ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 38% very short, 48% short, 14% adequate. Soybeans 93% dropping leaves, 85% 1999, 81% 5 yr avg.; 28% harvested, 40% 1999, 26% 5 yr avg.; 34% very poor, 25% poor, 35% fair, 6% good. Pasture feed 31% very poor, 30% poor, 34% fair, 5% good. Livestock feed 6% very poor, 13% poor, 38% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent. Farmers harvested cotton, soybeans. Extremely dry conditions persist. Sweet potato harvest has begun.

ARIZONA: Area recorded below average temperatures with moderate precipitation throughout the state during the week of October 15. Range, pasture feeds will benefit from the much needed precipitation, however some areas have reported that permanent range, pasture grass is already dead from a sustained lack of precipitation.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Early week record low temperatures gave way to above normal temperatures by week’s end. Large area of high pressure resulted in no precipitation, statewide. Soil moisture 31% very short, 40% short, 29% adequate. Corn 100% harvested, 100% 1999, 99% 5 yr avg. Soybean 89% shedding, 70% 1999, 67% 5 yr avg.; 68% mature, 44% harvested, 40% 1999, 32% 5 yr avg.; 20% very poor, 26% poor, 30% fair, 21% good, 3% excellent. Sorghum 97% harvested, 100% 1999, 96% 5 yr avg. Cotton 99% opened bolls, 99% 1999, 98% 5 yr avg.; 72% harvested, 73% 1999, 53% 5 yr avg.; 4% very poor, 18% poor, 38% fair, 34% good, 6% excellent. Rice 100% ripe, 95% harvested, 95% 1999, 93% 5 yr avg. Wheat 21% planted, 19% 1999, 18% 5 yr avg.; 3% emerged, 5% 1999, 6% 5 yr avg. Other hay 22% very poor, 42% poor, 30% fair, 6% good. Alfalfa 13% very poor, 30% poor, 47% fair, 10% good. Row crop harvests winding down. Winter wheat seeding, ground preparation in full swing. Freeze caused some damage, Northeastern late planted soybeans. Livestock fair condition. Some early supplemental feeding underway. Some early sell off of cattle, lack of forage. Range pasture feed 26% very poor, 48% poor, 22% fair, 4% good. Producers overseeding, fertilizing pastures in hopes of later forage prospects. Frosts sent Bermudagrass into dormancy, some areas. Lack of precipitation slowed pasture regrowth, statewide.

CALIFORNIA: Most field operations, including chemical applications, were slowed by recent rainfalls. The cotton harvest was delayed in some areas, as growers waited for fields to dry. Cotton defoliation continued in many fields. The amount of rain damage, if any, to cotton from staining or embedded plant material was expected to be determined at ginning. The sugar beet harvest continued. Several sugar beet fields were treated for armyworms, leaf hoppers. The black-eyed bean harvest continued. Rice harvesting continued; growers reported some lodging due to stormy weather. Ground was being prepared, planting of small grains, winter forage continued. Rain provided good soil moisture for wheat planting. A few fields of corn for silage, grain were still being harvested. The seventh cutting of alfalfa continued, but some hay was damaged by the rain. Sudan hay continued to be cut and baled. Vineyards, fruit orchards were undergoing weed control, fungicide applications, irrigation. Rainfall slowed harvesting activities. Picking of grapes for fresh consumption, wine was slowed by rain in the San Joaquin Valley. Nearly all of the grapes for raisins were harvested; 5% remained on open trays, 10% were rolled, 85% picked up, removed from the vineyards. The rain caused minimal damage to raisins, since harvest was so