ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil 43% very short, 33% short, 24% adequate. Hot, dry weather continued to cause crop conditions to be rated mostly fair to good. Soil moisture very short to short. Corn dough 91%, denting 88%, 99% 1998, 98% avg.; mature 76%, 84% 1998, 80% avg.; harvested 35%, 44% 1998, 32% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 24% fair, 49% good, 23% excellent. Pasture feed 19% very poor, 25% poor, 36% fair, 19% good, 1% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 6% poor, 46% fair, 39% good, 8% excellent.

ALASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.3. Topsoil 100% adequate. Subsoil 5% short, 95% adequate. Weather conditions cloudy, damp. Daytime high temperatures were mostly in the 60s. Nighttime lows were mostly in the 40s. Some lows in the upper twenties were reported in the Tanana, Copper River Valleys. Oats 5% turning color or earlier, 95% ripe. Barley 85% ripe or earlier, 5% swathed, 10% harvested. Second cutting hay harvest 5% complete. Commercial storage potato harvest just starting. Wind damage to crops 75% none, 20% light, 5% moderate. Major activities included: Cutting hay, harvesting vegetables, grains, hay, killing vines on potato fields.

ARIZONA: Pasture conditions steadily improved throughout the State last month with the continuing summer monsoons. Pastures throughout the state ranged from excellent to good condition. Livestock were reported in good condition. Many ranchers are reporting widespread rains and no supplemental feeding. Ranges are greening up, but need more time to bulk. Both stock water, soil moisture were adequate. Insect damage was light. Overall, Northern grazing conditions improved in August going from good to fair in July to excellent to good condition. All pastures were in excellent to good condition. Cattle were reported in good condition. Stock water supplies, soil moisture were both reported as adequate. Many ranchers are reporting drought conditions have ended with the arrival of widespread rains. Insect damage was light. Central areas pasture conditions were in good to fair condition overall. All pastures were reported as being in good to fair condition. Livestock conditions were fair to good and stock water was reported as adequate while soil moisture was short to adequate. Ranchers reported that the ranges had received heavy rains and grasses were greening up, but need more time to bulk. Insect damage was light. Southern pasture conditions at all elevations were in excellent to good condition. Livestock conditions were good to excellent with no supplemental feeding reported for the month of August. Both stock water, soil moisture were short to adequate, insect damage was very light. Cotton continues to progress. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 27% not being harvested, 6% light, 33% moderate, 34% active. Alfalfa 4% poor, 19% fair, 65% good, 12% excellent.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 50% very short, 41% short, 8% adequate, 1% surplus. Temperatures remained well above average for the week. Some areas received welcomed rainfall last week, not enough to end the drought conditions. Eastern areas received little if any rain. Rain was needed for pasture growth. Irrigated crops were reported in good condition, dryland crop conditions declined. Livestock were reported in fair condition, but the hot, humid weather, lack of grazing was causing deaths in poultry, livestock. Many farmers were having to feed hay because of the drought. Main farm activities were: Fertilizing cotton, corn, rice, warm season forages, finishing harvesting hay and planning for fall pastures. Other activities: Brush hogging, irrigating corn, soybeans, cotton, sorghum, draining of rice, cultivating cotton, spraying cotton for insects, other fields for insects and weeds, getting fields ready for wheat planting, starting corn, sorghum, pea, rice harvesting, scouting for and treating webworms in soybeans, treating crop lands for armyworms, spraying of rice, cotton, soybean fields for weeds, tree fruit and small fruit harvesting, melon harvesting, dusting and ear tagging cattle for external parasites, giving Brucellosis vaccinations, pregnancy checking spring bred cows, selling cull cows, and weaning calves. Cotton 42% opening bolls: 10% poor 31% fair 43% good 16% excellent. Soybeans 99% bloomed, 88% setting pods, 5% shedding; 7% very poor 16% poor 32% fair 33% good 12% excellent. Sorghum 100% headed, 93% turning color, 53% mature, 10% harvested; 2% very poor 12% poor 39% fair 39% good 8% excellent. Alfalfa 10% very poor 20% poor 45% fair 25% good. Other hay 15% very poor 35% poor 36% fair 14% good. Range, pastures feed 22% very poor, 39% poor, 31% fair, 8% good.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally under favorable conditions in most areas. Seedbed preparations for fall-seeded small grain was completed. Rice, although development remained behind normal. Cotton bolls were opening in the southern San Joaquin Valley, growers were spraying for aphids, armyworms, leafhoppers, lygus and mites. Garbanzo and black eye beans were being harvested; later maturing fields were treated for insects. Safflower harvest was nearing completion in southern counties. Seed alfalfa harvest was rapidly winding down. Sunflowers were sprayed for weeds, vineseed was harvested in the Sacramento Valley. Sugar beets were being harvested in the San Joaquin Valley; less mature sugar beet fields were treated for armyworms. Corn silage was active in most growing areas. Alfalfa and Sudan grass were cut for hay or green chopp. Some alfalfa fields were treated for armyworms. Harvest of grapes for fresh use gained momentum in the San Joaquin Valley. Varieties picked included Red Globe, Flame Seedless, Thompson Seedless. Grapes for raisins were laid. Picking of early wine grapes continued. Other cultural activities