

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

Released November 30, 1999, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories" call Mark E. Miller at (202) 720-7621, office hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil 10% very short, 25% short, 64% adequate, 1% surplus. Soybeans 90% harvested, 93% 1998, 87% avg. Wheat 70% planted, 64% 1998, 70% avg. Livestock 18% very poor, 15% poor, 29% fair, 36% good, 2% excellent.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL 2000.

ARIZONA: Cotton harvest gains momentum in the latter part of the season, yet still remains 1 week behind the 5 year avg. Alfalfa harvest activity remained relatively constant since last week. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 51% not being harvested, 10% light, 17% moderate, 22% active. Alfalfa 7% poor, 34% fair, 44% good, 15% excellent. Sheeping off was reported as being light to moderate. Range, Pasture feed 5% poor, 38% fair, 54% good, 3% excellent. Small grains planting continues to remain behind normal. As of November 28, 6% Durum Wheat, 8% Barley, 10% Other Wheat, 10% Other Small Grains were reported as being planted. Last week central areas producers shipped a variety of vegetables including bok choy, broccoli, cilantro, dandelion, dill, endive, escarole, flowering kale, kale, kohlrabi, mixed greens, napa, parsley, spinach, swiss chard. Lettuce shipments included leaf, head lettuce. Eastern Areas producers shipped chile peppers, hot house tomatoes, head lettuce. Producers in western area also shipped a wide variety of vegetables including anise, bok choy, broccoli, broccoflower, cantaloupes, cauliflower, celery, cilantro, endive, escarole, honeydews, kale, napa, parsley, salad savoy, spinach, spring mix. Western lettuce shipments included boston, iceberg, leaf, romaine. Central Area citrus producers harvested lemons, navels, grapefruit, Fairchild tangerines. Western citrus producers harvested grapefruit, lemons last week.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork: 6. Topsoil 15% very short, 62% short, 23% adequate, 0% surplus. Areas continues to experience above normal temperatures, below normal rainfall. At the Little Rock weather service they will end the month with the 2nd warmest, 4th driest November of record (1879-1999). Livestock were reported in fair condition. Many farmers were feeding supplemental hay early this year because of the summer drought conditions. The main farm activity was: Planting wheat. Other activities included: Finishing harvesting cotton, 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, ryegrass, fields were being subsoiled, plowed, shredding cotton stalks, equipment clean up, maintenance, cleaning poultry houses, Brucellosis vaccinations, fall calving, pregnancy checking spring bred cows, selling cull cows, weaning calves. Cotton 100% harvested; Wheat 98% planted, 92% emerged, 0% very poor 2% poor, 33% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent; Alfalfa 17% very poor, 32% poor, 49% fair, 2% good, 0% excellent; Other Hay 16% very poor, 41% poor, 34% fair, 8% good, 1% excellent; Range, pastures feed 26% very poor, 42% poor, 26% fair, 6% good, 0% excellent.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities made good progress in most areas. Seeding of small grains, winter forages was in full swing in the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys. Earlier seeded fields of wheat, barley, oats, new alfalfa were emerging, growing rapidly. Cotton harvest was virtually

