poor, 28% fair, 49% good, 7% excellent. Pasture, range 13% very poor, 16% poor, 33% fair, 36% good, 2% excellent. Cattle were being moved off pastures, range to crop stubble fields feed utilized piling the grain on the ground, or in old trench silos. 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: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 4% short, 83% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 6% short, 80% adequate, 14% surplus. Pasture feed 9% very poor, 9% poor, 47% fair, 33% good, 2% excellent. Maine potatoes 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; condition excellent to good. Rhode Island potatoes 95% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; condition fair to poor. Field corn 99% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; condition good to fair. Second cut hay 99% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; condition good to fair. Third cut hay 95% harvested, 95% 1998, 99% avg.; condition fair. Apples 95% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; size average to below average, condition good. Cranberries 99% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; size average, condition good to excellent. Major farm activities included: Chopping hay, corn; harvesting corn for grain; digging potatoes; picking apples; harvesting cranberries; spreading manure lime; plowing, cleaning fields; picking rocks; preparing equipment for winter storage.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Temperatures averaged 47° North, 50° Central, 53° South. Extremes were 73° at Downtown on the 2nd and 25 degrees at several locations on the 8th. Weekly rainfall averaged 1.13 inches North, 0.48 inches Central, 0.89 inches South. The heaviest 24 hour total was 1.45 inches at Charlotteburg on the 2nd to the 3rd. Adequate irrigation water supply, topsoil moisture was reported in most areas. Some areas reported a surplus of topsoil moisture after the mid-week rains. Planting of cover crops is still underway. The condition of the remaining grain corn, soybean fields is between fair, poor. Harvest of fall cabbage, lettuce, spinach, other minor fall vegetables is in full swing. The condition of most fall vegetables is between good, fair. Harvest of sweet potatoes, pumpkins is also very active. Harvest of apples has started to decrease. Harvest of cranberries is near completion.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil moisture continued to decline across the state from the warm, dry fall. All stations reported mild, dry conditions for the week despite an early week surge of cool air. Weekly average temperatures ranged well above normal across the northern districts, plus the west central highlands, southwest deserts. Only the central valleys, far northeast recorded temperatures near normal. No measurable precipitation was reported for the week. Main

farm activities: Harvesting sorghum, red chile, cotton. Corn for grain harvest was virtually over for the year. A hard freeze is still needed for cotton, sorghum harvest to pick up. Peanut harvest continued with excellent yields reported. Sorghum was in mostly good condition, while wheat conditions remained in mostly fair to good condition. Ranchers were busy with marketing calves, culling cows, maintenance activities. Pasture, Range feed 5% very poor, 7% poor, 43% fair, 40% good, 5% excellent. Cattle, sheep were in fair to good condition, with good weight gains reported. Some supplemental feeding has started in the colder locations.

