ARIZONA: Cotton harvest picks up the pace throughout most of Areas with good harvesting conditions. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 37% not being harvested, 7% light, 21% moderate, 35% active. Alfalfa condition was reported 5% poor, 23% fair, 60% good, 12% excellent. Range, Pasture feed remained constant despite the continued lack of rain. Conditions were reported as 1% poor, 9% fair, 42% good, 48% excellent. Last week central areas producers shipped cantaloupes, green onions, watermelons. Eastern Areas producers shipped apples, chile peppers, pumpkins. Producers in western areas shipped cantaloupes, honeydews. Central Areas citrus producers harvested lemons, western citrus producers harvested lemons, navel last week.

ALASKA: No data available until April 2000.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil moisture 13% very short, 38% short, 44% adequate, 5% surplus. Temperatures for the week were warmer than normal. Areas was hot, dry for most of the week. A cold front came in on Saturday evening bringing in light rainfall to some parts of the state. Livestock were reported in fair condition. Many farmers were feeding supplemental hay early this year because of the drought conditions. The main farm activities were: Harvesting cotton, soybeans, planting wheat. Other activities included: Harvesting rice, sorghum, liming pastures, fertilizing pastures, bush hogging, land leveling, planting for fall pastures, spraying fields for insects, weeds, preparing land for planting of annual forages such as rye, ryegrass, defoliating cotton, continued pumpking harvesting, treating crop lands for armyworms, fields were being subsoiled, plowed, tree fruit, small fruit harvesting, dusting, tagging cattle for external parasites, planning for Brucellosis vaccinations, fall calving, giving vaccinations, pregnancy checking spring bred cows, selling fall cattle, weaning calves. Crop development and harvest continued ahead of the five year average in most categories due to hot, dry conditions. Corn 100% harvested; Cotton 100% opening bolls, 77% harvested, 1% very poor 10% poor 41% fair 35% good 13% excellent; Soybeans 100% setting pods, 74% shedding, 43% harvested, 11% very poor 18% poor 29% fair 31% good 11% excellent; Sorghum 100% mature, 100% harvested; Wheat 23% planted, 7% emerged; Alfalfa 8% very poor 23% poor 40% fair 29% good 0% excellent; Other Hay condition 17% very poor 41% poor 25% fair 13% good 0% excellent; Range, pastures feed 18% very poor 40% poor 32% fair 10% good 0% excellent.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed normally under ideal conditions in most areas. Seedbed preparations for fall-seeded small grains, forage crops continued. Planting of wheat, barley, winter forages, new alfalfa was ongoing in central, southern counties. Winter forage was planted between rows in some of the new San Joaquin Valley vineyards. Rice harvest was nearing completion in the Sacramento, San Joaquin valleys. High moisture content was slowing harvest in late planted fields of medium grain rice varieties. Defoliation of Upland cotton varieties was winding down, while American Pima defoliation gained momentum. Upland cotton harvest was in full swing in the southern San Joaquin Valley, in the desert areas. Corn harvest for grain, silage began to wind down in central, southern counties. Spinach, broccoli, cabbage, radish, carrots, beets were harvested in the San Joaquin Valley, new crop sugarbeets were treated for worms. Grain sorghum was maturing rapidly. Alfalfa, sudangrass were cut for hay or greenchopped. The San Joaquin Valley harvest of grapes for fresh consumption included Red Globe, Thompson Seedless, Emperor varieties. Harvesting of grapes for raisins was nearly complete, almost all of the rolled raisins have been picked up. Picking of wine grapes continued. Harvest of late variety stone fruit continued. Fig harvest continued. Apple, olive harvests were in full swing. Asian pear, pomegranate harvests are active in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvest of almonds, walnuts continued. Pistachio harvest was also active. Valencia oranges, lemons were picked in southern areas. New crop navel oranges were maturing well. Strawberries were being sold at roadside stands. Harvesting of fresh market, processing tomatoes continued. Some tomato fields were sprayed for worms or fungal problems. A few fields of asparagus were matured and sprayed for aphids. The cooling of nighttime temperatures has slowed the fruit set of late summer vegetables. Miniature, regular pumpkins were being marketed at roadside “patches” for the Halloween season. Cucumbers were producing well, although spider mites were a serious problem. Cantaloupe, honeydew harvesting continued to decline. Some late season cantaloupes were dried, sold as fruit leather. Elephant ear (taro) harvest was two weeks away. Lettuce, broccoli, harvesting began in the Fresno area. Lettuce fields were weeded, treated for insect pests. Growers were harvesting many crops, including green beans, long beans, basil, baby bok choy, mint, bittersmelons, squash, gourds, cardis, okra, camote, marunggai, sinqua, eggplant, garlic, lemon grass, parsley, snap peas, sugar peas, radishes, sweet corn, sweet potatoes. Pasture feed were poor to fair in central, northern areas. Most non-irrigated pastures were in poor condition. Lack of rain was causing very high risk of fire in foothill areas; several large fires were already burning in northern areas. Cold nighttime temperatures were causing rapid deterioration of higher elevation pastures. The few remaining cattle were expected to be shipped in the coming weeks. Cattle on foothill pastures received supplemental feeding. Fall calving continued. In central areas many sheep were on alfalfa pastures. A few sheep were in cantaloupe fields. Lambing was in full swing. Imperial Valley sheep continued to graze on suckan fields, lambs were still arriving for winter alfalfa grazing.