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# Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

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**ALABAMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil moisture: 11% very short, 20% short, 57% adequate, and 12% surplus. Corn planted 65%, 73% 1999, and 76% average. Corn emerged 50%, 53% 1999. Wheat headed 67%, 56% 1999, and 56% average. Wheat condition: 2% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 68% good, and 6% excellent. Pasture condition: 2% very poor, 9% poor, 31% fair, 46% good, and 12% excellent. Livestock condition: 1% very poor, 4% poor, 20% fair, 65% good, and 10% excellent. Farmers are busy planting corn and cotton. Received adequate rainfall, however still need more

**ARIZONA:** Area recorded above average temperatures for the third week in a row. Warm weather has helped with the heading, maturing of small grains. Light precipitation was reported in the Northern part of the state, but had little impact on crops. Livestock was reported to be in fair condition for the month of March. Stock Water was reported as short to adequate while Soil Moisture was reported as short. Insect Damage was reported as none to light.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Soil 17% short, 70% adequate, 13% surplus. Rice 36% planted, 26% 1999, 38% 5 yr. avg.; Sorghum 38% planted, 23% 1999, 32% 5 yr. avg.; Cotton 2% planted, 3% 1999, 3% 5 yr. avg.; Soybean 5% planted, 4% 1999, 6% 5 yr. avg.; Corn 92% planted, 68% 1999, 83% 5 yr. avg.; Wheat 85% headed, 64% 1999, 55% 5 yr. avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 51% good, 20% excellent. Other Hay 3% very poor, 5% poor, 35% fair, 49% good, 8% excellent. Pasture, Range 1% very poor, 6% poor, 29% fair, 52% good, 12% excellent. Livestock good condition. The main farm activities: Row crop ground preparation; soybean, rice, sorghum planting; spraying for wheat disease (stripe rust), monitoring armyworms in wheat fields; spraying pastures for weed control; fertilizing wheat fields, pastures, vaccinating cattle.

**CALIFORNIA:** Recent rains slowed field activities in most areas, but benefitted growth, development of oats, wheat, barley. Some lodging occurred. Aphids were very light and few treatments were applied. Cutting of silage, hay was progressing rapidly as fields matured. A few dry fields were baled, stacked. Some alfalfa hay fields were almost ready for second cutting. Most alfalfa was of very good quality. Winter wheat remained in good condition. Irrigated wheat was heading. Some early planted fields were in milk stage. Some dryland wheat was still in boot stage. The recent rains may necessitate replanting of some cotton fields. There were scattered reports of hail. Except for the rain, weather was generally good for the germination, growth of cotton, corn, black-eyed beans. Planting of corn, cotton, sunflowers, safflower, black-eyed beans continued as fields dried. Sugarbeets were harvested in many areas. Rice pre-plant field preparation continued. Where rice fields were plowed, fertilized, flooding, seeding were underway. Rainfall slowed orchard work. The southern San Joaquin Valley's early variety cherry harvest had begun, but hail, wet weather was damaging quality. Weed control, application of fungicides to stone fruit, almond trees continued. Nut trees, stone fruit trees, grape vines were leafing. Some early varieties of peaches, nectarines, apricots were being thinned. Growers applied sulfur to grape vines for mildew control. Picking of grapefruit, lemon crops was active in southern areas. The harvest of Valencia oranges was active in the desert areas, just beginning in the San Joaquin Valley. Picking of navel oranges continued. Growers remained concerned about puff, crease, soft fruit. Minneola tangelos were also picked. The avocado set benefitted from warmer temperatures. Strawberry picking was active.

Recent rainfall slowed most vegetable field activities, but may benefit the crops. Bell pepper planting began slowly. Planting of chili peppers was expected to begin soon, weather permitting. Picking of yellow, zucchini squash was interrupted by rains, but full harvest operations will resume as soon as fields dry. In some areas of Fresno County, small tomato plants were damaged by hail, heavy rain, causing some stripping of small seedlings. Processing tomato fields were treated to control aphids. Sacramento Valley tomato planting was nearly completed. Planting of carrots, tomatoes, honeydew melon, watermelon continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Picking of leaf lettuce, broccoli was active. Iceberg lettuce harvest was slowed by wet soil conditions. Spinach harvest was nearly completed. Asparagus harvest was also winding down. Melons were beginning to emerge in Tulare County. Heavy rainfall in central, northern area improved overall foothill pasture feeds. However, some pastures had dried to the point that it may provide little benefit to extend the pasture season. Some special cattle auction dates have been moved up to early May to handle feeder cattle from early maturing pastures. Cattle were in good condition. Old crop lambs in the Imperial Valley have been shipped to market. Due to dry conditions in March, the first half of April, a large number of new crop spring lambs in central area have been sent to feedlots in Colorado, a few have been sent to northern area for further feeding. Beehives were moved into citrus groves to pollinate the new crop.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 4% very short, 32% short, 62% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 23% short, 71% adequate, 1% surplus. Seasonal temperatures during the week. A light frost mid-week in Grand Valley, injury to fruit negligible. Strong, gusty winds mid-week reduced soil moisture, may result in some small grain replanting. Additional moisture limited to isolated thunderstorms in crop growing areas. Spring barley 75% seeded, 66% 1999, 64% avg.; 29% emerged, 28% 1999, 27% avg. Dry onions 91% seeded, 95% 1999, 86% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 17% fair, 56% good, 24% excellent. Sugar beets 80% planted, 77% 1999, 81% avg. Summer potatoes 74% planted, 62% 1999, 60% avg.; 1% emerged, 4% 1999, 1% avg. Spring wheat 48% planted, 54% 1999, 45% avg.; 27% emerged, 41% 1999, 24% avg. Cows 80% calved, 81% 1999, 85% avg. Ewes 85% lambled, 83% 1999, 82% avg.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.5. Topsoil 65% adequate, 35% surplus. Subsoil moisture 68% adequate, 32% surplus. Percent of acreage prepared for planting of spring crops 67%. Winter wheat 1% poor, 10% fair, 77% good, 12% excellent; 5% headed, 7% 1999, 4% avg. Barley 3% poor, 14% fair, 71% good, 12% excellent; 48% headed, 47% 1999, 35% avg. Potatoes 72% planted, 70% 1999, 72% avg. Green peas 69% planted, 76% 1999, 73% avg. Snap Beans 12% planted, 14% 1999, 5% avg. Sweet corn 15% planted, 19% 1999, 14% avg. Field Corn 15% planted, 21% 1999, 14% avg. Cucumbers 7% planted, 3% 1999, 3% avg. Peaches 90% bloomed, 98% 1999, 78% avg. Strawberries 61% bloomed, 34% 1999, 38% avg. Apples 59% bloomed, 48% 1999, 44% avg. Pasture feed 14% fair, 78% good, 8% excellent. Hay supplies 8% very short, 38% short, 54% adequate. Activities: Wet, cool weather put a strain on field work, barley has headed, wheat is growing rapidly.