complete, but growers were 2nd picking in some San Joaquin Valley cotton fields. After final picking was completed, fields were immediately shredded, disced for pink bollworm control. Harvested corn, cotton fields were being prepared for spring 2000 plantings. A few late fields of silage corn were still being harvested. Alfalfa, clover fields were treated for weeds in the Sacramento Valley. Seed alfalfa fields received winter herbicide applications in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Sugar beets harvest was ongoing in the San Joaquin Valley, new crop sugarbeet planting continued. Some sugarbeet growers placed mylar strips in fields to deter birds. Alfalfa was cut for hay or green chopped. Many alfalfa growers were conducting final cutting as plants were headed into winter dormancy. Pruning, tree removal, planting of cover crops was active in the harvested stone fruit orchards. Growers were fumigating the ground in preparation for new plantings of peach, prune, walnut, almond trees. Kiwifruit, persimmon harvests were active. Grape picking was nearly completed. The olive, pecan harvests were near completion, also. Picking of grapefruit, lemon crops was active in southern areas. The San Joaquin Valley's harvest of early variety, new crop navel oranges, tangerines gained momentum. Strawberry growers were weeding fields, trimming runners. The harvesting of fresh market, processing tomatoes was complete in most fields. Some farmers were already beginning ground preparation for the 2000 processing tomato crop. Fields of winter broccoli were progressing well. The fall lettuce harvest declined in volume. Growers planted fields of onions, garlic, spring lettuce in some areas. Winter cabbage fields were thriving. Carrots were harvested, planted in Kern County. Growers, packers were moving sweet potatoes to market. The many crops harvested included: Cilantro, cauliflower, radishes, green beans, carrots, cucumbers, mint, okra, pumpkins, parsley, snap peas, sugar peas, chili peppers, squash, turnips. Recent rains have provided the moisture needed to initiate vegetative growth on pasture, range lands. Cool temperatures have slowed growth. Normal winter feeding of cattle was underway, calving continued. Alfalfa fields were being sheeped-off. Beekeepers were preparing hives for overwintering.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 5% very short, 36% short, 58% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 30% short, 65% adequate, 0% surplus. Many areas of the state received rain, or snow early in the week with heaviest amounts falling in the mountains, along the Front Range. Harvest activities were slowed.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 7% short, 86% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 10% short, 89% adequate, 1% surplus. Soybeans 85% harvested, 89% 1998, 82% avg. Alfalfa hay 76% 5th cutting, 89% 1998, 85% avg. Hay supplies 28% short, 72% adequate. Pasture 3% poor, 15% fair, 75% good, 7% excellent. Barley 1% poor, 10% fair, 81% good, 8% excellent. Wheat 7% fair, 89% good, 4% excellent; 95% seeded, 94% 1998, 92% avg. Activities: Delayed soybean harvesting due to heavy fog through most of week. Continued seeding of small grains for small number of farmers.

FLORIDA: Warm temperatures returned. Temperatures at major stations averaged 2 to 7° above normal. Daytime highs 70s, 80s; nighttime lows 40s, 50s, 60s. Pensacola, Tallahassee at least one low in 30s. Scattered showers dropped less than 1.00 in. over most localities. Daytona Beach recorded about 1.25 in.; Apopka, about 1.66 in.; Dover, almost 2:00 in. Tallahassee, Ona, Ocklawaha received only about 0.10 in. or less for week. Moisture mostly short to adequate with some areas

very short or surplus. Winter wheat for grain planting active. Sugarcane grinding active. Cotton harvest virtually complete. Vegetable harvesting for Thanksgiving market quite active until growers stopped for holiday observance. Vegetables harvested during week include: Tomatoes, peppers, endive, escarole, cucumbers, pickles, lettuce, radishes, snap beans, squash, sweet corn, okra, eggplant, watermelons. Mild temperatures, overcast skies with very little rain all citrus areas. Growers irrigating, new growth restricted to young trees in south. Good natural fruit coloring. Fresh, processed movement slowed by Thanksgiving. Most processors open. Caretakers cutting cover crops for the winter season, pushing out dead trees, replanting. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 10% poor, 50% fair, 35% good. Cattle 5% poor, 40% fair, 55% good. Most pasture fair to good; some condition hurt by lack of soil moisture. Western Panhandle: small grain winter grazing in some locations improved from last weekend by rain. Permanent pasture grass is short, cool season forage not yet tall enough to graze. Lice on cattle significant problem. Central, southwest counties: rain late in week too little to help pasture condition. Cattle condition fair to good.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 5.3. Soil moisture 9% very short, 38% short, 52% adequate, 1% surplus. Rye 89% planted, 87% 1998, 91% avg. Sorghum 94% harvested for grain, 95% 1998, 93% avg. Soybeans 81% harvested, 85% 1998, 74% avg. Other small grains 81% planted, 80% 1998, 84% avg. Onions 16% fair, 84% good; 37% transplanted, 37% 1998, 47% avg. Pecans 75% harvested, 75% 1998, 72% avg. Scattered rains during the Thanksgiving Holiday helped improve soil moisture conditions. The rains delayed harvesting in some areas, but helped small grains. Soybean harvest continued, but remained behind 1998 pace. The sorghum harvest was slightly ahead of the five year average rate. The cotton harvest was slowed by the rain in some areas, but harvesting remained ahead of the five year average progression. Wheat planting continued at the five year average rate. Wheat emerging remained ahead of the five year average pace. The condition improved from the previous week. The rains helped small grains. Rye planting progress was slightly ahead of 1998. Other small grain planting remained behind the five year average progression. The pecan harvest was at 1998 pace. Onion transplanting was active last week, catching up to 1998 rate. The onion condition changed slightly from the previous week. Other activities included: Mowing cotton stalks, taking soil samples, feeding hay to cattle.