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 15% short, 73% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 20% short, 68% adequate, 9% surplus. Warm, dry for most of the week but rain, snow arrived on Saturday in many areas which will slow corn, sorghum harvest. Harvest of most all other crops is nearing completion. Corn silage 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Dry onions 92% harvested, 97% 1998, 97% avg. Sugar beets 30% harvested, 41% 1998, 39% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 11% fair, 60% good, 25% excellent. Dry beans 99% cut, 100% 1998, 97% avg.; 97% harvested, 98% 1998, 92% avg. Summer potatoes 99% harvested, 99% 1998, 98% avg. Fall potatoes 92% harvested, 97% 1998, 95% avg. Alfalfa 98% 3rd cutting, 94% 1998, 93% avg.; 63% 4th cutting, 51%
1998, 51% avg.; 2% poor, 23% fair, 55% good, 20% excellent. Pasture, range feed in mostly good condition.

DELWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil moisture 74% adequate, 26% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% short, 98% adequate, 2% surplus. Field corn 84% harvested for grain, 72% 1998, 68% avg.; 90% harvested for silage, 100% 1998, 96% avg. Soybeans 80% beans shedding leaves, 69% 1998, 73% avg.; 11% harvested, 13% 1998, 16% avg. Sorghum 35% harvested, 37% 1998, 23% avg. Apples 35% harvested, 37% 1998, 23% avg. Clover, other hay 69% 4th cutting, 66% 1998, 66% avg. Alfalfa hay 89% 4th cutting, 94% 1998, 89% avg.; 26% 5th cutting, 19% 1998, 23% avg. Hay supplies 10% very short, 35% short, 55% adequate. Pasture 27% poor, 38% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent. Barleys fair, 53% good, 6% very good, 10% excellent; 51% seeded, 29% 1998, 50% avg. Wheat 2% fair, 90% good, 8% excellent; 14% seeded, 11% 1998, 14% avg. Activities: Continued corn, soybean harvesting.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture throughout rest of State mostly short to adequate with some areas very short or surplus. Hurricane Irene dumped a lot of rain, some parts of southern Peninsula. Immokalee area reported from about 1.50 to 6.00 in. for week; Ft. Pierce, from 6.66 to 8.00 in.; Del Ray-Boynton Beach area, almost 18.00 in. Palmetto-Russian spared brunt of storm with 0.70 to 1.50 in. Strong winds buffeted crops, blew some blooms, mature fruit off trees, plants, vines in localities affected by storm. Wind speed gusted from 65 to 75 mph, Del Ray-Boynton Beach; Homestead sustained winds 40 to 50 mph, gusts of over 80 mph as storm passed. Temperatures averaged 5° to 7° above normal, western Panhandle, most of northern Peninsula. Cloud cover kept temperatures normal to 2° above, central, southern Peninsula. Most high temperatures, 80s, 90s. Lows, 60s, 70s. Fields in south areas flooded by Hurricane Irene. Tobacco, marketing active. Tobacco harvest begun. Sugarcane mills started opening. Sugarcane knocked down by Hurricane Irene. Haying active. Forage growth improving with increased moisture. Cotton harvest active. Eighty-seven percent of peanuts harvested. Strong winds, abundant rain from Hurricane Irene severely damaged some vegetables around Immokalee, Homestead, East Coast region. Supplies of tomatoes, bell peppers, other vegetables from areas affected by the storm will be below normal during November, December. Vegetables marketed during this week include: Tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, pickles, squash, okra, eggplant. Hurricane Irene dumped a lot of rain on citrus belt Friday, Saturday, growers pumping water out of groves most of weekend. Packers shipping Navelss, early oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, K-Early citrus fruit. Caretakers cutting cover crops, pushing out dead trees, planting a few new trees. Pasture feed, 35% fair, 65% good. Condition of cattle; 20% fair, 75% good, 5% excellent.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 4.4. Soil moisture 3% very short, 15% short, 72% adequate, 10% surplus. Cotton 15% very poor, 23% poor, 36% fair, 22% good, 4% excellent. Hay 10% very poor, 21% poor, 40% fair, 27% good, 7% excellent. Peanuts 88% dug, 7% 1998, 78% 1998, 87% avg. Rye 42% planted, 47% 1998, 44% avg. Sorghum 75% harvested for grain, 69% 1998, 65% avg. Soybeans 21% very poor, 27% poor, 35% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent. Other small grains 32% planted, 25% 1998, 27% avg. Apples 76% harvested, 86% 1998, 89% avg. Pecans 7% very poor, 15% poor, 30% fair, 40% good, 8% excellent; 6% harvested, 9% 1998, 8% avg. Onions made good progress. Bulb size was increasing. Yields, crop quality, average pace. Other activities included: Selling yearling calves, picking squash.