**FLORIDA:** Mostly dry conditions continued. Most stations reported 0.00 in. to traces of rain. Orlando recorded 1.15 in. for Sunday, April 16; Homestead reported 0.50 in. for same day. Most temperatures normal. Daytime highs 80s; nighttime lows 50s, 60s. Alachua, Tallahassee recorded at least one low in 40s. Moisture throughout State very short to

short with scattered areas of adequate or surplus moisture. Lack of adequate rainfall continues to be a factor for all non-irrigated crops. Farmers starting to plant cotton, peanuts; some holding off on planting until it rains. Tobacco, corn in good condition. Lack of rain, north, increased wild fire index in some areas. Peanuts 15% planted. Harvesting of vegetables slowing seasonally in Dade County where growers expect to finish most crop picking over next one to two weeks. Major vegetables being harvested include: Potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, blueberries, cabbage, cucumbers, okra, snap beans, squash, sweet corn, eggplant, watermelon. Hot, dry all week, irrigation continues all citrus areas. Well-cared-for groves showing a lot of new growth. Valencia harvest very active with most of fruit going to processors. Grapefruit, Temple movement slowing as supplies run out. Honey tangerines going for both fresh, process use. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, hedging, topping with limited burning due to current dry conditions. Pasture feed 30% poor, 65% fair, 5% good. Cattle 10% poor, 65% fair, 25% good. Statewide, pasture feed improved slightly. Panhandle: cool temperatures, drought, limited grass growth, Bahia pasture showing severe drought wilt. Central: pasture, cattle fair following scattered rainfall. Warm season pastures getting very slow start. Southwest: pasture feed poor, cattle in fair condition; rainfall over weekend. Statewide, cattle, calves, condition mostly fair, improved from previous week.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for field work 6.3. Soil 16% very short, 44% short, 38% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 1% very poor, 8% poor, 42% fair, 46% good, 3% excellent; 90% emerged, 91% 1999, NA% avg. Cotton 6% very poor, 5% poor, 46% fair, 42% good, 1% excellent. Hay 3% very poor, 12% poor, 43% fair, 39% good, 3% excellent. Sorghum 3% very poor, 11% poor, 48% fair, 36% good, 2% excellent; 19% planted, 18% 1999, 10% avg. Soybeans 2% planted, NA% 1999, NA% avg. Tobacco 1% very poor, 5% poor, 30% fair, 58% good, 6% excellent; 93% transplanted, 95% 1999, 89% avg. Wheat 98% jointing, 99% 1999, 97% avg.; 95% boot, 94% 1999, 91% avg. Onions 3% very poor, 3% poor, 18% fair, 72% good, 4% excellent; 22% harvested, 16% 1999, 15% avg. Watermelons 17% poor, 42% fair, 35% good, 6% excellent; 85% planted, 87% 1999, 85% avg. Apples 9% poor, 47% fair, 43% good, 1% excellent; 84% blooming, 66% 1999, 83% avg. Peaches 1% poor, 20% fair, 45% good, 34% excellent; 100% blooming, 99% 1999, 100% avg. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 15% poor, 44% fair, 34% good, 3% excellent. Warm temperatures, occasional winds, the lack of precipitation last week caused soils to continue to dry. The dry soils became a concern for both crops already planted and yet to be planted. Rain is needed to fill out wheat heads. Farmers began irrigating wheat last week. Pastures, hayfields were hurt from the lack of moisture. Winds brought some damage to watermelon, tobacco plants. Damage from recent frosts appeared in apple orchards. Cotton planting may be delayed if soil moisture does not improve. Peanut planting continued to be delayed last week due in part to recent research concerning Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus. Other activities included: Harvesting onions, land preparation, routine care of livestock.

**HAWAII:** Weather conditions were generally favorable for agriculture. Trade wind weather pattern for most of week. Windward areas were partly cloudy with light showers. Leeward areas had fair skies, were generally drier. Increased cloudiness, showers for northern islands over the weekend. Banana orchards in mostly good condition. Advent of summer conditions beneficial for crop. Harvesting steady. Papaya orchards in good to fair condition. Harvesting steady in most areas; increasing in a few. Head cabbage fields in good condition. Moderate to heavy irrigation ensuring normal crop progress. Sweet corn harvesting expected to increase. Dry onion crop in good condition. Harvesting very active. Ginger harvesting continues.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for field work 4.9. Topsoil 2% very short, 18% short, 71% adequate, 9% surplus. Field work throughout much the state was interrupted by rain showers towards the middle of the week. Cutworms have damaged some alfalfa fields in Franklin, Butte county. Calving 98% complete, lambing 97%. Hay, roughage 13% very short, 10% short, 72% adequate, 5% surplus. Irrigation supply 30% excellent, 51% good, 18% fair, 1% poor. Onions 92% planted, 99% 1999, 94% avg.; 38% emerged, 46% 1999, 37% avg. Dry peas 54% planted, 33% 1999, 20% avg.; 6% emerged, 10% 1999, 7% avg. Oats 31% planted, 27% 1999, 30% avg.; 4% emerged, 5% 1999, 9% avg. Lentils 22%