near completion. Harvest of freestone peaches, nectarines, plums, prunes was virtually complete. Pomegranate, fig harvests continued. Some San Joaquin Valley pomegranates were damaged by rain, but the extent of damage was unknown at this time. Fuji, Granny Smith apple picking continued. Kiwifruit, olive harvests were active. Picking of grapefruit was active in the San Joaquin Valley. The harvest of Valencia oranges was slow in southern state, in the San Joaquin Valley. Lemon picking was active in southern state. Raspberries were harvested in the Tehachapi area. Strawberry picking continued. Almond harvest continued; harvest in the northern counties was nearing completion. Pruning in almond orchards began in some areas of the San Joaquin Valley. Walnut, pistachio harvests continued. Rain, hail damage occurred in some lettuce, snap bean, broccoli fields in the Madera, Huron areas of Fresno County. The Fresno County commissioner estimated storm-related crop losses at $3.3 million. Fall lettuce, broccoli harvest began where conditions permitted. Broccoli fields were sprayed for loopers, aphids. Some cauliflower fields were treated to control aphids. Cauliflower transplants were being planted in the Imperial Valley. Cantaloupe, bell pepper harvests were nearing completion. Processing tomato harvest was completed; fresh market tomatoes were still being picked. Among the vegetables harvested were; basil, bok choy, radishes, cilantro, cucumbers, dill, mustard greens, mint, okra, parsley, peppers, squash, spinach. Range feeds were improving slightly with recent rainfall. Sheep grazed stubble fields in the valleys. Cattle were moved from higher elevation pastures. Fall calving began in some areas. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 15% very short, 41% short, 43% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 29% very short, 53% short, 18% adequate, 0% surplus. Mostly dry conditions prevailed with only isolated showers at lower elevations, locally moderate amounts of snow in some mountain areas. Harvest of late season crops is progressing favorably with good weather. Dry onions 94% harvested, 90% 1999, 95% avg. Sugar beets 20% harvested, 26% 1999, 28% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 7% fair, 62% good, 27% excellent. Summer potatoes 92% harvested, 99% 1999, 97% avg. Fall potatoes 98% harvested, 89% 1999, 92% avg. Dry beans 97% harvested, 94% 1999, 90% avg. Winter wheat 96% seeded, 98% 1999, 94% avg.; 72% emerged, 82% 1999, 80% avg. Alfalfa 98% 4th cutting, 95% 1999, 92% avg, 66% 4th cutting, 55% 1999, 46% avg.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 15% short, 82% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% short, 92% adequate, 3% surplus. Field corn 87% mature, 100% 1999, 95% avg.; 65% harvested for grain, 81% 1999, 68% avg...99% harvested for silage harvested, 88% 1999, 93% avg. Soybeans 63% shedding leaves, 88% 1999, 68% avg.; 17% harvested, 10% 1999, 12% avg. Sorghum 10% harvested, 26% 1999, 23% avg. Barley 99% good, 1% excellent. Winter Wheat 100% good. Rye condition 3% fair, 90% good, 7% excellent. Pasture feed 7% poor, 10% fair, 80% good, 3% excellent. Hay supplies 8% short, 92% adequate. Percent of cutting hay crop harvest; clover, other hays 65% 4th cutting cut, 66% 1999, 60% avg. Alfalfa 98% 4th cutting cut, 88% 1999, 86% avg.; 25% 5th cutting cut, 27% 1999, 17% avg. Activities: Corn harvest still in full swing. Good field conditions have allowed farmers to continue harvesting row crops, seed small grains. Lots of soybeans losing leaves.
