**Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories**

**ALABAMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil 0% very short, 7% short, 66% adequate, 27% surplus. Corn 50% planted, 42% 1999, 46% avg. Corn 33% emerged, 16% 1999. Wheat 28% headed, 21% 1999, 26% avg. Wheat 1% very poor, 2% poor, 24% fair, 67% good, 6% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 31% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 10% excellent. Additional rain still needed in most of Area. Some frost problems reported in Northern Area because of recent cold weather fronts.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Soil moisture 1% very short, 14% short, 64% adequate, 21% surplus. Rice 5% planted, 1% 1999, 7% 5 yr. avg. Sorghum 11% planted, 4% 1999, 5% 5 yr. avg. Corn 65% planted, 20% 1999, 46% 5yr avg. Wheat 23% headed, 7% 1999, 12% 5 yr. avg.; 2% poor, 17% fair, 52% good, 29% excellent. Other Hay 4% very poor, 9% poor, 33% fair, 43% good, 11% excellent. Pasture, Range 2% very poor, 8% poor, 34% fair, 44% good, 12% excellent. Livestock good condition. The main farm activities: Row crop ground preparation, planting corn, rice, sorghum, wheat disease scouting, fertilizing wheat fields, pastures, vaccinating cattle. Viral disease in some wheat fields, Southeastern section.

**CALIFORNIA:** Field activity picked up speed as the ground continued to dry. Fertilizers, herbicides were applied. Some insecticides were applied by air for weevil control. Dryland wheat, oats could use more rain to carry the crop through to full maturity. Small grain, winter forage crops were progressing well; some fields were heading. Irrigation was applied to ensure good soil moisture levels. In some areas wheat, oats were cut for silage. Damaged spots resulting from poor drainage during the rainy season remained obvious. Some fields of barley, wheat were still in the soft dough or boot stages. Alfalfa was being cut, chopped for feeding, silage, baled hay. Occasional fields of alfalfa were treated for aphids. Cotton planting continued; some growers were waiting for warmer temperatures. Many fields were being worked in preparation for cotton, corn planting. Several fields of corn for green chop were planted; earlier planted fields were emerging. Ground preparation for rice, wild rice was in full swing in many fields. Rice planting was expected to begin in most areas this month. A few fields of rice straw awaited burning. Pre-plant weed treatments were applied to fields of sunflower, safflower. Several fields of safflower were planted. Sunflower planting was expected to begin next week. Spring sugarbeet harvest began in the earliest planted fields. The warm, sunny weather permitted fruit, nut growers to plant new trees, vines. Weed control, fungicide applications were some of the activities ongoing in stone fruit, almond orchards. Nut trees, stone fruit trees, grape vines were leafing. Picking of grapefruit, lemon crops was active in southern areas. The harvest of valencia orange in the desert areas was active. San Joaquin Valley navel orange picking continued. Growers remained concerned about puf, crest, and soft fruit. Minneola tangelos were also being picked. Strawberry fields were blooming, setting fruit. Vegetable field activities were in full swing through the week of dry weather. Ground preparation, weed treatments, planting of processing tomato seed, transplants continued. Northern area honeydew melon, watermelon planting was expected to start within the next couple of weeks. Watermelon planting had already begun in Merced County. Radichio harvesting, planting of new fields continued. Field work, harvesting was active in Monterey County artichokes, broccoli, asparagus fields. Fresno County growers were planting summer vegetables. Beans, onions, tomatoes, garlic fields were weeded, irrigated. The head lettuce crop was looking good, with only a few isolated problems. Sweet corn was being planted. Seedlings have emerged in the earlier planted fields. Harvesting of spinach, cauliflower, broccoli continued in Tulare County. Other crops being harvested this week included: Green, Napa cabbage, cilantro, mushrooms, parsley, radishes, turnips. Supplemental feeding of hay, nutrients was minimal, as forage growth has been good. Cattle are showing good weight gains. Additional cattle were being moved onto lower elevation pastures. Ranchers looked for some additional rain before dry weather establishes itself for the season. Conditions for milk production have improved as paddocks were dry. Sardine Valley dairies are in excellent condition. Conditions for milk production have improved as paddocks were dry. Sardine Valley dairies are in excellent condition. Conditions for milk production have improved as paddocks were dry. Sardine Valley dairies are in excellent condition.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil 1% very short 10% short, 88% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 18% short, 78% adequate, 2% surplus. Warmer, dryer conditions prevailed throughout the state. Spring barley 35% seeded, 49% 1999, 37% avg.; 7% emerged, 16% 1999, 11% avg. Dry onions 80% seeded, 64% 1999, 63% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 13% fair, 55% good, 29% excellent. Sugar beets 35%, 41% 1999, 46% avg. Summer potatos 28% planted, 20% 1999, 12% avg. Spring wheat 25% planted, 47% 1999, 28% avg.; 4% emerged, 15% 1999, 8% avg. Winter wheat 23% planted, 26% 1999, 12% avg. More than 80% of the crop is in good to excellent condition. Cows 70% calved, 72% 1999, 75% avg. Ewes 56% lambed, 62% 1999, 71% avg.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 62% adequate, 38% surplus. Subsoil moisture 78% adequate, 22% surplus. Percent of acreage prepared for planting of spring crops 39%. Winter wheat 1% poor, 9% fair, 82% good, 8% excellent. Barley 3% poor, 11% fair, 78% good, 8% excellent. Potatoes 36% planted, 31% 1999, 39% avg. Green peas 39% planted, 37% 1999, 34% avg. Snap Beans 11% planted, 1% 1999, 0% avg. Sweet corn 13% planted, 6% 1999, 5% avg. Peaches 70% bloomed, 57% 1999, 52% avg. Strawberries 50% bloomed, 22% 1999, 15% avg. Pasture feed 23% fair, 73% good, 4% excellent. Hay supplies 17% very short, 33% short, 50% adequate. Activities: Field preparation, planting work continued.