planted, 6% 1999, 6% avg. Corn 10% planted, 11% 1999, 7% avg. Potatoes 24% planted, 17% 1999, 14% avg. Sugarbeets 91% planted, 60% 1999, 75% avg.; 31 emerged%, 6% 1999, 15% avg. Spring barley 31% emerged, 16% 1999, 15% avg. Spring wheat 34% emerged, 23% 1999, 25% avg. Activities: Planting small grains, sugarbeets, onions, potatoes, dry peas, lentils, corn, field preparation, moving cattle, sheep to early spring pasture, applying herbicides, irrigating.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.6. Topsoil 6% very short, 26% short, 57% adequate, 11% surplus. Oats 91% planted, 92% 1999, 76% avg. Alfalfa 2% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, 17% excellent. Pasture 5% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, 9% excellent. Rains across the state slowed or halted field work, but farmers still continued the record pace for planting corn last week. The cool temperatures have significantly slowed emergence of the early planted corn. Those farmers who finished their corn planting have begun planting soybeans. Reports indicate that the ground absorbed the rainfall without erosion damage or run-off. Good soaking rains should recharge the subsoil, but more will be needed to replenish ponds, wells. The winter wheat crop is reported to be a week or two ahead of normal. That would also give an early start to planting double-crop soybeans. Other activities last week consisted: Preparing, maintaining equipment, tending to livestock, cleaning up damage from thunderstorms.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.7. Topsoil 3% very short, 13% short, 66% adequate, 18% surplus. Subsoil 15% very short, 39% short, 43% adequate, 3% surplus. Cool, rainy week. Farmers welcomed the rain. Most areas received over an inch of precipitation. Northern, central counties received the most. Subsoil moisture remains short, most areas of the state. Preparation of fields for planting corn, soybeans continued as soil conditions permitted. A few corn fields are emerged in the southwestern areas. Soybeans 2% planted, 2% 1999. Application of fertilizer, nitrogen, chemicals continued. Winter wheat 80% jointed, 71% 1999, 51% avg. Pastures improved. Range, pasture 4% very poor, 12% poor, 32% fair, 46% good, 6% excellent. Hay supplies 5% very short, 20% short, 69% adequate, 6% surplus. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Calving, lambing remain active. Major activities: Tillage of soils, preparing equipment, selling grain, ditching, hauling manure, feeding, caring for livestock.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for field work 3.6. Topsoil 18% short, 37% short, 40% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 34% very short, 44% short, 21% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 10% planted, 2% 1999, 3% avg. Welcomed rainfall, subsoil still short. Oats 96% planted, 90% 99, 61% avg. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 4% poor, 34% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Fertilizer applied (including fall applications) 85% complete. Seedbed preparation (including fall preparation) 79% complete. Range, Pasture feed 6% very poor, 19% poor, 40% fair, 31% good, 4% excellent.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 1% very short, 23% short, 75% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 19% short, 77% adequate, 1% surplus. Wheat 2% very poor, 8% poor, 33% fair, 46% good, 11% excellent. Wheat 92% jointing, 84% 1999, 73% avg. Wheat 2% headed, 1% 1999, 1% avg. Wheat wind damage 88% none, 11% light, 1% moderate. Wheat freeze damage 87% none, 10% light, 3% moderate. Corn 40% planted, 16% 1999, 22% avg. Corn 5% emerged, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Range, Pasture 1% very poor, 5% poor, 34% fair, 52% good, 8% excellent.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Topsoil 9% short, 79% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 19% short, 75% adequate, 5% surplus. Below normal temperatures of 57 ° combined with light rain throughout the State. Farmers secured 18% of their tobacco transplants from conventional beds, while 82% were from greenhouses, float beds. Tobacco transplants were 67% less than 2 inches, 26% were between 2 to 4 inches, 7% were larger than 4 inches. Emerged corn 3% very poor, 5% poor, 36% fair, 49% good, 7% excellent. As of April 23, 1% of soybeans have been seeded. Winter wheat 2% poor, 12% fair, 60% good, 26% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 28% fair, 52% good, 14% excellent. The average expected first cutting of alfalfa was reported to be May 9<sup>th</sup>. The strawberry crop was 1% very poor, 7% poor, 26% fair, 59% good, 7% excellent.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Soil moisture 2% very short, 21% short, 70% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 3% poor, 35% fair, 58% good, 4% excellent; 99% planted, 100% 1999, 97% avg.; 88% emerged, 90% 1999, 91% avg. Cotton 3% emerged, 2% 1999, 2% avg. Cotton planting got under way. Hay 12% first cutting, 20% 1999, 9% avg. Cattlemen were cutting hay. Rice 10% poor, 41% fair, 45% good, 4% excellent. Rice producers were spraying fertilizers, herbicides. Soybeans 16% planted, 6% 1999, 5% avg.; 7% emerged, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Sorghum 11% emerged, 10% 1999, 14% avg. Spring plowing 89% plowing, 86% 1999, 85% avg. Sugarcane 1% poor, 16% fair, 42% good, 41% excellent. Sweetpotatoes 1% planted, 2% 1999, 1% avg. Wheat 7% poor, 32% fair, 54% good, 7% excellent; 99% headed, 98% 1999, 91% avg.; 47% turning color, 33% 1999, 18% avg. Livestock 5% poor, 36% fair, 42% good, 17% excellent. Vegetables 1% very poor, 9% poor, 40% fair, 46% good, 4% excellent. Pastures 9% poor, 34% fair, 49% good, 8% excellent.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3. Topsoil 1% short, 63% adequate, 36% surplus. Subsoil moisture 12% short, 72% adequate, 16% surplus. Percent of acreage prepared for planting of spring crops 44%. Winter wheat 1% poor, 15% fair, 65% good, 19% excellent; 6% headed, 7% 1999, 5% avg. Barley 4% poor, 12% fair, 62% good, 22% excellent; 48% headed, 44% 1999, 30% avg. Rye 1% poor, 16% fair, 69% good, 14% excellent; 10% headed, 23% 1999, 21% avg. Potatoes 87% planted, 90% 1999, 93% avg. Green peas 85% planted, 93% 1999, 67% avg. Tomatoes 8% planted, 12% 1999, 16% avg. Sweet corn 21% planted, 25% 1999, 21% avg. Field Corn 6% planted, 11% 1999, 13% avg. Cucumbers 5% planted, 3% 1999, 5% avg. Snap Beans 6% planted, 9% 1999, 8% avg. Apples 70% bloomed, 34% 1999, 38% avg. Peaches 77% bloomed, 85% 1999, 71% avg. Strawberries 53% bloomed, 35% 1999, 38% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 59% good, 17% excellent. Hay supplies 4% very short, 34% short, 61% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Wet, rainy conditions throughout the state have delayed field work, corn planting has begun.