FLORIDA: Cool, mostly dry weather prevailed. Temperatures avg from 1 to 15° below normal. Nighttime lows varied considerably: western Panhandle, northern localities reporting 30s, 40s, 50s with some patchy frost. Elsewhere, lows mostly in 60s, 70s. Most daytime highs 70s, 80s. Most inland areas of Peninsula reported no measurable rain. Coastal localities reported from traces to about 0.50 in. falling. Moisture in south Peninsula adequate to surplus. Moisture in other parts of State is short to adequate with scattered areas of very short or surplus moisture. Cool weather slowing cotton, peanut maturity. Cotton harvest active. Tobacco markets are closed. Soybean, sugarcane harvests starting. Haying active. Seventy-eight percent of peanuts reported harvested. Cool temperature did not significant damage to tomatoes in Quincy region. Field activity for vegetables resumed in Dare County as ground dried from recent heavy rainfall. Bell pepper picking started, East Coast region. Cucumber, pickle harvesting began, West Central. Other vegetables available: watermelons, squash, okra. Coolest temperatures of the new citrus fruit season. Irrigation resumed due to dry weather, to increase fruit sizes. Good on-tree fruit coloring for most early crops. Harvesting crews moving a lot of early oranges, grapefruit, early tangerines to the packing houses. Few juice plants open, receiving eliminations. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, hedging, topping, burning debris. Pasture feed 5% poor, 35% fair, 60% good. Condition of cattle 30% fair, 70% good. Statewide, range, pasture feed fair to good. Pastures dry in north, standing water in southwest. Panhandle: permanent pasture feeds declining seasonally with cool weather; winter forage planting delayed by dry soil conditions. North: haying active, cool season forages being planted. Irrigation systems are loged to avoid drying out the first field as well as keeping the soil cool. Cool, dryer weather as temperatures are dropping in the central/northern region. Peanut, cotton crops will be dry for a while. Peaches, pears, apples all starting to ripen. Some reports of frost damage in citrus areas. Frost in the last 10 days have helped preserve topsoil moisture but slowed growth of grass in both cotton, peanut crops have focused more on peanut harvest. Peanut harvest gained momentum. Some farmers have reported that white fly are prevalent in certain areas. Boll weevil numbers are increasing. Winter wheat harvest is nearing completion are well ahead of the avg pace for fall harvest. Corn harvest 5 days behind avg, one week behind last year. Soybean harvest 1 day ahead of avg, 7 days behind 1999. Corn going down in many fields. Lodging remains major concern. Tobacco stripping, tillage of soils, seeding winter wheat continued. Wheat seeding made good progress, still behind 1999, avg. Precipitation averaged 0 to 0.53 inches. Temperatures averaged 7° below to 4° above normal. Range, pasture 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 56% good, 16% excellent. Soybeans 98% mature, 99% 1999, 94% avg. Major activities: hauling grain to market, tilling soils, seeding winter wheat, spreading fertilizer, lime, equipment repair, hauling manure, caring for livestock.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil 8% short, 78% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil 6% very short, 16% short, 66% adequate, 12% surplus. Open weather allowed for the best week thus far this fall for fieldwork. Freezing temperatures, heavy frost last week, some areas. Overall the soybean harvest made good progress. Corn harvest 5 days ahead of avg, one week behind last year. Soybean harvest 1 day ahead of avg, 7 days behind 1999. Corn going down in many fields. Lodging remains major concern. Tobacco stripping, tillage of soils, seeding winter wheat continued. Wheat seeding made good progress, still behind 1999, avg. Precipitation averaged 0 to 0.53 inches. Temperatures averaged 7° below to 4° above normal. Range, pasture 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 56% good, 16% excellent. Soybeans 98% mature, 99% 1999, 94% avg. Major activities: hauling grain to market, tilling soils, seeding winter wheat, spreading fertilizer, lime, equipment repair, hauling manure, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for field work 6.8. Topsoil 34% very short, 39% short, 27% adequate. Subsoil moisture 45% very short, 35% short, 20% adequate. Corn, soybean harvest progressed; dry conditions continue to cause field fires. Most areas need rain, some shallow wells, creeks have dried up. A great deal of grain is moving to elevators as harvest continues. Corn 76% harvested, 51% 1999, 34% avg. Percent moisture of all field corn 16% avg.; 15% harvested. Soybeans 91% harvested, 83% 1999, 77% avg. Winter wheat 73% planted, 68% 1999, 69% avg. Areas nearing harvest completion are well ahead of the avg pace for fall fieldwork. Fertilizer 10% application, 0% 1999, 5% avg. Fall tillage 15%, 6% 1999, 7% avg. Mild temperatures, dry lots have reduced stress, made for favorable conditions for all livestock types. Calves are being weaned early, many cow/calf herds are grazing on stalks. Range, pasture feed 17% very poor, 24% poor, 34% fair, 20% good, 5% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 45% very short, 39% short, 16% adequate. Subsoil moisture 56% very short, 34% short, 10% adequate. October (7,8,&9) hard freeze entire state. Winter wheat planting delayed by cool weather, dry soil conditions. North: haying active, cool season forages being planted. Open weather allowed the drills to enter the fields. Other activities last week included: Primary tillage, spreading fertilizer, massive LDP activity at the FSA offices.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 9% very short, 30% short, 59% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 12% very short, 30% short, 57% adequate, 1% surplus. Cold temperatures were experienced last week with record or near record lows in many areas. Highs reached normal by week’s end. Little to no rainfall was received with only brief showers at beginning of week. Rainfall for the season is below normal for some areas of state even with the generally good summer experienced. Some late soybeans were damaged by the frost which may result in loss of yield quality. Wheat 28% seeded, 30% 1999, 35% avg. Burley 12% stripped. Housed tobacco 2% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 50% good, 18% excellent. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 11% poor, 27% fair, 46% good, 11% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Soil moisture 30% very short, 37% short, 32% adequate, 1% surplus. Hay 98% final cutting, 96% 55% harvested, 34% 1999, 52% avg. Corn 92% harvested for silage, 93% 1999, 91% avg.; 32% harvested for grain, 11% 1999, 12% avg. Sugarbeets 29% harvested, 38% 1999, 29% avg. Winter wheat 83% planted, 77% 1999, 77% avg.; 40% emerged, 30% 1999, 40% avg. Activities: Fall field work, planting winter wheat, chopping corn silage, harvesting potatoes, sugarbeets, corn for grain, apples, onions.