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Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin

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FLORIDA: Cold fronts crossing Peninsula brought cooler weather to most areas, significant rainfall to some localities. Temperatures at major stations averaged normal to 3° below. Most daytime highs 70s, 80s; most areas, significant rainfall to some localities. Temperatures at major FLORIDA:

HAWAII: cotton land for planting, spraying for leaf scab in pecan trees, routine care complete, 92% lambing. Hay, roughage supplies 12% very short, 13% short, 68% adequate, 7% surplus. Irrigation supply 46% excellent, 37% good, 15% fair, 2% poor. Onions 64% planted, 79% 1999, 73% avg. Dry peas 7% planted, 14% 1999, 9% avg. Oats 5% planted, 8% 1999, 10% avg. Lentils planted none, 1999 none,1% avg. Potatoes 6% planted, 2% 1999, 2% avg. Sugar beets 47% planted, 21% 1999, 35% avg.; 2% emerged, 1% 1999,4% avg. Spring barley 2% emerged, 4% 1999, 5% avg. Spring wheat 3% emerged, 6% 1999,6% avg. Activities: Planting sugar beets, spring wheat, spring barley, onions, potatoes, dry peas, lentils, oats, branding cattle, soil preparation, applying fertilizer, preparing irrigation systems.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 19% very short, 48% short, 31% adequate, 2% surplus. Oats 81% planted, 79% 1999, 42% avg. Alfalfa 7% poor, 25% fair, 58% good,10% excellent. Pasture 3% very poor, 13% poor, 37% fair, 41% good, 6% excellent. Corn planters began to roll in last week as dry weather allowed farmers to plant corn in the central, southwest regions, to seed oats in the north. Farmers in many areas held off planting though due to cool, dry soils, the early date on the calendar. Topsoils continue to be dry across most of the state, surplus moisture levels continue to be reported in the Southeast District. Rains at week’s end were a welcome blessing across many areas of the state but with the dryness of the topsoil they were quickly absorbed. The below normal temperatures last week caused some concern with the fruit crops as peaches are now in bloom, apples will begin soon. High winds experienced last week dried topsoils as quickly as they were worked, hindered spraying applications. During last week most farmers were also preparing equipment for planting, hauling grain, discussing the dryness of the soils when normal wet hole through April is working up like the best piece of dirt on the farm.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 21% very short, 29% short, 43% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 39% very short, 37% short, 27% adequate, 3% surplus. Soils remain dry over most of the state. Much needed precipitation arrived late in the week. Farmers are preparing fields for planting corn, soybeans. Corn fields planted are mostly in the southwest. A few soybean fields are planted. Application of fertilizer, nitrogen continues. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 54% good, 15% excellent. Winter wheat 32% jointed, 18% 1999, 16% avg. Pastures improving, growing. Range, pasture 7% very poor, 20% poor, 41% fair, 25% good, 7% excellent. Hay supplies mostly adequate. Farmers continue to purchase inputs. Livestock are in mostly good condition, calving, lambing active. Major activities: Tillage of soils, spreading chemicals, lime, preparing equipment, selling grain, ditching, seeding oats, hauling manure, feeding, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for field work 6.5. Topsoil 48% very short, 40% short, 12% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 45% very short, 44% short, 11% adequate, 0% surplus. Dry, windy conditions. Corn 0% planted, 0% 1999,0% avg. Oats 79% planted, 68% 99, 28% avg. Winter wheat 6% poor, 49% fair, 38% good, 7% excellent. Fertilizer applied (including fall applications) 75% complete. Seeded preparation (including fall preparation) 65% complete. High percentage of calves being saved, some feedlots reported breathing dirt in the air due to dry soil conditions, some wind erosion.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 1% very short, 10% short, 75% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 12% short, 80% adequate, 6% surplus. Winter wheat condition showed improvement. Wheat 2% very poor, 8% poor, 31% fair,47% good,12% excellent. Wheat 60% jointing, 51% 1999, 40% avg. Wind damage 84% none, 14% light, 2% moderate. Freeze damage 92% none, 6% light, 2% moderate. Range, Pasture 1% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent. Oats 77% seeded, 98% 1999, 93% avg. Corn 3% planted, 2% 1999, 2% avg.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 7% short, 75% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 25% short, 64% adequate, 7% surplus. Near normal temperatures were felt throughout the State with above average rainfall across the State. Land, equipment were being prepared for planting season. About 86% of tobacco transplants were soon compared to 82% 1999, 76% for the avg.. Corn planting remains localized as wet conditions have slowed planting across the State. Winter wheat 1% poor, 10% fair, 67% good, 22% excellent. Average height for winter wheat was 14 inches. About 78% of