HAWAII: Weather conditions were fair to good for agriculture. Days were generally sunny, dry. Water restrictions reinstated for residents of Unincorporated Maui. Farmers are exempt from the mandatory 25% reduction in water use. Irrigation was heavy across the State. Insect, disease losses were light. Banana harvesting steady. Fields in mostly good condition. Papaya harvesting steady. Orchards made favorable progress. Persimmon harvesting underway on Maui. Head cabbage in fair to good condition. Advent of cooler weather expected to boost yields. Maui dry onions made good progress. Bulb size was increasing. Yields, crop quality were good.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil moisture 10% very poor, 34% short, 55% adequate, 1% surplus. Cooperative weather last week allowed farmers to continue harvest, nearly wrap up this year's crop in some districts. Corn harvest progresses continues to vary statewide. Winter wheat seeding is well under way, the warm weather has helped emergence. Other activities for last week include: Fall tillage, grazing hay. Activities: Continued corn, soybean harvesting.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil moisture 10% very poor, 34% short, 55% adequate, 1% surplus. Cooperative weather last week allowed farmers to continue harvest, nearly wrap up this year's crop in some districts. Corn harvest progresses continues to vary statewide. Winter wheat seeding is well under way, the warm weather has helped emergence. Other activities for last week include: Fall tillage, grazing hay. Activities: Continued corn, soybean harvesting.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 9% very short, 35% short, 56% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 31% very short, 47% short, 22% adequate, 0% surplus. Recent showers have helped pastures, emergence of winter wheat. Corn, soybean harvest made good progress. Cotton harvest 16 days ahead of average. Soybean harvest remains 6 days ahead of average. Harvested corn moisture averaging around 17%, soybeans 11.5% moisture content. Range, pasture feed 25% very poor, 28% poor, 39% fair, 8% good. Pastures greening up. Feeding hay continues. Livestock mostly good condition. Tobacco stripping, baling underway. Activities: Applying fertilizer, spreading lime, seeding winter wheat, tillage of soils, chopping stalks, hauling grain, harvesting tobacco, feeding hay, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 28% very short; 48% short, 24% adequate. Subsoil 30% very short, 46% short, 30% adequate, 1% surplus. Another week without rain has caused dry conditions to worsen throughout areas. Dry conditions continue to be a fire hazard for combines, are making fall tillage difficult. Warm, dry weather has benefitted fieldwork, harvest. Corn 58% harvested, 49% 1998, 36% avg. Percent moisture of all field corn 18% averaged; 16% harvested corn averaged. Corn lodging:42% none, 42% light, 12% moderate, 4% heavy. Corn ear dropage 48% none, 42% light, 7% moderate, 3% heavy. Soybeans 90% harvested, 84% 1998, 81% avg. Soybean lodging 50% none, 40% light, 9% moderate, 1% heavy. Soybeans 39% shattering none, 41% light, 15% moderate, 5% heavy. Winter wheat 71% planted., 60% 1998, 73% avg. Fall 8% tillage, 8% 1998, 9% avg. Range, pasture feed 11% very poor, 26% poor, 35% fair, 24% good, 4% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 6% very short, 32% short, 61% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 26% short, 70% adequate, 1% surplus. Farmers took advantage of dry, mild weather conditions last week to continue wheat seeding, fall harvest. Little rain fell across the State, which enabled farmers to work in the fields nearly every day last week. Harvest of fall crops surged ahead, but, with the exception of soybeans, is still behind normal progress for this time of year. Seeding of wheat continues ahead of both 1998 progress, average. Soybean 3% very poor, 14% poor, 44% fair, 36% good, 3% excellent. Sorghum 1% very poor, 5% poor, 28% fair, 58% good, 8% excellent. Wheat 3% poor,
Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 37% short, 52% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 47% very short, 34% short, 19% adequate. For the week, temperatures averaged 63°, 4° above normal, 2° warmer than previous week. Scattered rain fell in the eastern areas of the Commonwealth on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Light tobacco was being harvested last week. Condition of housed tobacco was 4% very poor, 15% poor, 39% fair, 35% good, 7% excellent. Burley stripped 14%, 14% 1998, 12% average. Wheat 35% seeded, 44% 1998, 43% average. Pasture feed 23% very poor, 41% poor, 27% fair, 8% good, 1% excellent. Farmers continue feeding hay to livestock.

Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Soil moisture 6% very short, 23% short, 61% adequate, 10% surplus. Cotton harvest edged closer to completion. Hay 96% final cutting, 88% 1998, 93% average. Pecans 6% very poor, 12% poor, 40% fair, 38% good, 4% excellent; 16% harvested, 11% 1998, 9% average. Soybean harvest continued. Sugarcane 2% poor, 19% fair, 47% good, 32% excellent; 22% harvested, 9% 1998, 11% average. Sugarcane harvest was slowed by heavy showers. Sweet potatoes 74% harvested, 69% 1998, 71% average. Wheat 17% planted, 29% 1998, 18% average; 4% emerged, 15% 1998, 6% average. Livestock 1% very poor, 7% poor, 37% fair, 46% good, 9% excellent. Vegetables 5% very poor, 15% poor, 33% fair, 41% good, 6% excellent.

Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil moisture 22% very short, 40% short, 17% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 25% very short, 46% short, 28% adequate, 1% surplus. The week was slightly cooler with very little precipitation across much of the state. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 14% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 4% excellent. Sugar beets 89% harvested, 52% 1998, 62% average. Sugar beet harvest is reported to be going smoothly with no problems. Yields are reported to be above normal with good sugar content. Corn 97% for silage harvested, 99% 1998, 97% average. Potatoes 75% harvested, 77% 1998, 72% average. Dry beans 98% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% average. Cotton, calves moved from summer ranges 69%, 68% 1998, 59% average. Sheep, lambs moved from summer ranges 71%, 73% 1998, 67% average. Farmers were able to finish harvesting small grains as weather was cooperative to do so. One exception is in the northeast part of the state where some small grains have not yet been harvested, primarily durum wheat. As a result, there are reports of frost damage in that area. The extent of the damage has not yet been determined, won’t be until producers are able to cut those remaining fields.
harvest moved ahead to 98%, just ahead of 95% 1998, 98% avg. Alfalfa rated 3% very poor, 13 poor, 42% fair, 39% good, 3% excellent. Alfalfa 4th cutting was at 95% complete, ahead of 1998, 93%, 88% avg. Wheat seeded rated 99%, ahead of 98% 1998, but same as average. Wheat was 89% emerged, same as 1998, behind 90% avg. Proso Millet harvest was near complete at 88%. Pasture, range rated 7% very poor, 16% poor, 36% fair, 38% good, 3% excellent. Producer activities included: Harvesting of crops, working the herds, building electric fences, shredding corn stalks, discing.

NEVADA: Temperatures were well above normal early in the week, but fell sharply later in the week. Temperatures were below normal late in the week, daily lows dipped below freezing. No precipitation was reported for the week. Irrigation continued. Fourth cutting of alfalfa hay was wrapping up in most parts of the State. Garlic, onion harvest was completed. Potato harvest was well over half completed, the potatoes appear to be in good condition. Fall planting of winter wheat, new alfalfa nearing completion. Cattle continued to be moved to the fall/winter range. Fall weaning of calves continued. Pregnancy checking of cows continued. Main farm, ranch activities: Harvesting alfalfa, fall planting, digging potatoes; burning seed fields, gathering, moving cattle, weaning of livestock.

NEVADA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 3% short, 63% adequate, 34% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 10% short, 72% adequate, 16% surplus. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 8% poor, 40% fair, 44% good, 5% excellent. Maine potatoes 95% harvested, 95% 1998, 95% avg.; condition excellent to good. Massachusetts potatoes 90% harvested, 90% 1998, 95% avg.; condition good to fair. Rhode Island potatoes 95% harvested, 95% 1998, 90% avg.; condition fair to poor. Oats in Maine 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; condition good to excellent. Corn 98% harvested, 98% 1998, 85% avg.; condition good to fair. Sweet corn 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; condition good to fair. 2nd cut hay 95% harvested, 95% 1998, 95% avg.; condition good to fair. Third cut hay 90% harvested, 85% 1998, 90% avg.; condition fair. Apples 90% harvested, 85% 1998, 90% average; size average to below average, condition good. Pears 95% harvested, 90% 1998, 95% average; size below average, condition fair to poor. Cranberries 80% harvested, 75% 1998, 70% average, size average, condition good to excellent. Major farm activities included: Chopping hay, corn, digging potatoes; picking apples and pears; spreading manure and lime; planting winter cover crops; cleaning fields; preparing equipment for winter storage.