1999, 95% avg.; Pecans 8% harvested, 13% 1999, 8% avg. Soybeans 99% dropping leaves, 98% 1999, 94% avg. Sugarcane 3% very poor, 16% poor, 44% fair, 33% good, 4% excellent; 19% harvested, 20% 1999, 11% avg. Sweet Potatoes 58% harvested, 74% 1999, 71% avg. Sweet potato growers were waiting for more moisture to continue harvesting. Wheat 21% planted, 14% 1999, 16% avg.; 2% emerged, 3% 1999, 5% avg. Extremely dry conditions continued to delay wheat plantings for some producers. Livestock 5% very poor, 24% poor, 44% fair, 25% good, 2% excellent. Alfalfa 90% 4th cutting cut, 71% 1999, 85% avg.; 16% short, 80% adequate, 4% surplus. Percent of cutting hay crop harvest; 4th cutting 74% cut, 81% 1999, 60% avg.  Corn 40% harvested, 40% 1999, 35% avg.  Field corn 99% mature, 96% 1999, 97% avg.; 54% harvested for grain, 71% 1999, 63% avg.; 94% harvested for silage, 94% 1999, 96% avg.  Pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 14% fair, 55% good, 27% excellent. Barley 13% fair, 72% good, 15% excellent. Winter Wheat 8% fair, 93% good, 1% excellent. Rye 5% fair, 84% good, 11% excellent. All hay supplies 23 16% very poor, 26% fair, 41% good, 9% excellent. All hay supplies 23. 15% surplus. Percent of cutting hay crop harvest; 4th cutting 74% cut, 83% 1999, 74% avg.; 4% 4th cutting, 81% 1999, 60% avg. Corn 91% mature, 99% 1999, 89% avg. Drybeans 96% harvested, 100% 1999, 92% avg. Silage 90% harvested, 99% 1999, 94% avg. Soybeans 91% dropping leaves, 100% 1999, 100% avg.; 80% mature, 100% 1999, 93% avg. Moderate conditions prevailed as crops dried, harvest increased. District precipitation for week ranged from 0.04 northeast Lower Peninsula to 1.05 eastern Upper Peninsula. Temperatures above normal statewide. Weather conditions generally good for harvest this week. Corn harvest was underway across State, but drydown still needs to occur since much corn has moisture content too high for harvest. Soybean harvest advanced during week, was nearly one-third complete. Late planted soybeans short, low quality was reported in some areas. Yields varied even from adjacent fields. Dry bean harvest was nearly completed this week, sugarbean harvest continued. Winter wheat planting was two-thirds complete, with some wheat being planted just after soybeans harvested. Harvest most vegetables nearied completion. Squash, pumpkin harvests full swing. Small amounts tomatoes, celery, sweet corn still coming out field as season drew to a close. Apple harvest continued for Red Delicious, Ida Red, Jonathan, Cortland varieties. Harvest Concord grapes is expected to finish this week.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 32% very short, 39% short, 27% adequate, 2% surplus. Soybeans 10% moisture content, 11% 1999, 12% avg.; 61% stubble plowed, 43% 1999, 41% avg. Corn 16% moisture content, 13% 1999, 12% avg.; 72% stubble worked, 91% 1999, 14% avg. Potatoes 95% harvested, 82% 1999, 86% avg. Dry beans 96% harvested, 87% 1999, 91% avg. Pasture feed 16% very poor, 32% poor, 28% fair, 22% good, 2% excellent. The 2000 corn harvest is over 2/3 complete. Dry fields, low grain moisture meant that, aside from equipment problems, there were almost no obstacles to rapid removal, storage of the crop. In this time of high fuel prices, the excellent field drying conditions have been very helpful in reducing the expense of drying corn. Harvest of other late-season crops is now nearly complete, with the exception of sunflowers.