HAWAII: Variable weather conditions were fair to poor for agriculture during the week. Occasionally heavy showers continued to fall in some areas of the State at the start of the week. Field activities were slowed by muddy fields. Losses were light. Gusty trade winds hampered c certain types of farm work, caused leaf shedding, bruising of fruits in exposed areas. Banana harvesting was active. Leaf shedding was heavy in some windward areas. Papaya harvesting was very active in the major growing areas. Overall crop conditions were fair to good. Recent rains have help replenish soil moisture. Head cabbage harvesting remained steady. Overall quality was good. Dry onion harvesting increasing. Weather conditions were generally beneficial in the major producing areas.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 6.0. Topsoil 2% very short, 15% short, 63% adequate, 20% surplus. Warm weather during the daytime, cool to freezing conditions at night were reported throughout the state. High winds caused damage to winter wheat, have dried out soil moisture in Eastern areas, some replanting will be necessary. Some winter wheat in the Treasure Valley was reported to be nitrogen deficient, this may due to producers delaying nitrogen application until the spring. Calving 92% complete, 92% lambing. Hay, roughage supplies 12% very short, 13% short, 68% adequate, 7% surplus. Irrigation supply 46% excellent, 37% good, 15% fair, 2% poor. Onions 64% planted, 79% 1999, 73% avg. Dry peas 7% planted, 14% 1999, 9% avg. Oats 5% planted, 8% 1999, 10% avg. Lentils planted none, 1999 none,1% avg. Potatoes 6% planted, 2% 1999, 2% avg. Sugar beets 47% planted, 21% 1999, 35% avg.; 2% emerged, 1% 1999,4% avg. Spring barley 2% emerged, 4% 1999, 5% avg. Spring wheat 3% emerged, 6% 1999,6% avg. Activities: Planting sugar beets, spring wheat, spring barley, onions, potatoes, dry peas, lentils, oats, branding cattle, soil preparation, applying fertilizer, preparing irrigation systems.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 4.8. Soil moisture 5% very short, 16% short, 66% adequate, 13% surplus. Corn 3% poor, 32% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent; 74% emerged, 68% 1999, N/A avg. Hay 1% very poor, 7% poor, 42% fair, 47% good, 3% excellent. Peanuts 0% planted, 1% 1999, 1% avg. Sorghum 9% planted, 5% 1999, 3% avg. Tobacco 1% poor, 28% fair, 62% good, 9% excellent; 47% transplanted, 64% 1999, 60% avg. Wheat 93% jointing, 93% 1999, 93% avg.; 70% boot, 76% 1999, 67% avg. Onions 3% poor, 16% fair, 73% good 8% excellent; 2% harvested, 1% 1999, 1% avg. Watermelons 4% poor, 48% fair, 41% good, 7% excellent; 65% planted, 70% 1999, 62% avg. Apples 7% poor, 47% fair, 42% good, 4% excellent; 40% blooming, 23% 1999, 40% avg. Peaches 31% fair, 42% good, 27% excellent; 90% blooming, 93% 1999, 98% avg. Damage assessments are underway for two frosts that occurred over much of the State last week. They may have adversely affected some fruit, vegetable crops. The frost burned some hay, corn. There was concern about possible damage in wheat. A storm pushed through the State on Saturday bringing rain, wind. There was possible wind damage to newly transplanted tobacco plants. The wind dried out granddaughter corns remotely. High percentage of calves were saved, some feedlots reported breathing dirt in the air due to dry soil conditions, some wind erosion.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 7% short, 75% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 25% short, 64% adequate, 7% surplus. Near normal temperatures were felt throughout the State with above average rainfall across the State. Land, equipment were being prepared for planting season. About 86% of tobacco transplants were soon compared to 82% 1999, 76% for the avg.. Corn planting remains localized as wet conditions have slowed planting across the State. Winter wheat 1% poor, 10% fair, 67% good, 22% excellent. Average height for winter wheat was 14 inches. About 78% of
the fruit trees were reported to be budding or in bloom. Some reports of damage of peach crop, no indications of damage to the apple crop reported at this time. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 12% poor, 35% fair, 45% good, 6% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Soil moisture 3% very short, 12% short, 64% adequate, 21% surplus. Corn 61% planted, 49% 1999, 70% avg.; 58% emerged, 23% 1999, 38% avg. Rice 29% emerged, 11% 1999, 11% avg. Rice producers continued to plant. Spring plowing 71% plowing, 63% 1999, 62% avg. Sugarcane 1% poor, 11% fair, 46% good, 42% excellent. Sugarcane farmers were fertilizing, cultivating. Wheat 5% poor, 27% fair, 58% good, 10% excellent; 85% headed, 45% 1999, 34% avg.; 7% turning color, 0% 1999, 0% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 6% poor, 41% fair, 42% good, 10% excellent. Vegetables 9% poor, 45% fair, 42% good, 4% excellent. Pastures 2% very poor, 15% poor, 34% fair, 42% good, 7% excellent. Pasture feed improved, providing much needed forage for livestock producers.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 7% short, 76% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil moisture 15% short, 74% adequate, 11% surplus. Percentage of acreage prepared for planting of spring crops 36%. Winter wheat 12% fair, 66% good, 22% excellent. Barley 1% poor, 11% fair, 68% good, 22% excellent. Rye 1% poor, 10% fair, 75% good, 14% excellent. Potatoes 60% planted, 55% 1999, 55% avg. Green peas 46% planted, 54% 1999, 44% avg. Tobacco beds 97% planted, 84% 1999, 80% avg. Tomatoes 6% planted, 4% 1999, 3% avg. Sweet corn 15% planted, 11% 1999, 8% avg. Apples 31% bloomed, 12% 1999, 16% avg. Peaches 71% bloomed, 43% 1999, 36% avg. Strawberries 40% bloomed, 19% 1999, 17% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 20% fair, 62% good, 14% excellent. Hay supplies 7% very short, 37% short, 56% adequate. Activities: Continued field preparation work, planting has begun for field corn.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 0% very short, 5% short, 95% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 30% very short, 40% short, 30% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures ranged from 0 to 3° below normal across the State. Widespread gentle rains, snow late in the week slowed fieldwork but benefited winter crops, built soil moisture. Precipitation amounts ranged from three-tenths to eight-tenths inches with the heaviest rain in the southern parts of the State. Planting of oats, alfalfa, sugar beets continued as the earliest planted sugar beets began to sprout. Apple progress was near green tip. Other activities included: Broadcasting fertilizer, hauling manure, preparing machinery, supplies for spring planting, making maple syrup. Other activities: Maple syrup day is almost upon us with the current mild weather.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil 22% very short, 43% short, 28% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 12% ground prepared, 1% 1999, 1% avg. Soybeans 5% ground prepared, 1% 1999, 0% avg. Green peas 11% planted, 2% 1999, 0% avg. Very strong winds on the west side of the state.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.9 Soil moisture 2% very short, 10% short, 53% adequate, 35% surplus. Corn 71% planted, 53% 1999, 60% avg.; 59% emerged, 26% 1999, 29% avg. Cotton 0% planted, 1% 1999, 1% avg. Rice 2% planted, 4% 1999, 15% avg. Sorghum 3% planted, 6% 1999, 12% avg. Soybeans 1% planted, 3% 1999, 3% avg. Wheat 79% jointing, 86% 1999, 86% avg.; 52% heading, 25% 1999, 20% avg.; 2% poor, 16% fair, 64% good, 18% excellent. Watermelons 35% planted, 25% 1999, 26% avg. Blueberries 4% very poor, 8% poor, 30% fair, 42% good, 16% excellent. Cattle, 1% very poor, 7% poor, 22% fair, 60% good, 10 excellent. Pasture 1% very poor, 8% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 9% excellent.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork during the week of 6.1. Topsoil 20% very short, 39% short, 41% adequate. Planting corn was the main farming activity throughout the State. The Bootheel had the least amount of days with 4.9. By the end of the week 64% of the ground had been worked at least once for spring crops, excluding no-till, compared with 55 normally. The north-central district was the driest with over 85% in very short to short. The highest ratings were in the Bootheel with over 90% adequate to surplus. Twenty-six percent of the corn was planted, ahead of the 10% 1999, two weeks ahead of normal. The Bootheel, southwest districts reported over 50% planted. Winter wheat 3% poor, 33% fair, 52% good, 12% excellent. The west-central, east-central, southwest, Bootheel districts reported the best conditions with over 70% in the good to excellent category. Pasture, range 8% very poor, 26% poor, 41% fair, 22% good, 3% excellent. The weekly precipitation averaged 0.9 inch.