HAWAII: Weather conditions were fair to poor for agriculture. Overcast skies prevailed for most of the week. Crop progress was slowed by the diminished sunlight. Strong trade winds raked the State over the weekend. Spraying, some forms of irrigation were hampered by the gusty winds. Wind damage to plants, fruits are expected to vary by location. Rainfall was generally light, limited to windward areas. Insect, disease was light. Banana harvesting remained steady. Leaf shredding is expected to be moderate. Papaya harvesting was steady. Most fields in fair condition after week of less than favorable weather. Head cabbage harvesting steady. Crop condition fair to good. Winter tomato harvesting increasing from area island.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 10% very short, 45% short, 44% adequate, 1% surplus. Fruit trees are going into dormancy. Rain slowed some field activities in northern, southwestern counties. Corn harvested 88% for grain, 76% 1998, 84% avg. Winter wheat 100% planted, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 91% emerged, 97% 1998, 96% avg. Activities: Wrapping up fall harvest, caring for and feeding livestock, plowing, preparing ground for spring crops, attending educational workshops, repairing equipment.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 39% very short, 48% short, 13% adequate. Last week, minimal rainfall fell across the state, slightly improving topsoil moisture. Other activities included: Storing equipment, hauling water, caring for livestock.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 39% very short, 38% short, 23% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 56% very short, 35% short, 9% adequate, 0% surplus. Light showers helped dry soil conditions. Ponds drying up. Winter wheat seeding is complete. Winter wheat 13% very poor, 13% poor, 38% fair, 30% good, 6% excellent. Wheat 99% emerged, 99% 1998, 99% avg. Corn harvest is complete. Soybean harvest is complete. Farmers are feeding hay. Tobacco stripping, baling active.