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Soil moisture 52% very short, 31% short, 17% adequate. Hay (Warm Season) 98% harvested, 97% 1999, 99% avg. Cattle 10% very poor, 21% poor, 36% fair, 29% good, 4% excellent. Sweetpotatoes 73% harvested, 71% 1999, 67% avg. Wheat 21% planted, 28% 1999, 33% avg.; 6% emerged, 13% 1999, 16% avg.; 7% very poor, 41% poor, 34% fair, 16% good, 2% excellent. Pasture 00%, very poor, 00% poor, 00% fair, 00% good. Pasture 35% very poor, 26% poor, 28% fair, 11% good. Virtually no rain fell throughout the state last week which aided farmers in making significant crop harvest progress.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 21% very short, 29% short, 48% adequate, 2% surplus. Harvesting of corn, soybeans is at a record pace, although weekend rain is causing temporary delay in many areas. The weekly precipitation averaged 0.61 inch, varying from 0.25 inch or less in the south-central and southeast, to 0.99 inches northeast. Corn harvested ranged from 79% northeast to 90% or more in all other areas, including 100% in southern districts. Soybean harvest ranged from 99% southeast to 85% west-central districts. Sorghum harvested varied from 51% north-central district to 96% or more in west-central and southern districts. Winter wheat seeding jumped a few days ahead of normal, but emergence is slightly behind average due to the moisture shortage. Pastures 29% very poor, 30% poor, 25% fair, 15% good, 1% excellent. Supplemental hay feeding continues in many west-central and southern counties. Stock water supplies are 28% very poor, 29% short, 42% adequate, 1% surplus, with the lowest ponds in the southwest and south-central districts.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 20% very short, 48% short, 32% adequate, 0% surplus. Soybeans moisture 69% very poor, 43% short, 11% adequate, 0% surplus. Corn harvested 96% for silage, 96% 1999, 97% avg. Dry beans 98% harvested, 97% 1999, 99% avg. Potatoes 59% harvested, 74% 1999, 65% avg. Cattle, calves moved from 70% summer ranges, 67% 1999, 59% avg. Sheep, lambs moved from 72% summer ranges, 69% 1999, 65% avg. The additional moisture received the past few weeks has prompted some producers to make the decision to seed winter wheat this fall. However, others are still waiting for more moisture before making that decision. Freeze damage to some sugar beet crops have been reported. However, the extent of it is still being evaluated. Producers in some areas of the state are reporting that calves are weighing less then average due to the drought conditions. Livestock forage remains short with hay being hauled into a number of areas throughout the state.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Topsoil 52% very short, 36% short, 12% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 77% very short, 19% short, 4% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures for the week avg 1 to 5" below normals. Precipitation light, scattered, amounts less than .3 inch common. Wheat 2% very poor, 11% poor, 55% fair, 32% good, 0% excellent. Wheat seeding 97% complete, 98% 1999, 98% avg.; 82% emerged, 86% 1999, 86% avg. Some producers reseeding to improve poor stands. Moisture needed to sustain growth, establish winter wheat crop. Corn 81% harvested, 47% 1999, 33% avg. Soybeans 93% harvested, 81% 1999, 68% avg. Sorghum 86% harvested, 32% 1999, 33% avg. Sugar beet harvest active. Pasture, range feed 52% very poor, 31% poor, 15% fair, 2% good. Producers moving cattle to harvested stalk fields as soon as harvested to supplement for poor pastures. Hay, forage supplies 14% very short, 33% short, 52% adequate, 1% surplus. Shortest hay, forage supplies exist in western counties.