NEVADA: Unseasonably warm weather was prevalent statewide. High temperatures for the week reached 91°F in Las Vegas, 80°F in Reno. Precipitation was near nil with only some widely scattered light rain at the end of the week. Accelerated snow melt reduced mountain snowpack which fell further below historic averages at most watersheds. Irrigation water supplies remained mostly adequate. Fieldwork advanced under the clear weather. Small grain planting progressed, additional field preparation was undertaken. Spring wheat, barley emergence increased. Weed control efforts intensified as the warm weather spurred growth. Pasture, range feed remained mostly fair to good. Calving, lambing continued. Branning, movement to Spring range continued. Main farm ranch activities: Field preparation, grain planting, weed control, branding, working cattle.

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

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 6.8. Topsoil 33% very short, 24% short, 43% adequate, 0% surplus. The week began with a winter storm exiting north, a rapid warm-up ensued. Temperatures in Carlsbad hit 91 on the 5th and 95 on the 7th. The statewide temperature average for the week was 5° above normal. The only precipitation reported was from the night of April 2nd, with 0.45 at Red River, 0.9 at Las Vegas, 0.5 at Capulin/Des Moines. Main farm activities during the week were: Planting chile, land preparation for spring planting, spraying for green bug, aphids in wheat. Cotton planting has begun in Dona Ana County. Onions remained in mostly good to excellent condition. Chile was 75% planted, was in fair to excellent condition. Irrigated wheat was in fair to good condition, while the dryland wheat was more poor to fair. Potatoes were in good condition but were in need of rain. Supplemental feeding of cattle continued. Cattle continued in fair to good condition, while sheep were in poor to good condition. Pasture, range feed 16% very poor, 26% poor, 45% fair, 13% good.