Activities: Applying fertilizer, nitrogen, spreading lime, tillage of soils, chopping stalks, equipment cleaning, repair, repairing tile, hauling grain, feeding hay, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for field work 4.9. Topsoil 26% very short, 51% short, 23% adequate. Subsoil moisture 39% very short, 50% short, 11% adequate. Producers were thankful for rain received, but additional rain is needed. There is concern that high winds will cause soil erosion without the needed moisture or snow cover. Fieldwork has been completed for the year in most areas of the state. Fall 69% tillage, 63% 1998, 51% avg.; 60% fall fertilizer applied, 58% 1998, 42% avg. Grain movement 22% none, 52% light, 23% moderate, 3% heavy. Off-farm grain storage availability 21% short, 77% adequate, 2% surplus; on-farm storage 24% short, 74% adequate, 2% surplus. Use of stubble fields for grazing 24% none, 21% limited, 41% moderate, 14% extensive. Hay, roughage availability 7% short, 80% adequate, 13% surplus; quality of hay, roughage supplies 7% poor, 46% fair, 47% good.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 20% very short, 34% short, 44% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 14% very short, 43% short, 43% adequate. Scattered showers last week were a welcome relief from the dry conditions that have dominated the State's weather for several weeks. Most of the precipitation fell in the eastern half of the State, with some areas reporting nearly 3 inches of rainfall. Wheat 10% pastured, 6% 1998, 9% avg. Last week's rain, cooler temperatures in the eastern half of the State gave a big boost to the wheat crop by reducing moisture stress, slowing greenbug activity. However, wheat fields in western area continue to suffer from the dry conditions. Sorghum 100% harvested, 99% 1998, 98% avg. Sunflowers 100% harvested, 98% 1998. Range, pasture feed 3% very poor, 19% poor, 47% fair, 30% good, 1% excellent. Stock water supplies 7% very short, 22% short, 71% adequate. Major livestock activities last week included: Moving cattle to crop residues or wheat pasture, weaning, marketing spring calves, feeding livestock. Dry, dusty conditions in western area continue to cause respiratory problems for both drylot, pasture cattle.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0 out of a possible 6 days. Topsoil 20% very short, 53% short, 27% adequate. Rainfall ended forest fires in the East. Temperatures 8° above normal, making November the warmest since 1895. Crop harvests virtually complete. Humidity levels, rain good for burley tobacco stripping. Burley market opening November 29th, growers active transporting stripped tobacco to warehouses. Fall seeded grains good condition with favorable growth due to mild weather. Pastures supplying limited late season forage. Continued supplemental feeding necessary.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Soil moisture 26% very short, 48% short, 25% adequate, 1% surplus. Pecans 81% harvested, 73% 1998, 61% avg. Sugarcane 61% harvested, 56% 1998, 60% avg. Sweet potatoes 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 96% avg. Wheat 1% very poor, 20% poor, 65% fair, 14% good; 98% planted, 95% 1998, 88% avg.; 96% emerged, 90% 1998, 78% avg. Wheat planting made good progress. Livestock 2% very poor, 14% poor, 40% fair, 41% good, 3% excellent. Vegetables 6% very poor, 19% poor, 43% fair, 31% good, 1% excellent. Pastures 16% very poor, 26% poor, 42% fair, 15% good, 1% excellent. Pasture feed improved slightly due to the scattered rain showers.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 9% short, 80% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 11% short, 74% adequate, 4% surplus. Soybeans 95% harvested, 99% 1998, 89% avg. Tobacco 28% stripped, 34% 1998, 31% avg. Clover, other hays 96% 4th cutting, 100% 1998, 97% avg. Alfalfa 95% 5th cutting, 89% 1998, 82% avg. Wheat 1% poor, 11% fair, 60% good, 28% excellent; 97% seeded, 99% 1998, 98% avg. Barley 1% poor, 16% fair, 66% good, 17% excellent. Rye 1% poor, 9% fair, 75% good, 15% excellent; 96% seeded, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 54% good, 15% excellent. Hay supplies 6% very short, 39% short, 54% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Soybean harvest almost completed, stripping of tobacco continued, hay harvesting virtually complete.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Corn harvest was nearly completed with good weather conditions to finish up harvests.

Temperatures were well above normal with near record highs in the beginning part of the week.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 18% very short, 34% short, 43% adequate, 5% surplus. Average temperatures for the week were 9.2° above normal. Rain, light snow fell on the southeastern part of the state. The Southeast District had the greatest average amount of precipitation, 1.06 inches, while the North Central, West Central Districts had the least, 0.01 inch. The warm weather, dry conditions this fall allowed many producers to complete the majority of fieldwork before the rain, snow.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Soil moisture, 17% very short, 32% short, 48% adequate, 3% surplus. Wheat 99% planted, 100% 1998, 97% avg.; 94% emerged, 96% 1998, 91% avg.; 5% poor, 35% fair, 52% good, 8% excellent. Hay supply 45% short, 50% adequate, 5% surplus. Cattle 1% very poor, 9% poor, 38% fair, 45% good, 7% excellent. Producers in many parts of the state continue to prepare their fields for next year. Most parts of the state are still in need of precipitation.