included irrigation, extensive weed control in vineyards and orchards. Harvest of stone fruit was slowing. Picking of early variety apples was active. Bartlett pear harvest was active in Lake, Mendocino counties. Asian pear harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvest of early variety almonds continued. Walnuts were treated for codling moth. Some early varieties were harvested. Valencia oranges, lemons were picked in southern areas. Olives were maturing well. Central valley farmers were planting strawberries. Harvest of vegetable commodities continued. Melons were harvested; some fields were treated for beetle infestations. Some tomato fields were treated for worms, aphids. Fresh, processing tomatoes were being harvested. String bean, lima bean harvests began in the Merced area. Carrots, onions, sweet potatoes were dug. Fall broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce planting was underway. Emerged fields from earlier plantings were being irrigated. Ground preparation was underway for fall planting of spinach. Among the many vegetable crops harvested were: Cucumbers, sweet corn, okra, eggplant, peppers, cherry tomatoes, squash, radishes. Irrigated pastures remained in fair to good condition. Non-irrigated pastures were rated poor to fair, with some in very poor condition. Lightning fires in northern areas have destroyed many thousands of acres of dry rangeland. Consequently, some winter cattle ranches will be stocked later than normal, after new grass becomes established, or hay supplements will need to be provided. Dry rangeland pastures in central areas were in poor to fair condition, depending how heavily they were
Adequate rain most citrus areas, some irrigation on high sand hills. Abundant new growth most trees. New crop sizing well with help of summer rains. Packing houses testing fruit for early shipments. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, fertilizing, pushing out dead trees, resetting. Pasture feed fair 10%, good 85%, excellent 5%. Cattle; fair 15%, good 85%. Range, cattle in fair to good condition in Panhandle, northern areas of Peninsula. Army worms active in central, west central areas. Central, stock pond water levels still low. West central; pastures fair, good grass growth. Southeast; standing water in several locations from unseasonable rains of 9 - 10 in.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 7% very short, 13% short, 67% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 6% very short, 22% short, 66% adequate, 6% surplus. Moderate to heavy thunderstorms accompanied by high winds and hail received in scattered localities at beginning of week and on the weekend, causing some crop damage. Winter wheat 2% seeded, 4% 1998, 3% avg. Spring wheat 97% turning color, 85% 1998, 95% avg.; 49% harvested, 51% 1998, 58% avg.; 11% poor, 16% fair, 54% good, 19% excellent. Spring barley 74% harvested, 71% 1998, 68% avg.; Oats 68% harvested, 74% 1998, 72% avg. Corn silage 2% harvested, 5% 1998, 1% avg. Dry onions 28% harvested, 41% 1998, 35% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 15% fair, 62% good, 17% excellent. Sugar beets 1% very poor, 3% poor, 15% fair, 54% good, 27% excellent. Dry beans 17% cut, 17% 1998, 13% avg.; 8% harvested, 3% 1998, 7% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 12% fair, 64% good, 20% excellent. Summer potatoes 47% harvested, 24% 1998, 35% avg.; 1% very poor, 6% poor, 12% fair, 60% good, 21% excellent. Fall potatoes 1% harvested, 2% 1998, 1% avg.; 7% poor, 18% fair, 45% good, 30% excellent. Alfalfa 94% 2nd cutting, 96% 1998, 92% avg.; 49% 3rd cutting, 32% 1998, 29% avg.; condition 5% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 54% good, 15% excellent. Range, pasture feed in mostly good condition.

DELWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 15% very short, 45% short, 40% adequate. Subsoil 23% very short, 61% short, 16% adequate. Field corn 18% very poor, 31% poor, 26% fair, 18% good, 7% excellent; 85% dough, 87% 1998, 86% avg.; 70% dented, 66% 1998, 64% avg.; 35% mature, 20% 1998, 17% avg.; 65% harvested for silage, 28% 1998, 28% avg. Soybeans 9% very poor, 22% poor, 27% fair, 42% good; 93% bloomed, 72% 1998, 72% avg.; 64% setting pods, 56% 1998, 43% avg.; 63% avg.; 12% turned, 9% 1998, 4% avg.; 15% shedding leaves, 13% 1998, 12% avg. Sorghum 2% poor, 69% fair, 29% good; 95% headed, 73% 1998, 87% avg.; 35% turned, 23% 1998, 14% avg. Sweet corn 79% harvested, 69% 1998, 84% avg. Snap beans 77% harvested, 71% 1998, 78% avg. Cantaloupes 88% harvested, 76% 1998, 85% avg. Watermelons 80% harvested, 67% 1998, 76% avg. Cucumbers 77% harvested, 74% 1998, 85% avg. Lima beans 45% harvested, 40% 1998, 41% avg. Tomatoes 72% harvested, 69% 1998, 76% avg. Potatoes 89% harvested, 79% 1998, 86% avg. Apples 6% fair, 94% good; 39% harvested, 34% 1998, 33% avg. Peaches 89% harvested, 78% 1998, 85% avg. Clover, other hay 88% 3rd cutting, 71% 1998, 71% avg.; 31% 4th cutting, 26% 1998, 31% avg. Alfalfa hay 35% 4th cutting, 24% 1998, 20% avg. Hay supplies 10% very short, 51% short, 39% adequate. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 58% poor, 27% fair, 11% good. Activities: Much needed rain for State's pastures improving, some allowing farmers to start harvesting 4th cutting of hay.

HAWAII: Weather conditions were generally favorable for agriculture. Mostly sunny skies, light to moderate winds aids crop progress. Rainfall was generally light, limited to windward areas. Banana fields in good to fair condition. Harvesting very active. Spraying intensified in some areas to combat diseases. Papaya orchards in mostly good condition. Warm weather favorable for fruit ripening. Some areas in need of more rain. Head cabbage harvesting was steady. Irrigation is heavy to combat drought stress. Overall, pasture condition was good. Tomato harvesting active. Crop in fair to good condition.


ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 14% very short, 36% short, 48% adequate, 2% surplus. Though scattered showers were reported across most of the State last week, the southern districts are suffering from continued dry conditions, where topsoil moisture is mostly short to very short. Soybeans in the south, especially double crop, are deteriorating quickly, with some major losses reported. Corn harvest has begun in some areas. There are reports of stock rot, lodging and
significant ear mold problems occurring in fields that were damaged by the storms that went through central Illinois a couple weeks ago. Other activities last week included baling hay, chopping silage, hauling grain, preparing harvest equipment. Alfalfa third cut 79%, 68% 1998, 60% avg.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 28% very short, 43% short, 29% adequate. Subsoil 35% very short, 47% short, 18% adequate. Topsoil, subsoil remain dry. Corn harvest underway, southwest areas. Rain some areas. Most of the State received less than one-half inch. Corn, soybean condition good to excellent. Soybean condition 31% good to excellent. Pastures dried up, most areas. Range, pasture feed 28% very poor, 37% poor, 28% fair, 7% good. Feeding hay continues. Third cutting alfalfa 95% complete, 75% 1998. Tobacco 45% 2nd cutting, 4% 20% mature, 23% 1998, 13% avg. 7%; harvested for grain, 6% 1998, 2% avg.; harvested for silage, 22% 1998, 13% avg. Soybeans 10% very poor, 23% very poor, 37% 20% mature, 23% 1998, avg. 2%; harvested for silage, 22% 1998, 13% avg. Tobacco 9% very poor, 20% very poor, 29% poor, 42% 12% 1998, avg. 1%; harvested for silage, 22% 1998, 13% avg. Tobacco 2% very poor, 10% poor, 40% 41% good, 7% excellent. Vegetables 13% very poor, 25% poor, 38% fair, 22% good, 2% excellent. Pastures, hay fields were wilting.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Soil moisture 45% very short, 31% short, 22% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 96% harvested, 88% 1998, 75% avg.; harvest was almost complete. Some cotton did not reach a sufficient height due to the heat, dry conditions. Hay 65% final cutting, 57% 1998, 71% avg. Rice 92% ripe, 91% 1998, 81% avg. Sorghum 73% harvested, 53% 1998, 38% avg. Soybeans 46% leaves turning, 44% 1998, 27% avg.; drying up before filling the pods, hurting yields and quality. Sugarcane 1% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 49% good, 33% excellent; 74% planted, 11% 1998, 19% avg. Sweet potatoes 8% poor, 40% fair, 50% good, 2% excellent; 16% harvested, 12% 1998, 15% avg. Farmers needed to monitor the moisture potential of their potato crop. Livestock 2% very poor, 10% poor, 40% fair, 41% good, 7% excellent. Vegetables 13% very poor, 25% poor, 38% fair, 22% good, 2% excellent.
of the Southwest District. Most field corn has developed to the point where additional rainfall will not be very beneficial. In contrast with corn, soybeans can still benefit from some well-timed rains where pods are still filling. Soybeans 18% turning yellow, 20% 1998, 12% avg. Winter wheat 3% seeded, 23% 1998, 14% avg. Rye 7% seeded, 25% 1998, 18% avg. Sweet corn 59% harvested, 75% 1998, 59% avg. Potatoes 10% harvested, 10% 1998, 8% avg. Grain/Hay stubble plowed 33%, 49% 1998, 31% avg. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 13% poor, 25% fair, 48% good, 10% excellent. Alfalfa second cutting 67%, 77% 1998, 73% avg. Other hay harvested 92%, 95% 1998, 96% avg. There are reports of small grains being behind schedule and in poor condition. Reports in Glacier county are indicating short straw length and empty heads as a result of frost damage in July. Some areas of the state are reporting poor crop yields due to lack of moisture during the growing season.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Soil moisture 35% very short, 34% short, 30% adequate, 1% surplus. Above average temperatures, dry conditions continue to prevail across the state. Some widely scattered showers moved across the state last week. Corn 98% mature, 93% 1998, 83% avg.; 70% harvested, 67% 1998, 65% avg.; 93% silage harvested, 85% 1998, 79% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 55% good, 20% excellent. Cotton 80% open bolls, 70% 1998, 48% avg.; 4% very poor, 10% poor, 28% fair, 48% good, 10% excellent. Rice 97% heading, 95% 1998, 96% avg.; 45% mature, 40% 1998 43% avg.; 9% harvested, 19% 1998, 13% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 34% fair, 45% good, 15% excellent. Sorghum 99% turning color, 95% 1998, 92% avg.; 92% mature, 68% 1998, 65% avg.; 56% harvested, 43% 1998, 27% avg.; 60% silage harvested, 64% 1998, 45% avg.; 5% very poor, 8% poor, 22% fair, 46% good, 13% excellent. Soybeans 71% turning color, 51% 1998, 35% avg.; 51% sheding leaves, 25% 1998, 17% avg.; 16% harvested. NA 1998, 1% avg.; 8% very poor, 19% poor, 27% fair, 35% good, 11% excellent. Sweet potatoes 10% harvested, 14% 1998, 16% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 41% fair, 56% good. Hay (warm-season) 83% harvested, 83% 1998, 86% avg. Watermelons 93% harvested, 92% 1998, 96% avg. Cattle, 2% very poor, 10% poor, 35% fair, 45% good, 8% excellent. Pasture feed 15% very poor, 24% poor, 41% fair, 18% good, 2% excellent.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil continues to decline 51% very short, 38% short, 11% adequate. Precipitation for week ending August 29, 1999 avg. 0.29 in. Extremely dry weather continues to stress crops, pastures. Nearly all areas of the State are in urgent need of rain for soybeans, pastures. Corn 10% harvested, almost the same as 1998, eight days ahead of normal. Bootheel is well advanced with 36% of the corn harvested. Farmers that have livestock, available facilities are cutting drought damaged corn for silage. Ninety-eight percent of all soybeans have bloomed and 85% were setting pods. Lack of rain is preventing soybean pods from filling out normally. Grain sorghum is behind last year in coloring, but ahead of normal for the proportion mature due to early ripening in the Bootheel. Fifty-three percent of the cotton crop is opening bolls, 9 days ahead of 1998. Pasture feed 32% very poor, 32% poor, 27% fair, 9% good. Stock water supply conditions 16% very short, 27% short, 57% adequate. South-central reported over 85% in the very short to short condition.