NEVADA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Temperatures averaged near normal. Weekly rainfall averaged 0.41 inches North, 0.65 inches Central, 1.01 inches South. The heaviest 24 hour total was 1.64 inches at Atlantic City Marina on the 17th to the 18th. Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 98% North, 92% Central, 75% South. Four inch soil temperatures averaged 53º North, 55º Central, 57º South. Irrigation water supply is adequate in most areas. Planting of small grains, cover crops continued across the state. Harvest of grain corn is underway with below average yields reported. Harvest of soybeans started in areas of South, Central Areas. Early planted soybeans are in poor condition while the late planted crop is in fair condition. Cutting of alfalfa and other hay continued during the week, the condition is between good, fair for both crops. Most hay farmers are working on their final cutting. Harvest of peppers, snap beans, lima beans, eggplants, other summer vegetables is winding down. Frost damage has been reported in some pepper fields. Harvest of fall cabbage, lettuce, spinach is in full swing, their condition is between good, fair in most areas. Harvest of pumpkins is increasing rapidly. Harvest of apples continued, good quality has been reported. Harvest of cranberries is also underway.

NEVADA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Warm dry weather continued for most of the week, but the first significant winter-type storm of the season blasted through the state during the weekend. As much as a foot of snow fell in the higher elevations along the eastern slopes of the Sangre de Cristos, Sandias, Manzanos, Sierra Mountains. Greatest precipitation totals included 1.00” at Ruidoso, .78” at Gran Quivira, .70” at Red River. With the warm start, cold finish to the week, the week’s average temperature for the state was normal. High temperatures on Sunday were as much as 40, 50º lower than readings on Friday, Saturday. The first killing frost of the year hit many areas of the State over the weekend. Farmers were busy harvesting any remaining vegetables, while ranchers remained active moving and shipping cattle. Alfalfa harvest is virtually complete for the year. Green chile harvest was over except for isolated fields. Red chile harvest picked up during the week. Corn, sorghum for grain harvest also accelerated during the week. Sorghum, wheat conditions were in mostly good condition. Pasture, Range feed were reported at 5% very poor, 7% poor, 40% fair, 40% good, 8% excellent. Cattle, sheep conditions remained in mostly fair to good condition.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Soil moisture 10% short, 85% adequate, 5% surplus. Pasture feed 40% fair, 60% good. Corn silage harvest finished. Corn for grain harvest picked up momentum. Sugarbeets 91% combined, 100% 1998, 96% avg. Harvest of small grains, cover crops continued. Apple picking remained in high gear. Harvest of Golden Delicious, Rome apples underway. Grape harvest winding down.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 3% short, 14% short, 78% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 13% short, 78% adequate, 8% surplus. Good progress was made on late season crop harvest last week, despite scattered light rain showers throughout the State. The sugarbeet harvest made record lifting progress this past week as virtually all fields were done. The soybean, dry edible bean, flaxseed harvests also made excellent progress toward completion. Durum wheat 92% combined, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Corn for grain 23% harvested, 54% 1998, 36% avg. Corn for silage 95% harvested, 98% 1998, 96% avg. Dry edible beans 97% combined, 100% 1998, 95% avg. Flaxseed 91% combined, 100% 1998, 96% avg. Potatoes 99% dug, 94% 1998, 95% avg. Soybeans 76% harvested, 81% 1998, 79% avg. Sugar beets 99% lifted, 73% 1998, 71% avg. Sunflowers 16% harvested, 37% 1998, 39% avg. Emerged crop condition: corn for grain 2% very poor, 5% poor, 20% fair, 64% good, 9% excellent; soybeans 3% very poor, 7% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 9% excellent; sunflower 2% very poor, 10% poor, 28% fair, 49% good, 11% excellent. Ranchers were busy weaning calves, hauling hay in preparation for winter. Stockwater supplies rated 0% very short, 1% short, 94% adequate, 5% surplus.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 3% short, 31% short, 52% adequate, 2% surplus. Soybeans harvested 81%, 81% 1998, 68% avg. Corn harvested 56% for grain, 34% 1998, 22% avg. Winter wheat 82% planted, 83% 1998, 75% avg. Winter wheat 51% emerged, 48% 1998, 33% avg. Fall, winter apples 74% harvested, 85% 1998, 70% avg. Grapes 90% harvested, 91% 1998. Tobacco 7% stripped, 12% 1998. Pasture 15% very poor, 30% poor, 35% fair, 18% good, 2% excellent. Activities for the week include: Harvesting corn, soybeans; fall tillage; planting wheat; hauling manure; tile; hauling grain; spreading lime and fertilizer; pressing cider; cutting firewood; baling corn stalks; maintaining equipment; sowing cover crops; weaning calves; emptying waste storage ponds. A Wayne county reporter mentioned a wind storm caused limited lodging of corn. Reported weed pressures include foxtail, Canadian thistle, giant ragweed, Johnson grass, chickweed, lambsquarter. Reported insects include spider mites, leafhoppers, ladybugs, corn earworms. Reported diseases include white mold, sudden death syndrome in soybeans; gray leaf spot, sun dust syndrome, fungus on corn. Fruit, vegetable producers are harvesting apples, pears, pumpkins, squash, peppers, sweet corn, tomatoes. Pumpkins are medium to small in size in Wayne, Medina counties. Pasture, grass conditions are improving with the rain although pasture is