MISSOURI: Topsoil moisture remained very short to short. Showers in the week provided some relief to pastures, winter wheat crop. Stock ponds still in urgent need of run-off water. Farmers are hauling hay, preparing for the winter months.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil 17% very short, 34% short, 48% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 15% very short, 50% short, 35% adequate, 0% surplus. Wind damage to winter wheat 43% none, 43% light, 14% moderate, 0% heavy. Winter wheat protectiveness of snow cover 82% very poor, 7% poor, 6% fair, 5% good, 0% excellent. Cattle, calves moved from summer ranges 94%, 98% 1998, 97% avg. Sheep, lambs moved from summer ranges 97%, 99% 1998, 98% avg. Livestock grazing 91% open, 9% difficult, 0% closed. Other farming activities occurring: Fencing, shipping cattle to market, getting equipment ready for winter.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for field activities 5.6. Topsoil 51% very short, 42% short, 7% adequate. Subsoil moisture 48% very short, 39% short, 13% adequate. In the western portion of area, temperatures averaged 2 to 4° above normals. However, in the eastern half, temperatures averaged 5 to 8° above normals for the week. Precipitation across the State ranged from traces to nearly one, three-fourth inches at Falls City. Some wheat fields continued to show more bare ground than growing wheat. Wheat 10% very poor, 13% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, 5% excellent. Producers were moving cattle from one corn field to another because of completed grazing. Pasture, range 21% very poor, 34% poor, 31% fair, 14% good.. Producer activities included: Making decisions on seed to plant, reviewing yield data, decisions about herbicides for next year's crop season, shredding stalks, caring for livestock, cattle processing, marketing cattle, reviewing financial records.

NEVADA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE:

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil 3% short, 78% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil 6% short, 78% adequate, 16% surplus. Pasture feed 19% very poor, 11% poor, 27% fair, 41% good, 2% excellent. Major farm activities included: Cutting, selling Xmas trees; spreading manure; harvesting corn for grain; preparing equipment for winter storage.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 5. Adequate topsoil moisture, irrigation water supply were reported across the state. Temperatures averaged 51° North, 53° Central, 56° South. Extremes were 73° at Toms River on the 25th, 25° at Pemberton on the 29th. Weekly rainfall averaged 1.80 inches North, 1.14 inches Central, 0.79 inches South. The heaviest 24 hour total was 1.41 inches at Long Valley on the 26th to the 27th. Pastures are in fair condition. Farmers are busy with post-harvest field preparation. Planting of cover crops (wheat, rye) is still underway in many areas of the state. Harvest of corn, soybeans is still active in the central, northern counties. Below average corn, soybean yields are being reported. Some soybean fields in North Area will not be harvested due to

the combination of low market prices, low yields. Harvest of fall cabbage, spinach, greens, carrots, leeks, cauliflower, other minor vegetables is still occurring in some areas. Harvest of apples is virtually complete.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 6.5. Topsoil moisture declined further during the week. The unusually warm fall temperatures were finally broken by a cold snap that yielded only spotty, light precipitation from Farmington across to the far northeast plains near Clayton. Average weekly temperatures varied from 2 to 6° cooler than normal across western, northern areas of the State. The central valleys, much of the east central, southeast plains averaged a few degrees above normal. Main farm activities were: Harvesting sorghum, red chile, cotton, land leveling, irrigating wheat. The new onion crop was in mostly good condition. Pecans were also in good condition, with some harvesting taking place. Sorghum continued in mostly good condition as harvest is over for most farmers. Wheat was only in fair condition due to the dry weather. Ranchers were busy with repairing pipelines, installing drinkers, marketing calves, culling cows, supplemental feeding, general maintenance activities. Pasture, Range feed 6% very poor, 18% poor, 39% fair, 34% good, 3% excellent. Cattle, sheep conditions were in fair to good condition.