MONTANA: There were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork. A few, spotty locations reported receiving good amounts of moisture. However, weather conditions were hot and dry for a majority of the state as most locations reported either small amounts of moisture of no precipitation at all. Topsoil moisture 25% very short, 45% short, 29% adequate, and 1% surplus. Most hay fields are still in fair to excellent condition, except for Elko, where temperatures dipped below normal 27th, 28th. Ely lead the State in precipitation with 0.55 in., though precipitation was reported throughout the State during the early part of the week. Third cutting of alfalfa continued with some rain damage reported. Some areas are preparing for fourth cutting alfalfa. Grain harvest continued, all grains remained in fair to excellent condition. Onion harvest commenced. Mint harvest was half way through completion. Cantaloupe harvest was well over half way to completion. Garlic harvest continued. Preparations for digging potatoes, harvesting alfalfa seed were underway. Main farm, ranch activities: Harvesting alfalfa, grain harvest, alfalfa seed and potato harvest preparation, some irrigating, working cattle.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Statewide, temperatures ranged from 1 to 6 degrees above normals with warmest temperatures being in Panhandle and North Central areas. Precipitation averaged from traces to 3.09 inches at Imperial. Topsoil moisture condition rated 9% very short, 42% short, 46% adequate, 3% surplus; subsoil moisture condition rated 7% very short, 7% short, 58% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn condition rated 2% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 51% good, and 20%; dryland corn rated 58%, irrigated corn rated 79% in good and excellent. Corn Dough rated 91%, below 93% last year, ahead of 86% avg.; corn dented moved to 52% behind 67% last year, ahead of 45% avg.; corn matured 2%, below 3% last year, but same as avg...Gray leaf spot was noted in some corn fields. Soybeans setting pod rated 98%, behind 99% last year, but just above 97% avg.; soybean conditions rated 2% very poor, 9% poor, 29% fair, 44% good, and 16% excellent; coloring rated 6%, compared to 7% last year and 10% avg. Some fields hadpod not filling, others indicated some pods were dropping. Sorghum heading near completion at 94%, just below last year’s 99% and 95% avg.; turning color moved slowly to 28%, compared to 55% last year, 37% avg.; sorghum condition rated 6% poor, 31% fair, 51% good, and 12% excellent. Dry beans turning color rated 70%, well ahead of 31% last year, and 48% dry bean conditions rated 5% very poor, 10% poor, 25% fair, 56% good, and 4% excellent. Alfalfa conditions rated 2% very poor, 8% poor, 26% fair, 56% good, and 8% excellent; alfalfa third cutting was 83%, just above last year’s 75%, but ahead of 685 average. Pasture and range conditions rated 3% very poor, 10% poor, 31% fair, 49% good, 7% excellent. Pastures were short and supplemental feeding required. Producer activities included moving grain, haying prairies, preparations for seeding wheat, fertilizer application, irrigating, field demonstrations of seed companies’ test plots, silage cutting, marketing of yearlings, and preparations of harvest equipment.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 22% very short, 48% short, 30% adequate. Subsoil 43% very short, 33% short, 24% adequate. Pasture feed 26% very poor, 31% poor, 31% fair, 10% good, 2% excellent. Maine potatoes 5% harvested, 5% 1998, <5% avg.; excellent to good. Massachusetts potatoes 40% harvested, 45% 1998, 40% avg.; condition good to fair. Rhode Island potatoes 40% harvested, 15% 1998, 20% avg.; condition fair to poor. Oats in Maine 60% harvested, 50% 1998, 40% avg.; condition good to excellent. Bailey in Maine 80% harvested, 55% 1998; condition good to excellent. Field corn 10% harvested, <5% 1998, <5% avg.; condition good to fair. Sweet corn 70% harvested, 65% 1998, 70% avg.; condition good to fair. Shade Tobacco 95% harvested, 100% 1998, 90% avg., condition good. Broadleaf Tobacco 99% harvested, 90% 1998, 85% avg.; condition good. Second cut hay 95% harvested, 75% 1998, 75% avg.; condition good to fair. Third cut hay 45% harvested, 25% 1998, 30% average; condition fair. Apples 10% harvested, 15% 1998, 15% avg.; size average to below average, condition good to fair. Peaches 65% harvested, 80% 1998, 70% avg.; size average to below average, condition fair. Pears 10% harvested, 15% 1998, 20% avg.; size below average to average, condition fair. Cranberries size average to above average, condition good to excellent. Highbush blueberries 90% harvested, 95% 1998, 90% avg.; size average, condition good to fair. Wild Blueberries 99% harvested, 95% 1998, 90% avg.; size average, condition good to fair. Major farm activities included:

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Temperatures much above normal. Extremes 47°F; 95°F. Rainfall 1.76 in. north, 2.01 in. central, 1.46 in. south. The hottest 24 hour total 2.60 in. at Canoe Brook on the 25th to the 26th. Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 83% north, 83% central, 71% south. Four inch soil temperatures 69°F north, 72°F central, 73°F south. Irrigation water supply is between short and adequate in most areas. Field corn condition is poor in most areas despite the recent rains. Many corn fields that were originally intended for grain are now being cut for silage. Soybeans condition is between fair and poor across the state. Few late planted soybean fields have benefitted from the rainfall, especially in northern areas where some additional growth, pod setting have been reported. Alfalfa, other hay crops are between fair, poor condition. Higher yields are expected from the third cutting if weather permits. Pasture condition has improved considerably in some areas. Supplemental feeding of cattle is still occurring. Harvest of summer vegetable crops is in full swing. Tomatoes are between good, fair condition. Rains have caused some skin cracking problems in some tomato fields. Peppers, snap beans, cucumbers fields are also between good, fair condition. Some disease problems arose in pepper fields due to the excess moisture. Potato sizes have been reported to be somewhat smaller than normal. Yields are down. Planting of fall spinach, cabbage and lettuce continued. Harvest of peaches is at its peak with good quality being reported. Early variety of apples are also being harvested and the quality has also been rated as good. The recent rains were on time to help the fruit sizing of both peaches, apples.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Hot, dry conditions across most of the State allowed harvest of hay, vegetable crops to progress nicely. Scattered showers, thunderstorms favored the western section of State once again, with most of the Eastern Plains remaining hot, dry. Statewide temperature average was 2°F above normal, although a few spots in the east were 4 to 6°F above. Planting of wheat, lettuce were well underway. As hay harvest continued the only rain damage was reported in the extreme northwest. Chile, silage harvest remained active. Ranchers continued to report good weight gains with no supplemental feeding. Pasture, range feed 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 63% good, 10% excellent. Cattle, sheep conditions remained in mostly good to excellent condition.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil moisture 26% very short, 48% short, 26% adequate. Rainfall improved moisture supplies, crops and pastures. Pasture feed 58% poor, 22% fair, 2% good. Corn 11% poor, 46% fair, 35% good, 8% excellent. Hay 26% poor, 48% fair, 26% good. Alfalfa 2nd cutting finished, 3rd cutting 68% complete, 49% 1998, 44% avg. Clover 3rd cutting 41% finished, 25% 1998, 32% avg. Potato digging underway. Oats 96% harvested, 92% 1998, 70% avg. Dry bean harvest began. Vegetable harvesting continued in full swing. Recent rainfall benefitted late season vegetables. Grape harvest started, quality reported good. Peach harvest winding down. Apple picking gained momentum.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2 compared to 6.4 last week. For the second consecutive week, North Carolina received much needed rainfall. Precipitation was widespread as storms produced high winds and hail which caused localized damage to some crops. There has been no significant pest pressure this week. Farmers report a light brown spot on corn, soybeans; leaf hoppers in alfalfa; rootworms, earworms in corn; beetles in soybeans, corn. Reported diseases include bacterial leaf spot, anthracnose, white mold, root rot in soybeans; gray leaf spot, smut, fungus on corn, blossom end rot, blight on tomatoes, scab on apples, mildew on vegetables. Fruit, vegetable conditions range from good to poor. In Fulton county, onions are rotting, yield is low on tomatoes. In Huron county, pumpkins are ripening early. Drought damage was reported on nurseries in Lake County. In Meigs county, second crop sweet corn is under irrigation. Rain came too late for most of the fruit, vegetable crops in the southeastern part of the State. Pasture, grass conditions are still poor but improving with recent rain. Many reporters comment that grass is greening but there is very little or no growth. Livestock are in mostly good condition with weight gain, milk production up as a result of cooler weather. Depleted water supplies, no pasture is still prompting producers to either sell livestock or haul water, hay.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Several days of excellent weather across the state allowed good progress on small grain harvest. In addition to combining, fall tillage was a major activity for the week. Topsoil 2% very short, 13% short, 78% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 11% short, 75% adequate, 12% surplus. Durum wheat 97% milk, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 80% turning, 99% 1998, 92% avg.; 19% combined, 54% 1998, 33% avg. Canola 95% turning, 99% 1998; 77% swath; 93% 1998; 28% combined, 65% 1998. Corn for grain 98% milk, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 47% denting, 66% 1998, 44% avg. Dry edible beans 87% fully peddled, 100% 1998, 98% avg.; 60% lower leaves yellowing, 96% 1998, 84% avg.; 31% mature, 81% 1998, 56% avg. Flaxseed 78% turning, 98% 1998, 87% avg.; 16% combined, 45% 1998, 18% avg. Potatoes 37% vines killed, 56% 1998, 37% avg. Soybeans 90% fully peddled, 93% 1998, 92% avg.; 26% lower leaves yellowing, 40% 1998, 38% avg; 3% mature; 9% 1998, 8% avg. Sunflowers 97% blooming, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 30% ray flowers dried, 70% 1998, 59% avg.; 4% bracts turned yellow, 27% 1998, 19% avg. Dry bean harvest, soybeans are still below average for the season. Soybeans are still being reported. Early variety of apples are also being harvested and the quality has also been rated as good. The recent rains were on time to help the fruit sizing of both peaches, apples.