NEW YORK: Days suitable 6.0. Soil moisture 95% adequate, 5% surplus. Pasture feed 40% fair, 60% good. Grain corn, soybean harvest progressed rapidly. Apple harvest finished. Growers grading, packing apples, making cider, cleaning orchards. Onion, potatoes being graded, packed. Wine making in full swing. Some producers took time off as deer hunting season was open.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6 compared to 5.7 last week. After last week's dry weather most of the areas received precipitation this week accompanied by seasonably cool weather. Fieldwork continues to be limited by the rainfall in the Piedmont, Coastal areas. However, the Mountain Region received heavier rainfall, welcomed the moisture. Small grains in the field should respond to the soil moisture. Across the State, soil moisture 7% short, 57% adequate, 36% surplus. The harvest of corn is drawing to a close. Progress was made in cotton, peanuts, soybean, sweetpotato harvest; however, all but soybeans are lagging behind the five-year average. Small grain farmers were able to make some seeding progress, but wheat, rye are well behind their respective planting averages. Other activities during the week included: Harvesting sorghum, shearing, marketing Christmas trees, marketing tobacco, harvesting vegetable crops, field equipment service, repairs.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 8% very short, 30% short, 58% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 24% short, 71% adequate, 4% surplus. Another week of exceptional weather allowed producers to nearly complete the row crop harvest. Continued dry weather has increased the danger of prairie fires which have been reported across the state. High winds lodged corn in the southeast district resulting in yield loss. Corn for grain 93% harvested, 87% 1998, 86% avg. Soybeans 100% harvested, 98% 1998, 97% avg. Sunflowers 89% harvested, 87% 1998, 89% avg. Ranchers remained busy weaning calves, moving hay for winter feeding. Stock water supplies rated 0% very short, 2% short, 96% adequate, 2% surplus.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil 10% very short, 32% short, 55% adequate, 3% surplus. Soybeans 98% harvested, 97% 1998, 95% avg. Corn 90% harvested for grain, 83% 1998, 67% avg. Winter wheat 100% planted, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Winter wheat 94% emerged, 96% 1998, 87% avg. Fall, winter apples 98% harvested, 99% 1998, 94% avg. Tobacco 30% stripped, 22% 1998. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 2% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 17% excellent. Activities for the week include: Harvesting fall tillage; hauling grain; cleaning equipment; leveling land; spreading fertilizer, lime, manure; digging nursery stock; harvesting late hay; inspecting Christmas trees; fencing corn fields for cattle grazing; requesting grain loans, LDP's; cutting firewood; pressing cider; emptying water storage tanks; drilling wells; cleaning out livestock ponds. Reported weed pressure includes Canadian thistle, foxtail, Johnson grass, lambsquarter. Reported diseases include gray leaf spot on corn, fly speck on apples. Fruit, vegetable producers are finishing up the cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, apple harvest. Frost has killed some of the fruit, vegetable crops. Pasture, grass conditions have improved with recent rains. Reporters comment on greener pastures but slow regrowth. Almost all livestock producers are feeding hay; fall lambing has started, weaning of calves continues.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil 12% very short, 39% short, 48% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 18% very short, 43% short, 39% adequate. Light freeze across most of state should accelerate harvest of row crops. Oats 12% very poor, 10% poor, 38% fair, 39% good, 1% excellent; 82% planted, 86% 1998, 76% avg.; 40% up-to-stand, 60% 1998, 49% avg. Soybeans 71% harvested, 73% 1998, 70% avg. Peanuts 75% combined, 63% 1998, 71% avg. Alfalfa Hay 3% very poor, 9% poor, 37% fair, 49% good, 2% excellent; 90% 4th cutting, 89%

1998, 97% avg.; 34% 5th cutting, 32% 1998, 67% avg. Livestock 4% poor, 28% fair, 65% good, 3% excellent. Pasture, range 10% very poor, 19% poor, 40% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent. Feeder steer prices \$2.00 to \$2.50 higher than last week.