NEW YORK: Days suitable 5.0. Soil moisture 95% adequate, 5% surplus. Harvest activities neared completion. Orchard clean-up active. Packing, grading fruits, vegetable crops. Livestock good condition. Farmers preparing machinery for winter storage.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5 compared to 6.4 days last week. After consecutive dry weeks, Area received widespread rainfall accompanied by unseasonably warm weather. The rainfall hampered fieldwork in an already shortened holiday work-week in areas that still have a considerable amount of crops in the fields. Substantial precipitation in the previously dry Mountain region was welcomed. Currently, soil moisture across the State is rated 1% very short, 15% short, 61% adequate, 23% surplus. Cotton, soybean harvest dominated the field activities for the majority of the Coastal Plains. Farmers were able to make good progress in wheat planting but are still well behind the five-year average. Peanut, sorghum harvest is nearly complete. Other activities during the week included: Marketing Christmas trees, harvesting vegetable crops, field equipment service, repairs.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7 in the state which aided producers in finishing outside work. Topsoil 12% very short, 35% short, 51% adequate, 2% surplus. Producers were working on equipment in preparation for next season. . Dry conditions continued across the state.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 16% very short, 46% short, 37% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 14% excellent. Activities for the week include: Fall tillage, harvesting; stripping tobacco; land leveling; tiling; applying lime, fertilizer, manure; cleaning equipment; winterizing buildings; fencing corn fields for animal grazing; digging nursery stock; cutting firewood; inspecting livestock waste tanks; sowing cover crops hauling grain; hauling water, hay to livestock; weaning, selling calves.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 38% very short, 34% short, 28% adequate. Subsoil moisture 24% very short, 50% short, 26% adequate Prolonged dryness stresses wheat west. Warm November temperatures boost row crop harvest well ahead of avg. Oats 11% very poor, 23% poor, 35% fair, 31% good; 82% planted, 96% 1998, 90% avg.; 56% up-to-stand, 88% 1998, 78% avg. Sorghum 96% harvested, 95% 1998, 89% avg. Soybeans 97% harvested, 87% 1998, 88% avg. Peanuts 100% dug, 96% 1998, 97% avg.; 99% combined, 86% 1998, 92% avg. Alfalfa Hay 3% very poor, 16% poor, 31% fair, 47% good, 3% excellent; 94% 4th cutting, 94% 1998, 99% avg.; 47% 5th cutting, 51% 1998, 81% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 4% poor, 28% fair, 64% good, 3% excellent; Pasture, range 10% very poor, 25% poor, 40% fair, 24% good, 1% excellent. Prices for feeder cattle over 500 pounds steady.

OREGON: Activities: Winter wheat planting winding down to a finish. Christmas tree harvest continue's at a rapid pace. Livestock continued

to be fed. Holly harvest in full swing as growers prepare for holidays. This past week saw a major winter storm system come through the area. There were many reports of heavy rain, high winds associated with this front. Along the coast there were numerous reports rivers leaving their banks, flooding homes, businesses. Also there were several reports of roads being underwater, having buckled, mudslides covering some others.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for field work 4.7. Soil moisture 7% very short, 27% short, 65% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 93% harvested, 92% 1998, 87% avg. Soybeans 96% harvested, 96% 1998, 91% avg. Fall 91% plowing, 90% 1998, 94% avg. Wheat 98% emerged, 97% 1998. Activities include: Harvesting corn, soybeans; building, machinery maintenance; hauling, pumping, spreading manure; shredding, baling corn stocks; caring for livestock; buying, hauling hay; plowing for the fall.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Soil moisture 8% very short, 32% short, 57% adequate, 3% surplus. Livestock 3% poor, 24% fair, 58% good, 15% excellent. Pasture Feed 2% very poor, 13% poor, 41% fair, 40% good, 4% excellent. Sorghum 95% harvested, 100% 1998, 92% avg. Sweet Potatoes 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 87% avg. Winter Grazings 95% planted, 94% 1998, 93% avg.; 89% emerged, 83% 1998, 85% avg.; 6% poor, 40% fair, 51% good, 3% excellent. Winter Wheat 63% planted, 55% 1998, 58% avg.; 44% emerged, 41% 1998, 41% avg.; 1% very poor, 1% poor, 54% fair, 40% good, 4% excellent. Barley 97% planted, 100% 1998, 90% avg.; 80% emerged, 93% 1998, 85% avg.; 35% fair, 33% good, 32% excellent. Oats 95% planted, 89% 1998, 89% avg.; 81% emerged, 78% 1998, 80% avg.; 41% fair, 47% good, 12% excellent. Rye 93% planted, 92% 1998, 86% avg.; 86% emerged, 73% 1998, 73% avg.; 49% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent. Pecans 56% harvested, 67% 1998, 61% avg.; 71% fair, 29% good.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork, 6.0. Topsoil 30% very short, 34% short, 30% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture 16% very short, 30% short, 43% adequate, 11% surplus. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 7% poor, 31% fair, 53% good, 8% excellent; 100% planted, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; emerged 100%, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Precipitation of a trace to a few tenths inch did little to alleviate moisture stress on winter wheat, rye. Temperatures falling towards more seasonable levels have growers concerned about crops entering winter dormancy while moisture stressed.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 18% very short, 23% short, 58% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 20% very short, 24% short, 56% adequate. Burley 81% stripped, 84% 1998, 81% avg. Winter wheat 100% seeded, 98% 1998, 93% avg.; 91% emerged, 84% 1998; 3% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 50% good, 20% excellent. Several weak frontal boundaries moved through the State last week bringing much needed rainfall to portions of Middle, East Area. Temperatures remained quite mild across the State. The main field activities included: Wrapping up winter wheat seeding, preparing tobacco for market.