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil moisture 15% very short, 31% short, 52% adequate, 2% surplus. Soybeans harvested 81%, 81% 1998, 68% avg. Corn harvested 56% for grain, 34% 1998, 22% avg. Winter wheat 82% planted, 83% 1998, 75% avg. Winter wheat 51% emerged, 48% 1998, 33% avg. Fall, winter apples 74% harvested, 85% 1998, 70% avg. Grapes 90% harvested, 91% 1998. Tobacco 7% stripped, 12% 1998. Pasture 15% very poor, 30% poor, 35% fair, 18% good, 2% excellent. Activities for the week include: Harvesting corn, soybeans; fall tillage; planting wheat; hauling manure; tile; hauling grain; spreading lime and fertilizer; pressing cider; cutting firewood; baling corn stalks; maintaining equipment; sowing cover crops; weaning calves; emptying waste storage ponds. A Wayne county reporter mentioned a wind storm caused limited lodging of corn. Reported weed pressures include foxtail, Canadian thistle, giant ragweed, Johnson grass, chickweed, lambsquarter. Reported insects include spider mites, leafhoppers, ladybugs, corn earworms. Reported diseases include white mold, sudden death syndrome in soybeans; gray leaf spot, sun dust syndrome, fungus on corn. Fruit, vegetable producers are harvesting apples, pears, pumpkins, squash, peppers, sweet corn, tomatoes. Pumpkins are medium to small in size in Wayne, Medina counties. Pasture, grass conditions are improving with the rain although pasture is
still short. Livestock conditions are mostly good although cows, hogs are thinner than usual in certain parts of the state. Liquidation continues due to lack of water, pasture, hay.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Subsoil moisture 16% very short, 31% short, 53% adequate. Topsoil moisture 18% very short, 39% short, 43% adequate. Dry weather depletes soil moisture levels to lowest since early September. Wheat 2% very poor, 5% poor, 32% fair, 55% good, 6% excellent. Oats 17% very poor, 4% poor, 33% fair, 34% good, 12% excellent; 60% planted, 76% 1998, 55% avg.; 20% up-to-stand, 31% 1998, 21% avg.; Corn 98% harvested, 99% 1998, 91% avg. Soybeans 83% mature, 91% 1998, 79% avg.; 50% harvested, 49% 1998, 45% avg. Peanuts 75% mature, 90% 1998, 81% avg.; 27% combined, 26% 1998, 25% avg. Alfalfa Hay 3% very poor, 8% poor, 33% fair, 51% good, 5% excellent; 88% 4th cutting, 80% 1998, 92% avg. ; 22% 5th cutting, 21% 1998, 43% avg. Other Hay 74% 2nd cutting, 43% 1998, 83% avg. Livestock 4% poor, 26% fair, 67% good, 3% excellent. Feeder steer prices steady to $1 per cwt. above last week.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 49% short, 38% short, 13% adequate. Subsoil 36% very short, 50% short, 14% adequate. Barley Planted 25%, 35% 1998, 31% avg. Winter Wheat 27% planted, 68% 1998, 67% avg. Winter Wheat 3% emerged, 49% 1998, 36% avg. Range, pasture 8% very poor, 37% poor, 43% fair, 12% good. Activities: Irrigated crops in Eastern areas mostly dry, seeding in dryland fields continued at slower pace, waiting for rain. Some producers starting to “dust in” winter wheat. Field preparation continued, field corn harvest beginning. A few producers still bringing in third crop alfalfa in Harney County, sugarbeet harvest continued in Klamath, Umatilla Counties. Fall seeding in Western Areas well underway, as well as fall preparation. Some haying operations continued, along with fertilizing, spraying grass seed fields. Irrigation still required at nurseries, greenhouses because of dry summer type weather. Greenhouses still busy with fall plants, Christmas poinsettias. Preparations underway at nurseries for active fall digging season. Potato harvest nearly complete across State. Some onions still going into storage, carrot harvest continued in northeast. Activity in pumpkin fields energetic in Western Areas. Sweet corn in final stages of harvest, while harvest of some cole crops, root vegetables, a few salad crops continued. Willamette reported susceptible crops frosted out. In Willamette Valley trimming, training of caneberrys continued. Hazelnut harvest continued under near ideal weather conditions, apple harvest also continued. In Rogue River Valley pear harvest winding down. Apple, grape harvest continued. On south coast cranberries being harvested, berry color looks good. In Hood River Valley apple, pear harvest continued. Livestock condition is mostly good, some poor to fair on driest ranges, pastures. Supplemental hay feeding required in most western areas. Veterinarians continued in active field work, pregnancy checking. Yearling movement, calf shipments continued too. Western counties. Weaning, vaccinating calves continued in east; also, additional supplemental hay feeding required in most areas. Supplemental manure spreading/booting, spreading lime; caring for livestock; cutting hay; plowing for the fall.