OREGON: Activities: Winter wheat planting nearing end. Still some fertilizing of grass seed fields as weather permits. Winter barley planting almost finished. Christmas tree harvest starting. Finishing up planting of Easter lilies. Harvest of late vegetables starting to end. Squash, broccoli, cauliflower harvests continued. Tree fruit harvest winding down statewide. Hazelnut harvest nearing completion. South coast cranberry harvest almost completed. Grape harvest continued. Livestock continued to be fed. Movement off rangeland nearly completed. Beginning to cleanup the barns, mend fences.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for field work 5.0. Soil moisture 4% very short, 9% short, 78% adequate, 9% surplus. Corn 96% mature, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Corn 69% harvested, 69% 1998, 62% avg. Corn crop 19% very poor, 32% poor, 28% fair, 18% good, 3% excellent. Soybeans 63% harvested, 68% 1998, 66% avg. Fall 86% plowing, 82% 1998, 84% avg. Wheat 94% planted, 94% 1998, 92% avg. Wheat 80% emerged, 73% 1998. Barley 99% planted, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Barley 93% emerged, 90% 1998. Alfalfa 4th 95% cutting 94% 1998, 86% avg. Apple 89% harvest, 94% 1998, 94% avg. Activities include: Harvesting corn, soybeans, apples, cool weather vegetables, potatoes, corn silage; planting barley, wheat, cover crops; machinery maintenance; fixing fences; filling silos; hauling, pumping, spreading manure; spreading lime; caring for livestock; cutting hay; plowing for the fall; repairing buildings.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Soil moisture 2% very short, 22% short, 70% adequate, 6% surplus. Apples 99% harvested, 100% 1998, 97% avg. Livestock Condition 4% poor, 29% fair, 54% good, 13% excellent. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 13% poor, 43% fair, 36% good, 6% excellent. Sorghum 100% matured, 100% 1998, 80% harvested, 94% 1998, 84% avg. Sweet Potatoes 89% harvested, 98% 1998, 75% avg. Winter Grazings 85% planted, 83% 1998, 80% avg.; 73% emerged, 65% 1998, 65% avg.; 2% poor, 35% fair, 56% good, 7% excellent. Winter Wheat 28% planted, 34% 1998, 28% avg.; 17% emerged, 24% 1998, 17% avg.; 47% fair, 47% good, 6% excellent. Barley 70% planted, 93% 1998, 73% avg.; 52% emerged, 62% 1998, 57% avg.; 20% fair, 36% good, 44% excellent. Oats 69% planted, 73% 1998, 69% avg.; 46% emerged, 54% 1998, 53% avg.; 33% fair, 51% good, 16% excellent. Rye 73% planted, 70% 1998, 65% avg.; 58% emerged, 53% 1998, 51% avg.; 34% fair, 56% good, 10% excellent. Pecans 30% harvested, 47% 1998, 36% avg.; 8% poor, 82% fair, 10% good.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork, 6.6. Topsoil 18% very short, 36% short, 41% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 29% short, 53% adequate, 7% surplus. Sunflower 89% harvested, 89% 1998, 91% avg. Sorghum 82% harvested, 86% 1998, 86% avg. Sorghum 93% harvested for silage, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Winter wheat 3% poor, 17% fair, 68% good, 12% excellent. Winter rye 1% poor, 20% fair, 70% good, 9% excellent; 98% emerged, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Range, pasture 2% very poor, 7% poor, 27% fair, 53% good, 11% excellent. Stock water supplies 3% very short, 11% short, 78% adequate, 8% surplus. Cattle is 1% poor, 8% fair, 66% good, 25% excellent. Sheep 6% fair, 73% good, 21% excellent. Below average precipitation, above average temperatures during October have helped row crops harvest, however dust is starting to impact cattle. Wind damage to unharvested row crops occurred early in the week.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 15% very short, 23% short, 57% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 22% very short, 30% short, 46% adequate, 2% surplus. Burley 54% stripped, 57% 1998, 52% avg. Winter wheat 72% seeded, 78% 1998, 73% avg.; 40% emerged. Cattle 9% very poor, 15% poor, 38% fair, 33% good, 5% surplus. Hay stocks 12% very short, 37% short, 47% adequate, 4% surplus. A strong cold front moved into the State early last week bringing much needed rainfall to most areas. The rain helped replenish soil moisture, as well as benefitting both winter wheat, pasture land. Some counties are finding a small number of aphids in wheat fields, but most farmers have not yet had to spray. With the recent rainfall, warm temperatures, pastures throughout the State continue to improve.

Farmers reported that grass has responded well, greened up, but is still very short in length.

TEXAS: Harvest continued under mostly unseasonably warm, open conditions, though the first freeze occurred across the Plains, Edwards Plateau, North Central Areas. Many areas received light to moderate showers associated with the same weather front but these did little to alleviate generally dry conditions. Land preparation remained slow in most areas. Livestock forage conditions continued to decline, supplemental feeding expanded. Livestock condition continued to decline as a result of the cool nights, warm days, continued dry forage conditions. Herd reduction continued to increase in many areas as stock ponds remained dry, forage production ended. Apple harvest remained mostly complete in the Trans Pecos area while carrot, turnip harvest continued on the Plains. Pumpkin harvest was completed, guar harvest was underway.