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 2% very short, 8% short, 56% adequate, 34% surplus. Subsoil moisture 20% very short, 50% short, 28% adequate, 2% surplus. Temperatures ranged from 1° above to 5° below normal across the State. Precipitation amounts ranged from three-tenths to 2.9 inches with the heaviest rain in the Lower Peninsula. The rain was welcome to help relieve dry soils. Planting of oats, alfalfa, sugarbeets continued. Some planting of corn, soybeans got underway. Fruit tree maturity continues about 2 weeks ahead of normal. This is the 3rd year in a row this has occurred. Early season apples, pears, sweet cherries are in open cluster; tart cherries are in the cluster stage. Peaches, some plums are in the 1st bloom stage. Other activities included: Broadcasting fertilizer, hauling manure, spraying, tillage.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.3. Topsoil 10% very short, 32% short, 52% adequate, 6% surplus. Corn 36% ground prepared, 14% 1999, 13% avg. Soybeans 11% ground prepared, 2% 1999, 2% avg.; 0% planted, 1% 1999, 0% avg. Green peas 28% planted, 11% 1999, 9% avg. Potatoes 8% planted, 14% 1999, 8% avg. Sweet corn 2% planted, 1% 1999, 1% avg. Pasture feed 6% very poor, 17% poor, 42% fair, 32% good, 3% exc. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 6% poor, 38% fair, 44% good, 11% exc. Rye 1% very poor, 3% poor, 58% fair, 31% good, 7% excellent. Winter Wheat 2% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent. Snow, rain swept through the state during the middle of the week, providing long awaited moisture to many areas. Although the rain, snow delayed fieldwork, the warm, dry conditions on the weekend allowed producers to get back into the fields. The precipitation helped to relieve some of the very short topsoil conditions in the southern portion of the state. Livestock have benefitted this week from the precipitation and warmer weather. Precipitation was adequate to keep dust down, but not enough to create muddy conditions.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7 Soil moisture, 1% very short, 6% short, 69% adequate and 24% surplus. Corn 90% planted, 86% 1999, 86% avg.; 77% emerged, 57% 1999, 52% avg; 1% very poor, 6% poor, 33% fair, 49% good, 11% excellent. Cotton 5% planted, 7% 1999, 8% avg. Rice 20% planted, 52% 1999, 58% avg; 0% emerged, 12% 1999, 21% avg. Sorghum 35% planted, 27% 1999, 40% avg; 15% emerged, 10% 1999, 20% avg. Soybeans 10% planted, 16% 1999, 17% avg; 1% emerged, 3% 1999, 4% avg. Wheat 95% heading, 85% 1999,

64% avg.; 3% poor, 17% fair, 57% good, 23% excellent. Watermelons 48% planted, 58% 1999, 55% avg. Blueberries 1% very poor, 5% poor, 32% fair, 58% good, 4% excellent. Cattle, 1% very poor, 4% poor, 17% fair, 68% good, 10 excellent. Pasture 1% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, 13% excellent.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 23% very short, 48% short, 29% adequate. The subsoil moisture 31% very short, 49% short, 20% adequate. Row crop planting was the main farming activity throughout the State. The northwest district had the least amount of days with 4.3. By the end of the week 85% of the ground had been worked at least once for spring crops, excluding no-till, compared with 68 normally. The northern 3rd of the state had the driest subsoil moisture supplies with 90% or more in very short to short. The highest ratings were in the Bootheel with subsoil ratings of 55% adequate to surplus. Seventy-seven percent of the corn was planted, the most advanced progress for this date on record. Planting is over a month ahead of both 1999, the 5-year avg. The Bootheel leads the state with 94% in the ground. Nine percent of the grain sorghum was planted, two weeks ahead of normal. Sorghum planting progress is the most advanced for this date since 1992. Seven percent of the cotton was planted, a week ahead of both 1999, normal. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 31% fair, 52% good, 13% excellent. Twelve percent of the wheat crop has reached the heading stage, about a week ahead of both 1999, normal. Pasture, range 12% very poor, 35% poor, 38% fair, 15% good. The weekly precipitation averaged 0.51 inch.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil 12% very short, 37% short, 49% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 27% very short, 48% short, 25% adequate, 0% surplus. The weather was cooperative for fieldwork, planting progress was very good for the week. However, topsoil moisture is still short in many areas of the state. Seeded grain, row crops are germinating but rain is needed. Fieldwork in progress was rated 24% none, 24% just started, 52% well underway. Oats 19% planted, 12% 1999, 8% avg. Oats 3% emerged, 1% 1999, 0% avg. Sugar beets 69% planted, 35% 1999, 27% avg. Sugar beets 2% emerged, 1% 1999, 3% avg. Corn 7% planted, 9% 1999, 6% avg. Dry 9% beans, 0% 1999, 0% avg. There are reports of cutworm damage at various locations across the state. Also, some reports of army worms in fields with producers spraying affected areas. As a result of the continued fairly mild conditions, livestock is reported to be in very good condition. Calving, lambing is making good progress as few problems have occurred, death losses are minimal. Calving 87% completed, 84% 1999, 87% avg. Lambing 73% completed, 63% 1999, 68% avg. Cattle, calves moved to summer ranges 12% complete. Sheep, lambs moved to summer ranges 7% complete. There is a concern of a shortage of water for livestock as a result of below normal precipitation. There are some reports of ponds, reservoirs being either low or empty due to a lack of snowfall, runoff.

**NEBRASKA:** Topsoil moisture supplies were mostly short to adequate while subsoil moisture supplies were mostly short to very short. Temperatures across the State averaged near normals for the week. Precipitation occurred across the State with amounts ranging from traces to 2 inches, 16 hundredths at Hemmingford. Winter Wheat 6% very poor, 12% poor, 30% fair, 49% good, 3% excellent; 32% jointed, 23% 1999, 12% avg. Oat seedlings 98% complete, compared to 83% 1999, 65% avg.; 70% emerged, 51% 1999, 23% avg.; 3% very poor, 16% poor, 46% good, 33% good, 2% excellent. Corn 12% planting, 6% 1999, avg.; 1% emerged, ahead of 1999, avg. Pasture, range 15% very poor, 29% poor, 44% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent. Calving was 94% complete, ahead of 1999, 1999 at 90%. Producer activities included: Crop planting preparations, livestock care.

**NEVADA:** Temperature averages for the week continued to trend a few degrees above normal, but were somewhat cooler when rains passed across the state at the beginning of the week and again towards the end. Winnemucca received .84 inch of precipitation and Ely .31 inch. Snow fell in the higher elevations, including Austin. Accumulated precipitation since October 1 ranged from 75 to 93% of normal, but the warmer than normal winter temperatures have depleted the water equivalent of the snow pack much further. An exception is the east, where water equivalents remained near or exceeded normal. Irrigation water supplies became increasingly short across the north. Planting was interrupted by rain at the start of the week, but resumed as fields dried. Spring wheat, barley planting near half complete. Potato planting gained momentum.