NEW YORK: Days suitable 3.0. Soil moisture 40% adequate, 60% surplus. Pasture feed very poor, continue dormant, not used. Maple syrup producers busy with clean-up activities. Syrup making finished. Heavy snowfall at end of week limited outside activities to normal winter chores.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work were 5.0 compared to 4.5 last week. Soil moisture 1% very short, 9% short, 86% adequate, 4% surplus. Rain continued into the first full week of April. The western half of the State realized the heaviest rainfall as the year’s first bit of severe weather rolled through. There was no damage reported. Farmers were able to get a good start on corn planting, continue to prepare land for corn, cotton, tobacco. Other activities included: Applicating herbicides. Fertilizer. Irish potato, cabbage plantings are nearly complete, well ahead of schedule. Other activities included: Scouting for pests, equipment maintenance, tending livestock. Cereal leaf blight has been reported in some wheat acreage.

NORTH DAKOTA: Topsoil 5% very short, 22% short, 70% adequate, and 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 5% very short, 21% short, 69% adequate, 5% surplus. No durum wheat was planted. Cool temperatures last week slowed fieldwork across the state. The northwest, north central districts received some snow as well. The average starting date for the state is expected to be April 12th. Cattle 0% very poor, 0% poor, 16% fair, 74% good, 10% excellent. Calf 0% very poor, 0% poor, 15% fair, 74% good, 11% excellent. Calving 66% complete. 95% of the cattle were receiving supplemental feed. Sheep 0% very poor, 0% poor, 12% fair, 75% good, 13% excellent. Lamb 79% very poor, 0% poor, 1% fair, 74% good, 13% excellent. Lambing 76% complete, shearing 85% complete. 85% of the sheep were receiving supplemental feed. Hay, roughage supplies were 0% very short, 3% short, 86% adequate, 11% surplus. Grain, concentrate supplies were 0% very short, 3% short, 89% adequate, 8% surplus. Pasture, range supplies were 5% very poor, 10% poor, 33% fair, 47% good, and 5% excellent. Pasture, ranges were 81% open and 91% dormant.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork, 2.3 days. Topsoil 2% very short, 16% short, 61% adequate, 21% surplus. Corn 1% planted, 3% 1999, 1% average. Oats 38% planted, 42% 1999, 29% avg. Oats emerged, 5% 1999, 2% avg. Winter wheat 20% jointed, 16% 1999. Tobacco beds 63% seeded, 55% 1999. Tobacco beds having plants up 23%, 19% 1999. Potatoes 8% planted, 14% 1999, 5% avg. Sugar beets 3% planted. Apples green 53% tip, 38% 1999. Peaches green 49% tip, 43% 1999. Peaches full 20% bloom, 19% 1999. Pasture 1% very poor, 8% poor, 29% fair, 48% good, 14% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 1% poor, 12% fair, 53% good, 34% excellent. Apples 3% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 62% good, 13% excellent. Peaches 4% very poor, 9% poor, 18% fair, 58% good, 11% excellent. Hay 1% very poor, 6% poor, 27% fair, 53% good, 13% excellent. Activities throughout the state included: Applying anhydrous ammonia, fertilizer, lime; hauling manure, plowing, chiseling, discing, applying pre-emergence herbicides, burning brush, clearing fence rows, equipment maintenance, preparation, installing tile, moving grain, sowing oats, alfalfa seedings, planting grasses, legumes, marketing grain, top dressing wheat, scouting turkey, culling unproductive livestock, buying seed. Reporters throughout the state mentioned that the grass turned green earlier than normal this year due to warm temperatures, rain. Growers in several counties, including Jackson, Fairfield, Washington, are re-seeding pastures. Livestock are reported in good to excellent condition, although continuous changes in weather in some regions have been stressful to animals. Lambing, calving are progressing normally throughout the state. A Clark county reporter mentioned that livestock are being pastured earlier than normal due to short hay supplies.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 10% short, 82% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 19% short, 72% adequate, 4% surplus. Wheat 1% very poor, 4% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent; 89% jointing, 87% 1999, 78% avg.; 10% headed, 5% 1999, 3% avg. Oats 1% very poor, 7% poor, 33% fair, 53% good, 6% excellent; 98% planted, 100% 1999, 100% avg.; 51% jointing, 69% 1999, 47% avg.; 2% headed, 7% 1999, 3% avg.; Corn 70% seedbed prepared, 78% 1999, 80% avg.; 18% planted, 17% 1999, 16% avg. Sorghum 26% seedbed prepared, 33% 1999, 30% avg.; 1% planted, 0%1999, 2% avg. Soybeans 55% seedbed prepared, 33% 1999, 37%; 1% planted, 4% 1999, 3% avg. Peanuts 34% seedbed prepared, 50% 1999, 39% avg. Cotton 61% seedbed prepared, 52% 1999, 74% avg. Pasture 2% very poor, 9% poor, 31% fair, 51% good, 7% excellent; Livestock 4% poor, 25% fair, 61% good, 10% excellent; Pasture; Marketings average.

 PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.7. Topsoil 7% short, 88% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 9% short, 78% adequate, 13% surplus. Barley 72% planted, 58% 1999, 57% avg. Barley 26% fair, 53% good, 21% excellent, Spring wheat 58% planted, 35% 1999. Winter wheat 36% fair, 62% good; 12% very poor, 7% excellent. Range pasture 8% poor, 24% fair, 61% good, 7% excellent. Activities: Good weather state wide allowed spring field work to continue, for spring grains to be planted. In Willamette Valley fertilizer, herbicide applications continued. Field crops in good condition. Grass for hay greening up. On eastside farmers busy planting spring crops. Warmer temperatures increased crop size, advanced growth rapidly. Fields continued to be worked, meadows dragged. Nurseries very busy digging, shipping nursery stock. Greenhouses moving bedding plants to retail outlets. Easter lily growers in Curry county fertilizing, weeding, roguing out off type lilies. Christmas tree planting almost done, with supply of trees for planting short. There are reports that next years trees for planting already sold out. In Willamette Valley, early potatoes, onions, other early spring vegetables being planted though some fields still too wet to plant. Washington County reported green peas doing well. In eastern areas of State, spring seeding of onions, carrots, potatoes continued, Umaltia County reported some early green peas emerging. Western area Fruit trees blooming. First peaches near full bloom, with cherries, pears following. Some early apple varieties pushing past green tip. Hazelnuts, blueberries leafing out. Cultivation underway in berry fields. In Coos, Curry counties, blueberry, cranberry growers preparing to irrigate as needed on a field-by-field basis. In Eastern area, cherries starting to bloom while apricots, peaches in the late flowering stage. Livestock in excellent condition with calving about done in most of state. Ranchers reported that spring calves getting shots, tagged, marked, branded. Eastern area reports some cattle being turned out, pastures are growing. Western areas reports pastures greening up, supplement feeding winding down.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for field work 2.8. Soil moisture 1% very short, 4% short, 74% adequate, 21% surplus. Plowing 26%, 30% 1999, 26% avg. Oats 21% planted, 23% 1999, 22% avg. Oats 6% emerged, 1% 1999, average not available. Wheat crop 1% poor, 18% fair, 70% good, 11% excellent. Oat crop 2% very poor, 69% fair, 29% good. Alfalfa, alfalfa mixtures stand 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 62% good 10% excellent. Timothy clover stand 5% very poor, 9% poor, 28% fair, 51% good, 7% excellent. Peaches 57% pink, 21% 1999, 20% avg.; 36% full bloom or past, 14% 1999, 12% avg. Cherries 25% pink, 14% 1999, 16% avg.; 15% full bloom or past, 9% 1999, 10% avg. Activities include: Spring plowing; planting oats, tobacco; fixing fences; machinery maintenance; ordering supplies; spreading lime, fertilizers; hauling manure; caring for livestock; spraying herbicides; pruning trees; planting alfalfa.
SOUTHERN UNITED STATES

**SOULD CAROLINA:** Soil moisture 12% short, 86% adequate, 2% surplus. Barley 5% headed; 8% fair, 50% good, 42% excellent. Cantaloupe 20% planted, 17% 1999, 12% avg. Corn 50% planted, 43% 1999, 45% avg. Cucumbers 25% planted, 46% 1999, 32% avg. Grain hay 9% harvested, 8% 1999, 8% avg. Oats 15% headed, 16% 1999, 15% avg.; 21% fair, 69% good, 10% excellent. Peaches 6% fair, 43% good, 51% excellent. Rye 20% headed, 26% 1999, 19% avg.; 21% fair, 71% good, 6% excellent. Snap beans 30% planted, 29% 1999, 33% avg. Soybeans 1% planted. Sorghum 3% planted, 6% 1999, 2% avg. Soybeans 1% planted. Tobacco 6% transplanted, 5% 1999, 5% avg. Tomatoes 35% planted, 21% 1999, 33% avg. Watermelon 41% planted, 43% 1999, 37% avg. Winter grazing 1% poor, 34% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent. Winter wheat 6% headed, 14% 1999, 11% avg.; 1% poor, 12% fair, 78% good, 9% excellent.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for field work 5.0. Topsoil 11% very short, 36% short, 50% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil Moisture 9% very short, 36% short, 51% adequate, 4% surplus. Winter rye 7% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 14% excellent. Oats 2% emerged. Spring wheat 5% emerged. Range, pasture 1% very poor, 9% poor, 32% fair, 49% good, 9% excellent. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 14% short, 76% adequate, 9% surplus. Feed supplies 2% short, 79% adequate, 19% surplus. Cattle 6% fair, 71% good, 23% excellent; moved to pasture 7%. Sheep 7% fair, 69% good, 24% excellent. Lambing 65%. Calving 47%.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3. Topsoil 1% very short, 2% short, 75% adequate, 22% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 27% short, 62% adequate, 8% surplus. Tobacco 90% seeded, 80% 1999, 86% avg.; 73% plants up, 57% 1999, 58% avg. Wheat 88% planted, 60% 1999, 67% avg.; 3% poor, 12% fair, 54% excellent. Apples 96% budding or beyond, 75% 1999, 82% avg.; 75% blooming or beyond, 41% 1999, 51% avg. Peaches 87% blooming or beyond, 84% 1999, 82% avg. Pastures 2% very poor, 9% poor, 35% fair, 49% good, 5% excellent. Strawberries 3% poor, 41% fair, 49% good, 7% excellent. Farmers watched anxiously as night time temperatures dipped below freezing in many parts of the State last week. With apple, peach trees already in bloom, areas fruit growers were the most concerned. Early indications suggest only a light freeze, but the full extent of the damage will not be known until later in the growing season. Some early planted corn, wheat was also hurt by the cold temperatures, but is expected to recover. Heavy rains delayed fieldwork, caused flooding in some locations.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for field work 7. Topsoil 1% very short, 15% short, 79% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% short, 86% adequate, 5% surplus. Winter wheat 1% poor, 11% fair, 87% good, 1% excellent; freeze damage 94% none, 6% light. Fall barley 2% very poor, 21% fair, 66% good, 11% excellent; freeze damage 89% none, 10% light, 1% moderate. Pasture, range feed 9% poor, 32% fair, 51% good, 8% excellent. Spring wheat 53%; planted, 14% emerged. Barley 55% planted, 16% emerged. Oats 18% planted, 6% emerged. Apricots full bloom or past 99%, 99% 1999, 77% avg. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 8%, 10% 1999, 13% avg. Pears full bloom or past 17%, 0% 1999, 11% avg. Cows calved 69%, 75% 1999, 67% avg. Ewes lambed: on farm 71%, 73% 1999, 66% avg.; on range 27%, 31% 1999, 30% avg. Sheep sheared on farm 60%, 57% 1999, 55% avg.; on range 38%, 37% 1999, 37% avg. Major farm, range activities included: Spring planting, spring tillage, spraying fruit, shearing sheep, lambing, calving. Farmers were able to accomplish a lot in their fields this week due to the warm, dry weather. However, the lack of precipitation forced many to begin irrigation.