Crops: Small Grains: Seeding of wheat, oats continued slow in most areas. Seedling death continued to increase in many emerged fields as a result of little moisture, while germination has not occurred in many other locations. Recent scattered showers produced little to no improvement in many areas while some heavier showers improved growth in a few locations. Statewide wheat condition was rated at 48% of normal compared with 68% 1998. Oats 66% Published, 82% 1998, 76% Avg. Corn Harvest was complete on the High Plains. Cotton Harvest continued under generally dry, open conditions. On the High Plains spraying to aid in harvest was discontinued as the first freeze occurred. Harvest was mostly complete in the Blacklands, Central Areas. Cotton stalk destruction continued active. Statewide cotton 57% of normal compared with 50% 1998. Bolls 98% Opening Published, 98% 1998, 96% Avg. Peanuts Harvest remained active on the Plains but was mostly complete in Central, South Areas. Some watering continued to aid in digging in a few locations. Statewide peanut at 75% of normal compared with 56% 1998. Rice Harvest of the second crop was mostly complete. Sorghum Harvest continued active on the High Plains. Elevator capacity problems continued in a few locations. Some growers continued to hold off on sorghum harvest while cotton was completed. The recent freeze will aid in the drying down of the remaining fields. Mature 99% Published, 99% 1998, 100% Avg. Soybeans Harvest was mostly complete on the High Plains, yields remained favorable. Published 95%, 95% 1998, 90% Avg.

Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans: Rio Grande Valley, harvest continued for bell peppers, various varieties of greens, fall melons. Onions were progressing well while spinach planting neared completion. Citrus continued to ripen well, harvest of early orchards remained active. Quality was good, yields were avg. Preparation for later planting of vegetables was underway. Planting, harvesting of sugar cane continued. San Antonio-Winter Garden, cabbage, onion planting was mostly complete, preparation for later fall vegetables continued. Tangerine harvest began, some cantaloupes were planted mainly in areas along the Rio Grande River. East Areas, planting of fall crops, gardens continued slow. Planting of many fall gardens was discontinued as the dry conditions prevailed. Sweet potato harvest was mostly complete while yields were below average in some locations. Pine tree harvest continued. High Plains, pumpkin harvest was completed, bean harvest was mostly complete. Generally good yields were reported for both crops. Carrot, turnip harvest escalated. The pecan crop continued to mature, harvest activities increased as shuck split, maturity increased as a result of the recent cooler temperatures. Quality remained variable.