Onion planting continued. Weed control efforts remained intense. Pasture, range conditions remained mostly good to fair. Rains benefitted reseeded rangelands lost to 1999, wildfires. Calving, lambing continued. Branding, movement to Spring range continued. Main farm, ranch activities: Field preparation, grain planting, potato planting, onion planting, weed control, branding, working cattle.

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**NEW ENGLAND:** Temperatures were below normal for the week. Wet weather continued. Farmers tending livestock, assisting spring calving, performing general maintenance. Manure spreading, applying fertilizers continued.

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**NEW JERSEY:** Land preparation activities include plowing, seed bed preparation. Fertilizer application on wheat, barley. Cumulative rainfall for year 2000 as much as 25% more than 1999, in the southern part of the state. Planting of peas, spinach, lettuce, cabbage, potatoes throughout the state. Apple, peach trees are being pruned with some peach trees beginning to bloom. Cutting of dandelions, leeks, spinach reported.

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**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for field work 6.4. Topsoil 31% very short, 35% short, 34% adequate, 0% surplus. Main farm activities during the week continued to be: Spring planting. State experienced a dry, warm week with a statewide temperature between 3, 4° above normal. A rather intense storm passed over the state during the latter part of the week, but mainly produced strong winds that fanned the flames of numerous wildfires. The only precipitation with the storm was in the northeast, the few locations that received rain collected less than one fifth of an inch. Lettuce harvest, the 1st cutting of alfalfa both got underway in the southern part of the state. Crops damaged by wind, ranging from light to severe, was reported across most of the state. Onions, chile remained in mostly good to excellent condition. Irrigated wheat remained in fair to good condition, while the dryland wheat was reported in poor to fair condition. Supplemental feeding of cattle continued. Cattle conditions were relatively unchanged remaining mostly fair to good. Sheep conditions increased slightly with most now being reported in the fair to good range. Pasture, range feed 12% very poor, 29% poor, 42% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent.

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**NEW YORK:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.5. Soil moisture 4% short, 35% adequate, 61% surplus. Pasture feed 16% very poor, 30% fair, 48% good, 6% excellent. Cold, wet weather delayed spring fieldwork. Tilling, planting progress behind normal. Oats 8% seeded. Winter wheat 8% fair, 92% good. Potato planting 75% finished on Long Island. Vegetable planting limited to crops planted under plastic. Onion planting confined to Orange County. Fruit growers pruning trees, packing, selling 1999 crop.

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**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work to 3.8 compared to 4.3 last week. Soil moisture 0% very short, 4% short, 61% adequate, 35% surplus. Even though this weeks rain was more isolated, the cumulative effect of previous precipitation limited Consecutive weeks of rainfall have finally caught up with areas farmers. Many areas of the State are showing surplus soil moisture which is limiting field work. Although there is excess soil moisture in parts, overall conditions are favorable heading into the heart of the planting season. Currently, However, farmers continue to make sizeable gains in corn planting as percent planted jumped from 40% to 65%, which is right at the 5-year avg. Other outdoor activities included: Land preparation for cotton, peanuts, soybeans, setting tobacco, moving livestock. At week's end state's wheat crop was over 50% headed, looking good despite the persistent reports of cereal leaf beetle.

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**NORTH DAKOTA:** The average starting date for fieldwork was April 17<sup>th</sup>. Topsoil 4% very short, 22% short, 71% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 4% very short, 19% short, 73% adequate, 4% surplus. Small grain, sugarbeet planting progressed through most of the week as a result of mild weather. This compares to 1999, start of April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The five- year average of April 27<sup>th</sup>. Durum wheat 4% planted, 1% 1999, 1% avg. Cattle 0% very poor, 0% poor, 17% fair, 73% good, 10% excellent. Calf 0% very poor, 0% poor, 17% fair, 73% good, 10% excellent. Calving 85% complete. 89% of the cattle were receiving supplemental feed. Sheep 0% very poor, 0% poor, 14% fair, 73% good,

13% excellent. Lamb 0% very poor, 0% poor, 15% fair, 72% good, 13% excellent. Lambing 88% complete, shearing 93% complete. 92% of the sheep were receiving supplemental feed. Hay, roughage 0% very short, 2% short, 88% adequate, 10% surplus. Grain, concentrate supplies were 0% very short, 2% short, 90% adequate, 8% surplus. Pasture, range 6% very poor, 10% poor, 41% fair, 39% good, 4% excellent. Pastures, ranges were 81% open, 60% dormant.

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**OHIO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.9. Topsoil 0% very short, 3% short, 63% adequate, 34% surplus. Corn 4% planted; 8% 1999; 7% avg. Oats 64% planted; 75% 1999; 59% avg. Oats 39% emerged; 52% 1999; 28% avg.. Potatoes 13% planted; 41% 1999; 18% avg. Soybeans 1% planted; 5% 1999; 3% avg. Sugarbeets 23% planted. Tobacco beds 84% seeded; 96% 1999. Tobacco beds having 40% plants up; 58% 1999. Winter 65% wheat jointed; 44% 1999; 30% avg. Apples green tip 78%; 91% 1999. Apples in full bloom 46%. Peaches in green tip 81%; 92% 1999. Peaches in full bloom 60%; 53% in 1999. Pasture 2% very poor, 7% poor, 26% fair, 52% good, 13% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 1% poor, 11% fair, 52% good, 36% excellent. Apples 4% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 56% good, 15% excellent. Peaches 5% very poor, 10% poor, 19% fair, 52% good, 14% excellent. Hay 0% very poor, 7% poor, 23% fair, 55% good, 15% excellent. Activities throughout the state include: Applying anhydrous ammonia, fertilizer, lime; hauling manure, plowing, chiseling, discing, applying pre-emergence herbicides, burning brush, clearing fence rows, equipment maintenance, preparation, installing tile, moving grain, sowing oats, alfalfa seedlings, planting sweet corn, setting tomatoes, planting grasses, legumes, marketing grain, top dressing wheat, seeding peppers, hunting mushroomrooms, culling unproductive livestock, and buying seed. Alfalfa weevil is causing damage in fields in several areas. One reporter mentioned that conditions are now favorable for apple scab infection in northern areas. Pasture, grass continue to improve due to rainfall, warm temperatures. However, excessive precipitation has made pastures too wet to graze in several areas. Fieldwork has been slowed by wet conditions throughout the state. Some reporters expressed concern about late planting. Livestock are reported in good condition throughout the state. Lambing is complete in most areas, calving is nearing completion. Livestock are under no apparent stress, feed supplies are adequate in most areas.