**TEXAS:** Freezing temperatures, high winds, frost accompanied a passing front across the Plains while light rain showers, mild frost was experienced in some other locations. Hail damage occurred in some areas associated with the same weather front, could create the need for additional replanting. Land preparation continued but progress remained limited in areas where rains fell. In areas where moisture was not nor has not been received progress remained slow. In these same areas associated with the same weather front, could create the need for additional irrigation. In the Rio Grande Valley, Winter Garden areas, conditions allowed. Cultivation continued in earlier planted fields however limited in areas where rains fell. In areas where moisture was not nor has been received progress remained slow. In these same areas of the State last week. With apple, peach trees already in bloom, areas fruit growers were the most concerned. Early indications suggest only a light freeze, but the full extent of the damage will not be known until later in the growing season. Some early planted corn, wheat was also hurt by the cold temperatures, but is expected to recover. Heavy rains delayed fieldwork, caused flooding in some locations.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 14% short, 75% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 27% short, 66% adequate, 5% excellent. Pastures 1% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 49% good, 11% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 13% excellent. Other Hay 2% very poor, 5% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, 7% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 1% very poor, 2% fair, 52% good, 20% very good, 6% excellent. Corn for Grain 13% planted, 14% 1999, 8% avg. Winter Wheat 1% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 62% good, 21% excellent. Barley 2% poor, 16% fair, 58% good, 24% excellent. Tobacco greenhouse 99% planted, 100% 1999, 100% avg.; 14% fair, 59% good, 27% excellent. Tobacco plant beds 100% planted, 100% 1999, 98% avg.; 5% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 68% good. Peaches, Summer 97% planted, 90% 1999, 90% avg. Apples 12% poor, 52% good, 6% excellent. Peaches 13% very poor, 4% poor, 46% fair, 28% good, 9% excellent. Rains, above normal temperatures across the Commonwealth improved small grain conditions. High winds, cooler temperatures by the end of the week caused damage to peaches, some lodging in small grains. The extent of damage to the peach crop will not be known for another couple of weeks. As weather conditions permitted, many farmers made good progress in getting their corn crop planted. Small grain producers 40%, 1999 22%, Average 14%. Sorghum: Planting was completed in the southern areas, planting continued to move northward as weather conditions allowed. Cultivation continued in earlier planted fields however light rains slowed progress in a few locations. Statewide sorghum 82% of normal compared with 79% 1999. Peanuts: Planting began in South Central. Published 1%, 1999 1%, Average 1%. Soybeans: Land preparation remained active where possible, planting continued along the upper coast, South Central. Emerged beans were making good progress, state wide 93%, 1999, 93% avg.; 1% excellent. Average 11%.

**COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES, FRUIT AND PEACANS:** Rio Grande Valley, harvest remained active for greens, carrots, onions, cabbages, began for beans, peas, potatoes. Cantaloupe, melon planting continued and available soil moisture was becoming critical in some areas. San Antonio Winter Garden, watermelon planting remained active, some re-planting was necessary as a result of wind, hail damage. Harvest remained active for cabbage, carrots, broccoli. Planting of green beans, chili peppers continued. East Areas growing conditions for strawberries remained favorable, watermelon planting continued. Growth of watermelons was slowed as a result of the cool weather, some fields were then again damaged by hail and high wind. High Plains, potato and onion planting was mostly completed. Land preparation remained slow where rains fell. Fruit trees continued to bloom in many locations, some damage from frost occurred. Peaches: Fruit setting continued in southern areas, however some fruit was again damaged by frost in a few areas. Peacans: Bud break continued to move northward, applications of zinc continued to be applied by producers.