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Soil moisture 2% very short, 9% short, 63% adequate, 26% surplus. Apples 75% harvested, 92% 1998, 87% avg.; 28% poor, 63% fair, 9% good. Livestock 6% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 14% excellent. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 13% poor, 45% fair, 36% good, 2% excellent. Sorghum 90% matured, 87% 1998; 65% harvested, 61% 1998, 67% avg.; 13% very poor, 25% poor, 48% fair, 14% good. Sweet Potatoes 38% harvested, 59% 1998, 46% avg.; 14% very poor, 18% poor, 52% fair, 16% good. Tobacco 17% stalks dried, 17% 1998, 19% avg. 97% planted, 59% planted, 63% 1998, 55% avg.; 44% emerged, 45% 1998, 37% avg.; 44% fair, 49% good, 7% excellent. Winter wheat 15% planted, 21% 1998, 14% avg.; 9% emerged, 12% 1998, 7% avg. Barley 28% planted, 35% 1998, 27% avg.; 17% emerged, 16% 1998, 17% avg. Oats 30% planted, 28% 1998, 29% avg.; 18% emerged, 12% 1998, 19% avg. Rye 35% planted, 43% 1998, 38% avg.; 27% emerged, 26% 1998, 25% avg.; 45% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Pecans 10% harvested, 24% 1998, 15% avg.; 12% poor, 86% fair.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 3% very short, 15% short, 71% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 14% short, 72% adequate, 12% surplus. Sorghum 2% poor, 21% fair, 68% good, 9% excellent; 84% harvested for silage, 98% 1998, 90% avg. Soybean 1% very poor, 3% poor, 17% fair, 57% good, 22% excellent; 93% mature, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Corn 3% poor, 16% fair, 58% good, 23% excellent; 93% mature, 100% 1998, 98% avg.; 97% harvested for silage, 98% 1998, 95% avg. Sunflower 4% poor, 19% fair, 63% good, 14% excellent; 97% bracts yellow, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 77% mature, 100% 1998, 96% avg.; 18% harvested, 63% 1998, 48% avg. Winter rye 95% seeded, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 80% emerged, 93% 1998, 91% avg. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 4% short, 83% adequate, 12% surplus. Cattle 6% fair, 68% good, 26% excellent. Sheep 1% poor, 4% fair, 66% good, 29% excellent.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 24% very short, 36% short, 39% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 38% very short, 37% short, 24% adequate, 1% surplus. Barley 28% stripped, 32% 1998, 27% avg. Pasture feed 34% very poor, 36% poor, 26% fair, 4% good. Winter wheat 23% seeded, 28% 1998, 31% avg. This past week, farmers across the State were busy taking advantage of last weekend’s rainfall by seeding winter wheat, preparing pastures. Wheat growers made up for lost time, by the end of the week were only running about 5 days behind the five-year average pace. Planting was delayed this year due to the extremely dry conditions. Pasture conditions improved last week with 30% now rated in fair to good condition compared to only 16% the previous week. Farmers report the recent rains helped improve pastures but more is needed to replenish the soil, fill ponds, creeks. Tobacco growers continued stripping and preparing their crop for market.

TEXAS: Daytime temperatures remained generally warm, mild with cool nights across the state while only light rain showers fell in isolated areas. Harvest continued while land preparation remained slowed from lack of precipitation and cold temperatures. Harvest in most areas continued to decline in most areas as general conditions were beginning to resemble the drought of last year. Supplemental feeding continued in most areas with little chance for improved winter forage. Herd reduction continued in many areas and markets remained slightly weak. Snow flurries and cold temperatures occurred on the Plains at weeks end. The Farmer-Stockman Show held in Lubbock attracted a large audience and was widely considered a success by attendees and livestock producers.

Crops: Small Grains: Seeding of wheat and oats continued slow in most areas. Some seeding death occurred as a result of too little moisture in fields that showed some emergence. In other locations improved growth occurred as a result of recent rain showers. Statewide wheat condition was rated at 53 percent of normal compared with 44% 1998. Corn: Harvested near completion on the High Plains. Yields were varied as some fields suffered from hail and drought. Winter cooking has continued to be weak. Cotton: Harvest continued to expand on the High Plains but slowed at weeks end by colder temperatures and light snow. In the Coastal Bend gins are expected to remain open through October. Harvest was winding down in the Blacklands, Central Texas. Cotton stalk destruction continued in South Texas as some drying out was still occurring. Cotton 58% of normal compared with 46% 1998. Peanuts: Harvest activities remained active in the Plains, Central, South Texas. In anticipation of freezing conditions, digging was halted in the Plains and North Texas at weeks end. Peanut 77% of normal, 52% 1998. Rice:
Harvest of the second crop was in full swing. Sorghum: Harvest continued active on the High Plains under generally mild and open conditions. Yields were generally favorable. Turning color 99%, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Soybeans: Harvest expanded on the High Plains with generally good yields.