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**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 2% very short, 15% short, 79% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 23% short, 69% adequate, 5% surplus. Wheat 98% jointing, 98% 1999, 93% avg. Oats 1% very poor, 5% poor, 29% fair, 59% good, 6% excellent; 81% jointing, 83% 1999, 64% avg.; 31% headed, 34% 1999, 19% avg. Corn 86% seedbed prepared, 96% 1999, 96% avg; 51% planted, 57% 1999, 35% avg. Sorghum 44% seedbed prepared, 55% 1999, 38% avg. Soybeans 61% seedbed prepared, 49% 1999, 53% avg.; 14% planted, 11% 1999, 12% avg. Peanuts 60% seedbed prepared, 67% 1999, 59% avg. Cotton 77% seedbed prepared, 83% 1999, 68% avg. Alfalfa Hay 25% 1st cutting, 10% 1999, 8% avg. Other Hay 10% 1st cutting, 7% 1999, 4% avg. Pasture 1% very poor, 4% poor, 27% fair, 61% good, 7% excellent; Livestock 2% poor, 19% fair, 66% good, 13% excellent; Cattle marketings average.

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**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 1% very short, 14% short, 82% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 8% short, 85% adequate, 7% surplus. Barley 90% planted, 70% 1999, 67% avg. Barley 79% emerged, 39% fair, 61% good. Spring 85% wheat planted, 88% 1999. Winter wheat 1% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 14% excellent. Range, pasture 30% fair, 59% good, 11% excellent. Activities: Growers continued to plant grains in Eastern Areas. Winter wheat, barley conditions mostly good. Alfalfa, other hay started to grow. Malheur county sugarbeets planted, started to emerge. In Willamette Valley fall seed grain crops, grass seed fields growing & spring seeding almost done. Warm weather, recent moisture, fertilizer applications had grass seed in early flowering stage, clover in early bud stage. Hay fields look good. In southwest valleys growers continued to prepare ground for planting. Wholesale nurseries still very active moving containers, balled & burlapped material into trade channels. Greenhouses continue to move bedding plants to retail outlets for spring planting. Easter lily growers found time to do field work, to judge results of breeding work at local research station. Christmas trees being sprayed for weed control. Asparagus harvest progressing, onions & early chipper potatoes emerging in eastern areas of state. Early planted vegetables reported doing well, some rhubarb near harvest. In southwestern region most onions planted but it still early for most

vegetables. Greenhouses putting out spring starts, tomato, pepper sales brisk. Most orchards in bloom. Pollination weather good in the Northern Willamette valley, but in Josephine county, high winds kept pollination down. Strawberry bloom started. Coastal blueberries in full bloom. Caneberry growth increasing. Some cranberry growers mowing dikes. Livestock in excellent condition with calving, lambing about finished. Branding of calves continued with cattle turn out onto lower level pastures. Most parts of state report that pastures in excellent condition, dry enough to turn cattle out to graze. Eastern areas pastures received rain last week improving season's prospects for above average grazing conditions.

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**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for field work 1.9. Soil moisture 4% short, 57% adequate, 39% surplus. Plowing 46% complete, 48% 1999, 50% avg. Oats 48% planted, 46% 1999, 47% avg. Oats 26% emerged, 22% 1999, average not available. Potatoes 10% planted, 15% 1999, 11% avg. Barley 10% heading or headed, 0% 1999, 8% avg. Wheat crop 2% poor, 12% fair, 65% good, 21% excellent. Oat crop 4% poor, 25% fair, 63% good, 8% excellent. Alfalfa mixtures stand 1% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 62% good, 16% excellent. Timothy clover stand 4% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 59% good, 11% excellent. Peaches 98% pink, 71% 1999, 59% avg.; 86% full bloom or past, 51% 1999, 35% avg. Cherries 97% pink, 67% 1999, 56% avg.; 91% full bloom or past, 46% 1999, 38% avg. Apples 58% pink, 41% 1999, 39% avg.; 49% full bloom or past, 14% 1999, 16% avg. Activities include: Spring plowing; planting oats, potatoes, field corn, sweet corn; fixing fences; machinery maintenance; ordering supplies; spreading lime, fertilizers; hauling manure; caring for livestock; spraying herbicides, pruning trees.

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**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work 5.8. Soil moisture 29% short, 70% adequate, 1% surplus. Apples 44% fair, 52% good, 4% excellent. Barley 42% headed, 36% 1999, 32% avg.; 16% turned color, 8% 1999; 5% fair, 52% good, 43% excellent. Cantalopes 78% planted, 75% 1999, 79% avg.; 2% poor, 31% fair, 61% good, 6% excellent. Corn 97% planted, 91% 1999, 91% avg.; 68% emerged, 67% 1999; 17% fair, 82% good, 1% excellent. Cotton 10% planted, 13% 1999, 10% avg. Cucumbers 80% planted, 76% 1999, 72% avg.; 14% fair, 55% good, 31% excellent. Grain Hay 36% harvested 28% 1999, 26% avg. Hay 1% poor, 16% fair, 70% good, 13% excellent. Oats 82% headed, 68% 1999, 64% avg.; 20% turned color, 6% 1999, 5% avg.; 1% poor, 16% fair, 72% good, 11% excellent. Peanuts 22% planted, 18% 1999, 12% avg. Peaches 4% very poor, 7% poor, 7% fair, 65% good, 17% excellent. Rye 78% headed, 65% 1999, 54% avg.; 12% turned color, 9% 1999, 8% avg.; 2% poor, 18% fair, 76% good, 4% excellent. Snap beans 75% planted, 59% 1999, 58% avg.; 100% good. Sorghum 35% planted, 31% 1999, 14% avg. Soybeans 6% planted, 10% 1999. Sweetpotatoes 12% planted, 8% 1999, 6% avg. Tobacco 68% transplanted, 72% 1999, 69% avg.; 10% fair, 87% good, 3% excellent. Tomatoes 84% planted, 87% 1999, 82% avg.; 45% good, 55% excellent. Watermelons 90% planted, 90% 1999, 86% avg.; 5% poor, 32% fair, 60% good, 3% excellent. Winter grazings 13% poor, 22% fair, 58% good, 7% excellent. Winter wheat 79% headed, 71% 1999, 61% avg.; 7% turning color, 8% 1999, 5% avg.; 2% poor, 15% fair, 75% good, 8% excellent.