**RANGE AND LIVESTOCK:** Many areas of the state received additional rainfall along with high winds, hail, frost in some locations. Green-up of range, pasture continued in areas where recent rains fell. Planting of new grass continued in some locations where soil moisture was adequate. Run-off was considerable in some locations, irrigated lands filled to near normal, while in other locations ponds remained dry. Supplemental feeding continued to decline where green-up was favorable, but remained necessary in other areas. Hauling water to livestock remained necessary in a few locations. In a few areas concern was expressed about the increase in grasshopper populations.
continue to apply nitrogen, scout for cereal leaf beetles, powdery mildew. Some land preparation has begun for soybeans, cotton. Other farming activities included: Land preparation for vegetables, bedding sweet potatoes, caring for livestock, repairing fences.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 1% very short, 10% short, 69% adequate, 20% surplus; Subsoil moisture 11% short, 88% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat, dryland, 13% fair, 71% good, 16% excellent; irrigated 100% good. The winter wheat crop was progressing nicely, but will need moisture in the near future to keep condition favorable. Spring wheat, dryland 1% poor, 85% fair, 14% good; irrigated 100% good. Planted 47%, 47% 1999, 39% avg.; emerged 11% 1999, 16% avg. Barley, dryland 1% poor, 87% fair, 12% good; 100% irrigated, good. Planted 31%, 34% 1999, 29% avg.; emerged 6%, 6% 1999, 9% avg. Both barley, spring wheat planting was in full swing due to the warm weather. Warmer nights to increase soil temperatures, precipitation will be needed to promote growth. Potatoes 12% fair, 88% good. Planted 30%, 12% 1999, 19% avg.; emerged 6%, 0% 1999, 2% avg. Hay, roughage 1% short, 99% adequate. Range, pasture 19% poor, 38% fair, 43% good. Warm weather across the state enabled spring activities to flourish last week. Potatoes, sweet corn, onions, sugar beets were all being planted. Apple growers were finishing up pruning in western area tree fruits in central area were starting to bloom.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Topsoil 3% very short, 22% short, 73% adequate, 2% surplus. Rain across most areas of the State improved crop, livestock conditions. Wheat 17% fair, 62% good, 21% excellent. Hay 3% very poor, 19% poor, 45% fair, 31% good, 2% excellent. Intended Acreage Prepared for Spring Planting 42%, 54% 1999, 47% 5-year avg. Corn 4% planted, 4% 1999, 5% 5-year avg. Oats 34% Planted, 27% 1999, 25% 5-year avg.; 12% emerged, 4% 1999, 6% 5-year avg. Tobacco beds seeded 87%, 63% 1999, 65% 5-year avg.; 38% emerged, 12% 1999, 15% 5-year avg. Cattle 1% very poor, 7% poor, 21% fair, 68% good, 3% excellent; 76% calved. Sheep 1% poor, 15% fair, 80% good, 4% excellent; 88% lambed. Feed grain supplies 5% very short, 12% short, 74% adequate, 9% surplus. Hay, roughage supplies 23% very short, 30% short, 46% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Field preparation, planting, calving, lambing, general maintenance.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Soil moisture 22% very short, 49% short, 28% adequate, 1% surplus. Spring tillage completed: 24% 2000, 13% 1999, 5% 5-year average. Winter weather returned last week, with blizzard-like conditions for the lower one-third of the state on Friday. Snowfall amounts from the April 7 storm were 0.9 inch in La Crosse, 4.0 inches in Madison, 6.6 inches reported in Milwaukee. The moisture was much needed, and by the end of the weekend, most of the snowfall melted, had soaked in. Windy conditions, lack of significant amounts of precipitation throughout the state last week helped soil conditions to become drier. At this time 1999, soil moisture was rated 90% adequate to surplus. Spring tillage was ahead of the 1999 pace of 13%, over two weeks ahead of the five-year average of 5% complete. Largest gains were made in the central districts. Alfalfa, winter wheat have been reported greening-up nicely, but not showing much growth due to lack of moisture. Corn producers have planters ready to go, in southern areas started to apply anhydrous in anticipation of warmer planting conditions. Potato planting started on a limited basis last week in the central sands. Spring calving has kept beef producers busy. Many farmers continued to haul manure, spread lime, top-dress pastures, wheat fields with fertilizer.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 6% very short, 53% short, 41% adequate. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 64% short, 24% adequate, 4% surplus. Barley 49% planted, 64% 1999, 50% avg.; 10% emerged, 9% 1999, 3% avg. Oats 15% planted, 24% 1999, 15% avg. Spring wheat 11% planted, 32% 1999, 22% avg. Sugar beets 33% planted, 20% 1999, 9% avg. Spring calves 72% born, 69% 1999, 70% avg. Farm flock ewes 76% lambed, 72% 1999, 78% avg. Farm flock sheep 71% shorn, 78% 1999, 80% avg. Range flock ewes 20% lambed, 13% 1999, 12% avg. Range flock sheep 42% shorn, 38% 1999, 37% avg. Calf, lamb losses light to normal. Range, pasture feed 2% poor, 50% fair, 44% good, 4% excellent. Stock water supplies 31% short, 69% adequate.