**Commercial Vegetables:** Rio Grande Valley, planting continued for carrots, cabbage, onions while other fall vegetables showed good progress. Excess moisture from Hurricane Bret caused damage, loss to watermelons. San Antonio-Winter Garden, cabbage, onion planting continued but near complete and preparation for other fall vegetables remained in full swing. East Texas, planting of fall crops, gardens continued slowly as the dry weather continued. Sweet potato harvest continued and preparation for more blueberry production began. Pine tree harvest was active. High Plains, pumpkin harvest continued, was winding down with generally good yield reported. Pecan crop nearing maturity, stress from lack of moisture continued. Insect damage was evident. Shuck split continued, harvest activities continued to increase.

**Range and Livestock:** Livestock water continued to decline in most areas. Most pastures had only limited forage and supplemental feeding continued to increase. Hay was cut, baled in isolated locations. Fall grazing from wheat, oats was minimal. Bum bans remained in effect in many locations.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 4% very short, 26% short, 68% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 26% short, 71% adequate. Pasture feed, range 2% very poor, 16% poor, 32% fair, 46% good, 4% excellent. Corn 78% mature, 81% 1998, 77% avg.; 26% harvested for grain, 18% 1998, 28% avg. Corn 97% silage harvested, 92% 1998, 92% avg. Winter wheat 91% planted, 99% 1998, 96% avg.; 62% emerged, 76% 1998, 70% avg. Alfalfa hay 79% 4th cutting, 88% 1998, 81% avg. Alfalfa seed 50% harvested, 97% 1998, 81% avg. Apples 82% picked, 60% 1998, 68% avg. Potatoes 82% harvested, 92% 1998, 92% avg. Onions 89% harvested, 80% 1998, 88% avg. Cattle moved from summer range 77%, 80% 1998, 81% avg. Sheep moved from summer range 75%, 83% 1998, 83% avg. Major activities included: Harvesting alfalfa hay, corn silage, onions. Movement of livestock to winter ranges continued, as did the planting of winter grain.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 32% very short, 41% short, 27% adequate. Subsoil 21% very short, 49% short, 30% adequate. Winter wheat 92% planted, 91% 1998, 92% avg.; 81% emerged, 80% 1998, 76% avg. Winter wheat seeded was nearing completion, wheat that had emerged was looking ok. Those fields that were re-seeded still need precipitation for emergence. Potatoes 90% harvested, 78% 1998, 79% avg. Hay, other roughage supplies 7% short, 62% adequate, 31% surplus. Range, pasture feed 12% very poor, 29% poor, 37% fair, 20% good, 2% excellent. Fourth, 5th alfalfa hay cuttings were underway, dairy producers continued to cut corn for silage. Fruit harvest continued in full swing including grapes, apples. Quality reports were the best in several years although yields were below expected range in many blocks. Grapes being harvested were also being reported as high quality. Field crop activities were winding down as potato harvest was 90% completed, both buckwheat and sugar beets were being harvested. Carrots, sweet corn harvest continued and truck farmers were still reporting high demand at the farmer’s markets. Noble fir Christmas trees continue to be in high demand as we approach the holiday season.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 8% very short, 51% short, 41% adequate. Weather conditions were conducive for harvesting crops, planting wheat. Hay 19% very poor, 48% poor, 32% fair, 1% good; Hay 98% 2nd cut; 67% 4th cut, 90% 1998, 87% avg. Corn 13% very poor, 25% poor, 36% fair, 23% good, 3% excellent; 86% mature, 89% 1998; 43% harvested, 50% 1998, 52% avg. Soybeans 7% very poor, 12% poor, 35% fair, 46% good; 95% dropping leaves, 95 1998, 96% avg.; 23% harvested, 67% 1998, 29% avg. Tobacco 98% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Potatoes 71% harvest, 87% 1998. Wheat 24% planted, 52% 1998, 51% avg.; 8% emerged, 22% 1998. Cattle 1% very poor, 12% poor, 59% fair, 25% good, 3% excellent. Sheep 4% poor, 80% fair, 11% good, 5% excellent.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 2% very short, 35% short, 63% adequate. Temperatures above normal with very light precipitation in a few areas of the State. Snow, cooler over weekend. Dry beans combined 95%, 99% 1998, 98% avg. Corn 16% harvested, 24% 1998, 33% avg.; 15% fair, 57% good, 28% excellent. Sugarbeets 68% harvested, 53% 1998, 58% avg.; 9% fair, 54% good, 37% excellent. Alfalfa 99% 3rd cutting, 88% 1998, 90% avg. Winter wheat 2% very fair, 94% good, 4% excellent. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 14% fair, 77% good, 8% excellent. Livestock 3% fair, 82% good, 15% excellent.