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**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for field work 3.0. Topsoil 5% very short, 21% short, 69% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil Moisture 8% very short, 34% short, 54% adequate, 4% surplus. Winter Wheat 1% boot, NA% 1999, NA% avg. Winter rye 5% poor, 26% fair, 60% good, 9% excellent; boot 1%, NA% 1999, NA% avg. Range, pasture 2% very poor, 6% poor, 27% fair, 56% good, 9% excellent. Feed supplies 3% short, 85% adequate, 12% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 14% short, 79% adequate, 5% surplus. Cattle 6% fair, 69% good, 25% excellent; moved to pasture 12%. Calving 71% complete. Calf deaths 40% below avg.; 59% avg.; 1% above avg. Sheep 4% fair, 65% good, 31% excellent. Lambing 78% complete. Sheep, lamb deaths 56% below avg.; 43% avg.; 1% above avg. Small grains seeding stopped abruptly as snow, rains moved through most of the state. Warm air followed bringing more showers, giving most of the state needed moisture. Many of the spring crops are ahead of the five-year average.

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**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 3% short, 76% adequate, 21% surplus. Subsoil moisture 16% short, 77% adequate, 7% surplus. Tobacco 97% seeded, 99% 1999, 98% avg.; 91% plants up, 84% 1999, 86% avg. Wheat 35% headed, 29% 1999, 30% avg.; 1%

poor, 18% fair, 52% good, 29% excellent. Apples 97% blooming or beyond, 82% 1999, 93% avg. Pastures 5% poor, 27% fair, 57% good, 11% excellent. Alfalfa 3% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 11% excellent. Corn producers made excellent progress last week, planted almost a fourth of the acreage before rain showers moved in on Thursday. Winter wheat continues to be rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition, but disease pressure is building. Growers are monitoring the situation closely. Many wheat growers also reported nitrogen loss due to saturated soil. Nearly all of the State's tobacco beds have been seeded, producers are now busy clipping plants, spraying for disease prevention. High winds in some areas last week prevented farmers from spraying, fertilizing their fields.

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**TEXAS:** Fieldwork continued throughout the state but, was hampered in some areas of the Plains by high winds, blowing dust. Other areas received some light rain showers along with some hail, a few fields were totally destroyed. The high winds drained soil moisture, reversed the pasture improvement in many locations. In the drier areas herd reduction, dispersal continued along with supplemental feeding of the remaining herds. Death of trees, brush species continued to be noticed in some areas as the result of the drought, some operators were hauling water to trees in close proximity to their home. In areas not effected by the high winds, supplemental feeding continued to decline. Some alfalfa fields as well as some wheat, oat fields were being baled. In the Rio Grande Valley, Winter Garden areas, vegetables continued to make good progress.

**Field Crops:** Small Grains: General conditions for small grains remained varied to poor across the state. Some remaining fields of wheat, oats were being baled for hay where possible, others continued to be grazed out. Some producers will attempt to harvest some seed for next year. Rust was a problem in some areas. Statewide wheat 39% of normal compared with 66% 1999. Wheat Headed Published 46%, 1999 33%, Average 32%. Corn: Planting remained active on the Plains, North Central Area. Cultivation continued in southern areas, the Rio Grande Valley, early corn continued to tassel in these same areas. In a few areas high winds, hail devastated some planted fields. Statewide corn 84% normal compared with 78% 1999. Emerged, Published 57%, 1999 51%, Average NA. Cotton: Cotton planting continued to move northward. Squaring began in early cotton in some southern areas. Good stands occurred in areas where soil moisture, temperature were adequate, however some replanting was necessary as the result of past weather conditions. In some areas there is not enough moisture available to plant. Rice: Planting continued ahead of normal, earlier planted fields were off to a good start as the stand counts were favorable. State wide rice 76% normal compared with 83% 1999. Sorghum: Planting continued to move northward as weather conditions allowed. A few fields have headed in southern areas, cultivation continued where necessary. Statewide sorghum 72% of normal compared with 74% 1999. year. Peanuts: Land preparation continued in the growing areas, planting continued in Central, South Area. Contracts were being offered to producers on the Plains. Soybeans: Land preparation remained active where possible and planting continued along the upper Coast, South Central Areas. Emergence of earlier planting's continued to be favorable. Published 46%, 1999 29%, Average 30%.

**Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans:**

Rio Grande Valley, harvest continued for greens, carrots, beans, peas, potatoes. Onion harvest was winding down, lack of moisture was again causing stress to some crops as the hot and dry weather continued. San Antonio-Winter Garden, melon planting continued along with beans, peas, chili peppers. Harvest continued active for cabbage, carrots, broccoli. East area, growth progress increased as the temperatures warmed. Planting continued for peas, cucumbers, peppers, egg plants. Some insect pressure increased as harvest continued for broccoli, onions, cauliflower. High Plains, land preparation remained active but slowed at times as high winds, blowing dust made progress slow. Some pre-watering occurred in an effort to hold the soil from blowing. Peaches: the 1st sprays continued in parts of the Plains, fruit setting continued in central, southern areas. Some fruit loads were below normal in a few areas, heavy fruit sets promoted thinning in other areas. Pecans: Bud break continued to move northward, applications of zinc continued to be applied by producers in southern, central areas. Nutlets were appearing in some areas.

**Range and Livestock:** Generally green-up of range, pasture continued but slowed, or reversed in many areas of the state as warm temperatures, high winds caused additional stress to grasses, forage. In some area nothing is green, supplemental feeding, herd reduction continued. Some

producers in these areas that have held on to livestock are now considering liquidation while the market is favorable. Planting of new grass continued in other locations where soil moisture was adequate. Supplemental feeding continued to decline in the wetter areas. Death of range trees, brush species continued as the result of the dry conditions in some areas.

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**UTAH:** Days suitable for field work 6. Topsoil 17% short, 77% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture 10% short, 86% adequate, 4% surplus. Sheep 1% very poor, 3% poor, 30% fair, 62% good, 4% excellent. Pasture, range 8% poor, 37% fair, 48% good, 7% excellent. Average alfalfa height 4 inches. Corn 13% planted. Spring wheat 82% planted, 83% 1999, 82% avg.; 47% emerged, 50% 1999, 49% avg. Barley 85% planted, 78% 1999, 79% avg.; 45% emerged, 48% 1999, 48% avg. Oats 52% planted, 47% 1999, 40% avg.; 21% emerged, 19% 1999, 20% avg. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 100%, 77% 1999, 74% avg. Tart cherries full bloom or past 88%, 13% 1999, 31% avg. Peaches full bloom or past 97%, 68% 1999, 84% avg. Apples full bloom or past 78%, 3% 1999, 10% avg. Pears full bloom or past 85%, 27% 1999, 50% avg. Potatoes planted 12%. Cows calved 85%, 88% 1999, 85% avg. Ewes lambed: on farm 90%, 92% 1999, 88% avg.; on range 59%, 64% 1999, 57% avg. Sheep sheared: on farm 86%, 91% 1999, 85% avg.; on range 74%, 72% 1999, 68% avg. Major farm, ranch activities included :Spring tillage, spraying fruit, shearing sheep, finishing lambing, calving. Farmers, ranchers, federal crews were baiting crickets.