Range and Livestock: Livestock conditions remained poor in most areas. Heard reduction continued to increase, supplemental feeding increased in many areas as forage conditions continued to decline. Livestock ponds remained dry in many locations, sickness, mainly pneumonia, continued as a result of the dry, dusty conditions. Some ranchers were considering liquidation, some dairy animals were sold as a result of the below average rainfall. The market remained steady to slightly weakened. Fall grazing from wheat, oats was minimal as poor stands, seedling death continued. Hay supplies remained below average, were decreasing in some areas. Native Deer herds remained in poor condition in some locations.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 7. Corn 77% harvested for grain, 62% 1998, 75% avg. Weather throughout the state has been unseasonably warm, dry.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil 6% very short, 13% short, 70% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 14% very short, 21% short, 55% adequate, 10% surplus. Beef Cattle Forage Obtained from Pastures 75%. Milk Cow Forage Obtained from Pastures 16%. Sheep Forage Obtained from Pastures 77%. Pastures 5% very poor, 17% poor, 35% fair, 36% good, 7% excellent. Livestock 0% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 60% good, 8% excellent. Small Grain, Winter Grazing Crops 0% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 63% good, 13% excellent. Corn for Grain 90% harvested, 95% 1998, 88% avg. Soybeans 34% harvested, 61% 1998, 41% avg.; 5% very poor, 12% poor, 32% fair, 39% good, 12% excellent. Winter Wheat 48% seeded, 58% 1998, 54% avg. Barley 90% seeded, 83% 1998, 87% avg. Peanuts 97% dug, 99% 1998, 99% avg.; 91% combined, 95% 1998, 96% avg. Cotton 40% harvested, 89% 1998, 59% avg. Apples, Winter 90% harvested, 92% 1998, 94% avg. Daytime temperatures were several degrees above normal across the Commonwealth during the past week. However, nighttime temperatures were cold enough to cause the first hard frost in many localities. Scattered showers allowed soil moisture to remain at mostly adequate to surplus levels. While pastures remain in mostly fair or better condition, extremely cold overnight temperatures limited new growth. Some beef producers began to provide hay, other supplemental feed. The majority of livestock, however, are getting their forage requirements from grazing pasture acreage. Ninety percent of corn for grain has been harvested. Progress was slowed this past week by scattered showers. The condition of Areas soybean acreage remained virtually unchanged this past week. Producers have harvested 34% of the soybean. Good yields have been reported. Seeding of small grain acreage was slow this past week due to rain, wet field conditions. Ninety percent of Areas barley acreage has been seeded while only 48% of the wheat has been seeded. Good soil moisture, relatively warm daytime temperatures have allowed good emergence of previously seeded acres. Peanut harvest is nearly complete. Ninety-seven percent of Areas crop has been dug. Ninety-one percent has been combined to date. Harvest progress remains behind previous year as well as the five-year avg. Cold overnight temperatures remain a concern for peanut producers who have unharvested acres. Cotton producers remain well behind 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. Only 40% of Areas cotton acreage has been picked. Harvest of winter apples is 90% complete, slightly behind the previous year, the five-year avg. Other activities during the past week included: Grading of tobacco, tending to livestock.

WASHINGTON: NO DATA AVAILABLE

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 10% very short, 50% short, 40% adequate. Last week's rain, snowfall improved the State's topsoil moisture supplies. Despite the precipitation, most areas are below normal precipitation levels. Hay 3rd 90% cut. Corn 80% harvested, 83% 1998, 76% 5-yr avg. Soybeans 5% very poor, 10% poor, 30% fair, 43% good, 12% excellent; 85% Harvested, 93% 1998, 68% 5-yr avg. Apples 95% harvested. Wheat 92% planted, 89% 1998, 86% 5-yr avg.; 40% emerged, 76% 1998. Cattle 8% poor, 45% fair, 45% good, 2% excellent. Sheep 1% poor, 70% fair, 25% good, 4% excellent.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork: 6.8. Soil Moisture 20% very short, 46% short, 34% adequate. Corn harvest neared completion for many Wisconsin farmers. However, some farmers were keeping corn in the field due to a lack of storage. Crop weather reporters have noted corn test weights have been good, the crop has dried down in the field enough to help keep drying costs at a minimum. Harvest of corn averaged 90% complete statewide. Above normal temperatures, low humidity, lack of significant rainfall aided harvest activities. Lack of rainfall has helped farmers speed through harvest with little interruption, but rainfall is now needed for winter wheat, fall alfalfa seedings. Reporters noted good wheat stands where the seed has germinated, but showers would be welcome. Fall tillage activities picked up the pace last week as areas crop harvests drew to a close. Fall tillage completed 58% 1999, 55% 1998, 46% avg. In some locations, tillage was more difficult due to the dry conditions. Fall manure hauling, baling of stalks for bedding took place last week. In Wood County, Cranberry growers finished harvest with good yields reported.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 5% very short, 49% short, 46% adequate. Corn 82% harvested, 40% 1998, 64% avg. Sugarbeets 96% harvested, 92% 1998, 96% avg. Temperatures were above normal with no precipitation reported across the State.