TEXAS: Harvest of remaining summer crops remained active. The first hard freeze occurred in the Plains following the passage of a weather front which also brought light rain showers to areas of North Central, East Area. Land preparation for the 2000 crops continued, but remained slow. Livestock forage conditions continued to decline, heavy supplemental feeding continued. General livestock conditions continued to decline in all areas of the state. Hauling water to livestock continued in many areas. In some areas livestock was being totally fed which prompted livestock sales. Citrus, vegetable harvest continued in the Rio Grande Valley.

Crops: Small Grains: Seeding of wheat, oats were minimal. A few growers were attempting to replant after severe seedling death had occurred. Aphid, Green bug populations increased in many locations. Statewide wheat condition was rated at 46% of normal compared with 71% 1998. Oats 80% Published, 92% 1998, 89% Avg. Cotton: Harvest continued as the first hard freeze occurred across the Plains which will aid in the harvest of the remaining cotton crop. Cotton stalk destruction continued to be active where cotton was being harvested. In a few locations, boll weevils counts were increasing prior to the freeze. Peanuts: Harvest was mostly completed on the Plains with generally good yields. In other areas, baling of peanuts due to the dry conditions was mostly

complete. Harvested 82% Published, 85% 1998, 87% Avg. Sorghum: Harvest continued to wind down on the High Plains. The hard freeze that occurred across the Plains removed the possibility of further sprouting in the head which had occurred in a few locations. Harvested 99% Published, 94% 1998, 97% Avg. Soybeans: Harvest of remaining fields continued on the High Plains, but was mostly completed. Yields remained favorable. Published 99%, 92% 1998, 98% Avg.

Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans: Rio Grande Valley, harvest continued active for bell peppers, greens, cabbage, early citrus. Onions continued to make good progress, land preparation remained active for further plantings. Harvesting of sugarcane remained active. San Antonio-Winter Garden, Harvest of cabbage, carrots, broccoli, bell peppers, greens continued. Land preparation for later winter vegetables remained active. East Area, Showers aided in the planting of fall crops, gardens as land preparation continued. Pine tree harvest continued. High Plains, bean harvest neared completion with generally good yields. Carrot and turnip was mostly completed. The colder temperatures enhanced harvest activities which continued to increase across the state. Quality remained variable. Evidence of summer insect damage became more noticeable.