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 21% very short, 35% short, 43% adequate, 1% surplus. Soybeans dropping leaves 17%, 3% 1998, 2% avg. Soybeans mature 2%, 0% 1998, 0% avg. Alfalfa hay 3rd cutting 79%, 74% 1998, 54% avg. Alfalfa hay 4th cutting 20%, 14% 1998. Other hay 2nd cutting 93%, 98% 1998, 95% avg. Other hay 3rd cutting 40%, 44% 1998, 27% avg. Corn in dough 93%, 84% 1998, 83% avg. Corn dented 62%, 38% 1998, 28% avg. Corn mature 9%, 1% avg. Corn harvested for silage, 17%, 4% 1998, 3% avg. Summer apples harvested 87%, 89% 1998, 56% avg. Fall and winter apples harvested, 5%, 0% avg. Apples harvested 79%, 92% 1998. Tobacco topped, 83%, 78% 1998. Tobacco harvested, 22%, 21% 1998. Processing tomatoes harvested 34%, 21% 1998, 20% avg. Potatoes harvested 54%, 59% 1998, 34% avg. Pasture 28% very poor, 27% poor, 31% fair, 13% good, 1% excellent. Corn 9% very poor, 18% poor, 36% fair, 32% good, 5% excellent. Soybeans 7% very poor, 14% poor, 38% fair, 35% good, 6% excellent. Activities for the week include making hay; mowing, seeding CRP; chopping wheat stubble; picking tomatoes, digging potatoes; chopping silage; plowing wheat ground; applying minerals; seeding filter strips; haulage grain; installing tile; leveling land; constructing, cleaning grain bins; haulage manure; scouting for insects, disease; preparing for harvest; selling livestock; spraying, topping, cutting tobacco; haulage water; irrigating specialty crops; attaining fairs. Reported weed pressures include yellow foxtail, pigweed, velvetleaf, lambs quarters, Canadian thistle, giant ragweed, poison ivy, morning glory, sourdock, quack grass, Johnson grass, mare’s tail, ironweed, wild carrot, and smartweed. Reported insects include spider mites and nematodes on soybeans; leaf hoppers in alfalfa; rootworms, earworms in corn; beetles in soybeans, corn. Reported diseases include bacterial leaf spot, anthracnose, white mold, root rot in soybeans; gray leaf spot, smut, fungus on corn, blossom end rot, blight on tomatoes, scab on apples, mildew on vegetables. Fruit, vegetable conditions range from good to poor. In Fulton county, onions are rotting, yield is low on tomatoes. In Huron county, pumpkins are ripening early. Drought damage was reported on nurseries in Lake county. In Meigs county, second crop sweet corn is under irrigation. Rain came too late for most of the fruit, vegetable crops in the southeastern part of the State. Pasture, grass conditions are still poor but improving with recent rain. Many reporters comment that grass is greening but there is very little or no growth. Livestock are in mostly good condition with weight gain, milk production up as a result of cooler weather. Depleted water supplies, no pasture is still prompting producers to either sell livestock or haul water, hay.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Subsoil 15% very short, 41% short, 44% adequate. Topsoil 28% very short, 58% short, 14% adequate. Hot, dry weather stifled growth, development of dryland field crops. Condition ratings slide downward. Wheat 60% seeded prepared, 45% 1998, 55% avg.; 2% planted, 0% 1998, 4% avg. Oats 55% seeded
OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 30% very short, 52% short, 18% adequate. Subsoil 27% very short, 48% short, 25% adequate. Barley harvested 62%, 80% 1998, 70% avg. Spring wheat harvested 85%, 90% 1998. Winter wheat harvested 95%, 97% 1998, 96% avg. Range, pasture feed 4% very poor, 21% poor, 35% fair, 38% good, 2% excellent. Activities: Westside producers harvesting small grains, grass seed. Bunting, straw baling well along in the Willamette Valley, hay harvesting continuing in the McNary and Valley Mill-Freewater area. Fall tillage operations continued. Sugarbeet seed harvest started, new fields being planted for next year. Small grain harvest nearly complete in the Mid-Columbia Basin, while in central, the northeast portions, harvest not even half done. Haying continued, seeding of winter wheat, Canola started in early seeding areas of Northeast. Irrigation, summer maintenance is the main activity at nurseries, greenhouses. Easter lily transplanting continued in Southern Coast. Insect spraying finished on Christmas trees. Noble Fir Christmas tree topping finished. Douglas Fir shearing continued. Sweet corn moving rapidly to processors, green beans winding down, most potatoes had been harvested in Willamette Valley. Broccoli harvest continued & tomatoes ripe, ready. Klamath Basin reported potatoes being knocked down. Onion harvest underway in Northeast, with yields down due to cool spring. Potato harvest continued with high levels of Potato Leafroll virus reported in some fields. Vegetable harvest in 3% excellent, 54% good, 42% avg. Others: The Columbia Valley, blackberry & blueberry harvest continued. Raspberry & Marionberry pruning underway & strawberry field renovation winding down. Early apple & peach harvest continued. In some areas of the valley pear harvest underway. Hazelnuts continued to mature. In the Rogue River Valley, pear harvest in full swing. The storm that hit the area on August 23 damaged about 15% of the total crop. Peaches & late berries also being picked. Gala apples in picking underway in Milton-Freewater. On the south coast cranberry growers taking leaf samples to monitor nutrient levels. In the Hood River Valley, Bartlett pear harvest began in the lower valley. Livestock in good to excellent condition in all parts of the state. Ranges & pastures are getting very dry & with several of lighting strikes last week in Eastside. High smoke levels reported in the Klamath Falls area from fires in California. Western Valleys pastures have only dry feed left & supplement feeding underway.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Soil moisture 19% very short, 48% short, 33% adequate. Corn dough 70% complete, 73% 1998, 69% avg.; dent 43% complete, 27% 1998, 27% avg.; mature 5% harvested, 3%, 98%, 3% avg. Ensilage corn harvested 22% complete, 3%, 98%, 5% avg. Soybean 15% very poor, 25% poor, 43% fair, 14% good, 3% excellent. Oats 98% harvested, 90% 1998, 90% avg. Tobacco harvest 8% complete, 63%, 98%, 44% avg. Potato harvest 23% complete, 13%, 98%, 23% avg. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 69% complete, 64%, 98%, 59% avg. Alfalfa 4th cutting 23% complete, 22%, 1998, 15% avg. Timothy clover 2nd cutting 68% complete, 78%, 98%, 74% avg. Quality of hay made 9% very poor, 22% poor, 34% fair, 23% good, 12% excellent. Apple harvest 25% complete, 29%, 98%, 22% avg. Apple condition 3% very poor, 8% poor, 28% fair, 52% good, 9% excellent. Peach harvest 79% complete, 87%, 98%, 72% avg. Grape harvest 5% complete, 1%, 98%, 9%, avg. Fall plowing 21% complete, 16%, 98%, 21% avg. Activities include: Harvesting oats, fruits, vegetables, potatoes, corn silage and tobacco; machinery maintenance; filling silos; hauling manure; pumping, spreading manure; spreading lime; caring for livestock; cutting hay; attending county fairs; irrigating, hauling water.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Soil moisture 14% very short, 52% short, 33% adequate, 1% surplus. Apples 20% harvested, 23%, 98%, 21% avg; 39% poor, 46% fair, 15% good. Corn 97% matured, 99% 1998, 97% avg.; 61% harvested, 59% 1998, 47% avg.; 8% very poor, 25% poor, 39% fair, 23% good, 5% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 10% poor, 43% fair, 36% good, 10% excellent. Grapes 20% poor, 60% fair, 20% good. Peaches 97% harvested, 99% 1998, 98% avg. Pasture feed 21% very poor, 40% poor, 35% fair, 4% good. Sorghum 94% headed, 94% 1998, 90% avg.; 84% turned color, 84% 1998, 80% avg.; 50% matured, 54% 1998, 45% avg.; 25% harvested, 27% 1998, 24% avg.; 13% very poor, 45% poor, 39% fair, 3% good. Sweet potatoes 6% harvested, 2%, 98%, 5% avg.; 7% poor, 59% fair, 1% excellent. Other: Corn planted 98%, 98%, 98% 1998, 10% 1999, 3% silage; 8% good, 1% excellent. Tobacco 11% excellent, 54% good, 28% fair, 6% poor, 1% very poor. Sunflower 15% excellent, 52% good, 26% fair, 7% poor. Flaxseed 11% excellent, 75% good, 14% fair.; ripe 90%, 98% 1998, 83% avg.; harvested 67%, 83%, 1998, 48% avg. Soybeans mature 0%, 4%, 1998, 3% avg. Sunflower 93% blooming, 92% 1998, 97% avg.; dry 38%, 54% 1998, 57% avg.; bracts yellow 34%, 42% 1998, 36% avg.; mature 2%, 10%, 1998, 3% avg. Corn silked 100%, 100%, 98%, 99% avg. Alfalfa 2nd cutting 91%, 90% 1998, 88% avg. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 40%, 50%, 1998. Other hay harvested 92%, 90% 1998, 88% avg.; 5% 1998, 3% average. Other: Sorghum harvested for silage 3%, 12% 1998, 3%, avg. Winter wheat seeded 2%, 7% 1998, 3% avg. Winter rye seeded 3%, 20% 1998, 5% avg.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 58% very short, 29% short, 13% adequate. Subsoil 50% very short, 36% short, 14% adequate. Corn 98% dent, 89% 1998, 87% avg.; 75% mature, 52% 1998, 42% avg.; 25% harvested for grain, 8% 1998, 5% avg.; 69% silage harvested, 52% 1998, 51% avg.; 7% very poor, 25% poor, 37% fair, 28% good, 3% excellent. Tobacco 95% topped, 84%, 98%, 86% avg.; 15% very poor, 22% poor, 33% fair, 26% good, 4% excellent. Burley 51% harvested, 34% 1998, 38% avg. Dark air-cured 65% harvested, 45% 1998, 52% avg. Dark fire-cured 58% harvested, 43% 1998, 46% avg. Pasture feed 33% very poor, 35% poor, 22% fair, 10% good. State very dry weather pattern continued last week, with soybeans, pastures especially affected. Some areas of the State received rain, but overall moisture conditions remained at drought levels. Poor pasture conditions, low hay supplies has caused many livestock producers to sell cattle. Producers continued to feed hay, haul water to their livestock.

TEXAS: Conditions were hot, dry through-out most of the state with widely scattered showers occurring in the Plains, north, east. South received heavy rain from Hurricane Bret but very little property damage. Fall land preparation slowed due to lack of moisture in many areas. Extremely hot temperatures continue in most areas causing further decline in range and pasture conditions.