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**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.6. Statewide average temperatures were mostly above normal last week. Precipitation across the Commonwealth was above normal in most localities for the week. Some isolated areas of the state received slightly less than normal rainfall during the week while others received almost 3 inches. Rains helped pastures, hay fields green up but warmer weather is needed for growth. While wet weather has helped pasture, hay crops, field preparation for tobacco, other row crops has been delayed. Producers in Northern, Eastern State made substantially more progress than their counterparts in other parts of the state because less rainfall was received in these areas. Cotton, peanut planting is normally underway in the Southeast at this time of year but saturated fields has made this impossible. Corn planting is making progress, reported to be ahead of normal. Some isolated hail fell in Central State there were no reports of damage to small grains. Wet, cool weather conditions beginning to affect the wheat crop with powdery mildew reported in some fields. A few producers applied fungicides to combat the problem. Cereal leaf beetles, other insects reported to be light. Snap beans, sweet corn has emerged in most areas. Strawberries are in good condition but cold weather may damage fruit set. Apple, peach fruit set has also been affected but too early to measure the extent of the damage. Most livestock are in good to excellent condition, are being turned out to spring pasture earlier than normal. Producers busy performing spring health maintenance, shearing sheep.

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**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.14. Topsoil 8% short, 82% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 12% short, 88% adequate. Winter wheat, dryland, 11% fair, 67% good, 22% excellent; irrigated 100% good. Precipitation was beneficial for the winter wheat crop, the condition remained in good condition. Spring wheat dryland 1% poor, 74% fair, 25% good; irrigated 100% good. Planted 84%, 72% 1999, 63% avg.; 48% emerged, 49% 1999, 39% avg. Barley dryland 60% fair, 40% good; irrigated 100% good. Planted 76%, 68% 1999, 53% avg.; emerged 28%, 34% 1999, 26% avg. Warm spring weather was beneficial to producers planting spring cereal grains, kept crops seeded almost 7-10 days ahead of years past. Spring wheat, barley that had been planted were emerging nicely. Potatoes 12% fair, 88% good. Planted 77%, 57% 1999, 49% avg.; 46% emerged, 14% 1999, 17% avg. Hay, roughage 100% adequate. Range, pasture 20% fair, 60% good, 20% excellent. Potatoes, carrots, sweet corn, other vegetable planting continued last week. Hops were being strung, weed control was underway for all crops. Tree fruits were in bloom across the state, so were blueberries. Christmas tree growers were monitoring for aphid, midge infestations, while turf grass growers were mowing, fertilizing, harvesting. The spring weather was very beneficial for the pasture growth, dairy producers were harvesting greenchop for silage.

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**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.4. Topsoil 7% short, 77% adequate, 16% surplus. Wheat 10% fair, 70% good, 20% excellent.

Spring planting behind schedule. Hay, pasture feeds continue to improve. Hay 2% very poor, 11% poor, 41% fair, 45% good, 1% excellent. Intended Acreage Prepared for Spring Planting 58%, 67% 1999, 64% 5-yr avg. Corn 11% planted, 18% 1999, 13% 5-yr avg. Oats 61% Planted, 67% 1999, 54% 5-yr avg. Oats 19% emerged, 30% 1999, 22% 5-yr avg. Tobacco beds seeded 98%, 85% 1999, 86% 5-yr avg. Tobacco beds 81% emerged, 54% 1999, 58% 5-yr avg. Cattle 1% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 67% good, 4% excellent; 86% calved. Sheep 1% poor, 16% fair, 78% good, 5% excellent; 94% lambed. Feed grain supplies 7% very short, 12% short, 64% adequate, 17% surplus. Apple n 7% poor, 63% fair, 22% good, 8% excellent. Peach 8% poor, 67% fair, 25% good. Hay, roughage supplies 23% very short, 29% short, 47% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Field preparation, planting, calving, lambing, general maintenance.

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**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.9. Topsoil 65% adequate compared to only 29% that was adequate a week earlier. Soil moisture 2% very short, 22% short, 65% adequate, 11% surplus. Farmers in all areas of the state welcomed rains that aided soil moisture. A Columbia County reporter commented "the long, slow rain during the last part of the week was just what the doctor ordered." Soil moisture levels improved greatly Rain kept most farmers out of the fields the last half of the week. Spring tillage completed 44% 2000, 24% 1999, 16% 5-year avg. Even though this was a slower week for progress of spring tillage, farmers continued to be ahead of normal because of dry soils earlier. Winter wheat winter freeze damage: 76% no damage, 24% light damage. Winter wheat looks very good in most areas. Alfalfa, winter wheat grew slowly because of the cool weather. Many expect that corn planting will soon take off in southern areas. A Rock County reporter stated that some nearby growers had finished planting corn already. A Waushara County reporter said potato planting was 50-60% complete there. Growers in the northern districts are ready to plant potatoes. Fruit trees are blossoming in southern areas.

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**WYOMING:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 3% very short, 32% short, 65% adequate. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 49% short, 45% adequate. Barley 71% planted, 72% 1999, 72% avg.; 45% emerged, 39% 1999, 27% avg. Oats 44% planted, 38% 1999, 32% avg.; 8% emerged, 10% 1999, 5% avg. Spring wheat 44% planted, 43% 1999, 39% avg.; 8% emerged, 22% 1999, 10% avg. Sugarbeets 85% planted, 56% 1999, 56% avg.; 2% emerged, 0% 1999, 1% avg. Corn 4%, planted, 1% 1999, 2% avg. Spring calves born 86%, 84% 1999, 85% avg. Farm flock ewes lambed 86%, 90% 1999, 91% avg. Farm flock sheep shorn 85%, 87% 1999, 88% avg. Range flock ewes lambed 36%, 26% 1999, 24% avg. Range flock sheep shorn 62%, 59% 1999, 56% avg. Calf, lamb losses light to normal. Range, pasture feed 5% poor, 38% fair, 51% good, 6% excellent. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 23% short, 74% adequate, 1% surplus.