Range and Livestock: General livestock conditions remained poor. Herd reduction continued to increase as supplemental, or total feeding continued. Hauling water to livestock also became more prevalent. Livestock sickness, mainly pneumonia, continued to occur as a result of the continued dry, dusty conditions. Grazing of wheat, oat occurred generally where irrigation was possible. Hay supplies continued to decrease as total feeding began in some areas.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 6. Topsoil 29% very short, 39% short, 32% adequate. Counties throughout the state continue to be in need of precipitation.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil 1% very short, 14% short, 78% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 27% short, 57% adequate, 5% surplus. Beef Cattle Forage Obtained from Pastures 54%. Milk Cow Forage Obtained from Pastures 13%. Sheep Forage Obtained from Pastures 62%. Pastures 5% very poor, 15% poor, 35% fair, 39% good, 6% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 11% excellent. Small Grain, Winter Grazing Crops 0% very poor, 6% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 8% excellent. Soybeans 80% harvested, 83% 1998, 76% avg.; 6% very poor, 13% poor, 32% fair, 39% good, 10% excellent. Winter Wheat 90% seeded, 89% 1998, 87% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 28% fair, 58% good, 9% excellent. Barley 1% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 71% good, 4% excellent. Cotton 81% harvested, 100% 1998, 89% avg. Average temperatures were in the mid-to upper-fifties across the Commonwealth during the past week. Daytime highs for many localities reached into the seventies. Nighttime lows were in the mid- to lower-thirties. Many localities recorded precipitation occurring over several days, however, accumulation was limited. Topsoil moisture levels improved. Ground water supplies remain slightly diminished. Pasture feed improved slightly during the previous week due to increased moisture. However, growth was minimal due to cold overnight temperatures. Livestock producers continued to provide supplemental hay to their herds. The number of beef cattle obtaining the majority of forage requirements from pasture declined slightly. The condition rating of animals increased slightly over the past week. The increase is attributed to mild temperatures, improved pasture feed. Damp weather hampered harvest progress of remaining acres of summer, fall crops. Corn producers completed harvest of corn for grain. Good yields have been reported in most localities. Eighty percent of soybean acreage has been harvested. Producers are slightly behind last year but ahead of the 5-year average. Producers have been pleasantly surprised by good yields. Small grain producers completed seeding next year's barley crop, made good progress seeding wheat acreage. Ninety percent of areas's wheat acreage has been seeded, slightly ahead of 1998, the 5-year avg. Previously seeded acres of both small grains have been rated in mostly good to excellent condition. Producers continue to scout for aphids. Cotton producers remain slightly behind a normal harvest schedule. Eighty-one percent of areas's cotton acreage has been picked, compared to the five-year average of 89%. Other activities during the past week included: Grading of tobacco, fall-calving, fencing for fall grazing, removing plastic, drip irrigation lines from fields, attending pesticide re-certification meetings, mowing cotton stalks, planting cover crops, winterizing equipment.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 20% short, 75% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 62% short, 30% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat dryland 9% poor, 70% fair, 21% good. Winter wheat irrigated 100% good. Winter wheat 100% planted, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 100% emerged, 100% 1998, 98% avg. The 2000 winter wheat crop had been planted, emerged. Continued precipitation, mild weather helped the planted winter wheat. Herbicides were being applied to control the downy brome emergence. Hay, other roughage supplies were 15% short, 70% adequate, 15% surplus. Range, pasture 20% poor, 50% fair, 30% good. U-cut Christmas tree farms were opened for business. Most lowland areas in western area on were under water do to the heavy rain that fell in the last couple of weeks. Grapes, fruit trees were being pruned, corn for grain, sugar beets were both still being harvested.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 9% very short, 39% short, 52% adequate. Some much needed precipitation helped restore moisture supplies, improve pasture feeds. Hay 3rd cut 98%. Corn 94% harvested, 95% 1998, 89% 5-yr avg. Wheat 7% poor, 40% fair, 53% good; Wheat emerged 73%, 88% 1998. Cattle 2% very poor, 8% poor, 31% fair, 57% good, 2% excellent. Sheep 1% poor, 28% fair, 67% good, 4% excellent.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Soil Moisture 20% very short, 50% short, 30% adequate. Significant rainfall was received over most of the state during the past week. Snowfall occurred in the North-Central region of the state, with total accumulations reaching 12 inches near Lake Superior. Temperatures averaged 38° state wide, 9° above the 30-year avg.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 4% very short, 59% short, 37% adequate. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 55% short, 42% adequate. Average depth of snow cover 0.2 inches. Most counties have none. Condition of winter wheat crop 3% poor, 25% fair, 71% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat wind damage 86% none, 13% light, 1% moderate. Winter wheat freeze damage 95% none, 5% light. Cattle 3% fair, 92% good, 5% excellent. Sheep 4% fair, 94% good, 2% excellent. Hay, roughage supplies 57% adequate, 43% surplus. Temperatures were generally above normal with scattered, light precipitation across the State.