Crops: Grain storage problems continued in many areas due to good yields and full elevators. Haying operations continued, despite the hot, dry weather in most locations. Livestock conditions remain fair to good across the State. Supplemental feeding was required in some areas due to dry conditions, in South Texas it helped to confine cattle after heavy rains from Hurricane Bret. Seeding of wheat continued in the Plains where moisture was available. Wheat seeded 2%, 4% 1998, 4% avg. Oats 2% planted, 0%, 1998, 0% avg. High Plains crop continued to mature and harvest begin to expand. Silage harvest was beginning to wind down. Harvest continued in the Blacklands, Central Texas and was nearing completion. Yields have been good. Markets however were weak. Harvest was winding down along the Upper Coast, ended in the Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Valley. Corn 86% of normal compared with 64% 1998. Corn 52% harvested, 55%, 1998, 52% avg. Cotton: Good growth and development continued in the Plains and some boll opening had begun. Some boll drop continued in non irrigated fields which missed spoted showers. Irrigation remained active where possible. Bolls continued to open and some harvest began in the Blacklands, Central Texas and Upper Coast. Harvest stopped in areas of the Coastal Bend, South Texas where severe damage occurred as a result of Hurricane Bret. Harvest neared completion in the Rio Grande Valley. Cotton 59% of normal compared with 44% 1998. Cotton 9% harvested, 18% 1998, 14
UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 13% very short, 23% short, 64% adequate. Subsoil 12% very short, 20% short, 68% adequate. Range, pasture feed 2% very poor, 10% poor, 34% fair, 48% good, 6% excellent. Corn: in dough stage 44%, 43% 1998, 24% avg.; in dent stage 3%, 8% 1998, 4% avg. Spring wheat harvested 94%, 91% 1998, 90% avg. Barley harvested (grain) 90%, 89% 1998, 91% avg. Alfalfa hay 38% 3rd cutting, 44% 1998, 40% avg. Alfalfa seed 4% harvested, 7% 1998, 4% avg. Oats 64% harvested for grain, 79% 1998, 67% avg. Peaches 47% picked, 34% 1998, 51% avg. Pears 29% picked, 22% 1998, 27% avg. Potatoes 2% harvested, 2% 1998, 1% avg. Onions 12% harvested, 8% 1998, 9%avg. Cattle moved from summer range 1%, 1998, 5% avg. Irrigation water supply 10% very short, 16% short, 72% adequate 2% surplus. Stock water supplies 3% very short, 19% short, 76% adequate, 2% surplus. Major activities included: Irrigating, harvesting small grains and hay, preparing land for fall planting.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 10% very short, 45% short, 45% adequate. Subsoil 16% very short, 51% short, 33% adequate. Winter wheat 84% harvested, 97% 1998, 92% avg. Harvest continued to lag about two weeks behind normal, yields were reported in the average to good category. Producers credited mild temperatures during June and July as having a significantly positive impact on grain crops. Winter wheat seeding for the 2000 crop was just underway in central areas. Spring wheat dryland 16% very poor, 25% poor, 48% fair, and 13% good; irrigated 100% good; 54% harvested, 92% 1998, 85% avg. Barley dryland 8% very poor, 28% poor, 51% fair, 13% good; irrigated 100% good; 52% harvested, 90% 1998, 84% avg. Potatoes 22% harvested, 18% 1998, 19% avg.; 1% fair, 62% good, 37% excellent. Hay, other roughage supplies 75% adequate, 25% surplus. Range, pasture feed 17% very poor, 37% poor, 28% fair, 10% good, 8% excellent. Corn silage 13% very short, 67% short, 13% adequate, 2% surplus. Alfalfa hay production continued, new seeding of alfalfa was underway. Weather was very favorable for fruit, few problems were reported. Bartlett pear harvest continued, nearing completion in central areas. Gala apple harvest began, blueberry harvest continued under ideal conditions. Various vegetable harvests continued including: Sweet corn, onion, carrot, pea, broccoli, cauliflower, cucumber harvests. Christmas tree growers continued to report good early sales for the November harvest.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Soil Moisture 7% short, 74% adequate, 19% surplus. Another week of damp weather and spotty rain-showers kept many farmers in the State from finishing up their second and third crops of hay. Many farmers indicated their intent to harvest any hay that is remaining because of the lack of storage, low selling price. Hay that was harvested got mixed reviews. Where rain helped growth, it was very good, where it was dry, it was short, had poorer quality. Third crop hay harvested: 56% 1999, 68% 1998, 99% avg. The corn crop continued to mature ahead of normal, but it remained a little behind 1998. It appears to be a very healthy crop in most areas. Many reporters indicated that the corn silage harvest has started, or will soon start, on the early planted corn. Others are waiting for the ground to firm up before entering the fields. Some complaints were given about
grashoppers eating the leaves on the corn and soybean plants. Soybeans were also reported to be showing some white mold, and more reports came in about lodging problems in areas experiencing excessive rainfall. Soybean 1% very poor, 2% poor, 8% fair, 44% good, 45% excellent; setting pods 93%, 98%, 1998, N.A. avg.; leaves turned 8%, 15% 1998, 7% avg. Apple crop continued to get mixed reviews. Potato yields were reported as good. Many expect harvest to move into full swing during the next few weeks. The cranberry harvest is also just around the corner, an excellent crop is expected. Snap bean harvest continued. Minimal problems and an excellent yield were reported. Walworth County reporter noted that sweet corn harvest for canning continued with average yields. The rain-showers in the North have resulted in oats that remained in the field, with weeds growing taller and thicker every day. Pasture feed 2% poor, 16% fair, 58% good, 24% excellent.