NEVADA: Temperatures fell sharply with the arrival of a broad storm system. Average temperatures for the week were several degrees below normal statewide. Rainfall was widespread early in the week, but precipitation totals varied widely. Winnemucca recorded .88 inch; Las Vegas and Reno recorded only traces. Farm activity was slowed by the rains, but resumed later in the week. Fourth cutting of alfalfa continued, nearing completion. Some cut hay damaged by rains. Hay shipping remained very active. Some growers are using alfalfa seed virtually completely. Newly seeded alfalfa benefitted by the rains. Field preparation, seeding of winter wheat, barley continued. Potato harvest continued. Corn chopping continued while fields approach maturity for combining. Garlic plants showing good growth. Movement of livestock off summer allotments to winter pastures continued. Cattle sorting, marketing continued. Main farm, ranch activities: Alfalfa hay harvest, potato harvest, corn chopping, field preparation, fall planting, irrigation. Livestock gathering, sorting, marketing.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil: 9% short, 81% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% short, 90% adequate,
5% surplus. Pasture feed 6% very poor, 10% poor, 33% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent. Maine potatoes 95% harvested, 90% 1999, 95% avg.; condition good to fair. Rhode Island potatoes 85% harvested, 95% 1999, 90% avg.; condition good to excellent. Massachusetts potatoes 90% harvested, 90% 1999, 90% avg.; condition good to fair. Oats in Maine 95% harvested, 100% 1999, 99% avg.; condition good to fair. Silage corn 70% harvested, 95% 1999, 85% avg.; condition good to fair. Third crop hay 90% harvested, 90% 1999, 90% avg.; condition good. Apples 85% harvested, 100% 1999, 98% avg.; fruit size avg. Concord grapes in Lake Erie region surplus. Pasture feed 90% good, 10% excellent. Corn 60% fair, 40% adequate, 4% surplus. Crop harvesting was the main focus of harvest. Cold weather early in the week brought several days of light to unseasonably cold air over state but warmed substantially during the second half of the week. Even so, temperatures for the week avg 40F, below normal for the state. The remnants of Tropical Storm Olivia moved out of the Pacific, across state, bringing some measurable precipitation that it was enough to help improve the poor winter feed conditions. Cattle, sheep conditions decreased slightly in mostly poor to good condition. Pasture, range feed 40% very poor, 39% poor, 20% fair, 1% good.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 5.4. Soil moisture 85% adequate, 15% surplus. Pasture feed 90% good, 10% excellent. Corn 60% fair, 40% good, 68% silage corn harvested, 97% 1999, 88% avg. Grain corn harvest still limited. Hay 40% fair, 40% good, 20% excellent. Alfalfa 91% 3rd cutting, 100% 1999, 96% avg. Conoid grapes in Lake Erie region 75% harvested. Vinefera varieties being harvested in Finger Lakes area. Lake Ontario apple 55% harvest. Vegetable harvest limited to late season crops. Onion grading, packing continued.

NEW YORK: Days suitable 5.4. Soil moisture 85% adequate, 15% surplus. Pasture feed 90% good, 10% excellent. Corn 60% fair, 40% good, 68% silage corn harvested, 97% 1999, 88% avg. Grain corn harvest still limited. Hay 40% fair, 40% good, 20% excellent. Alfalfa 91% 3rd cutting, 100% 1999, 96% avg. Concord grapes in Lake Erie region 75% harvested. Viniferia varieties being harvested in Finger Lakes area. Lake Ontario apple 55% harvest. Vegetable harvest limited to late season crops. Onion grading, packing continued.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 6.6 days. compared to 6.3 one week ago. Weather in state continued to be favorable for harvest. Cold weather early in the week brought several days of light to moderate frost in the major crop growing areas. However, by the middle of the week, temperatures warmed back up with highs in the upper 70’s and lower 80’s. Dry weather was prevalent throughout most of the week with only isolated light rainfall in the Central, Southern Coastal Plain. For the second consecutive week farmers conducted field activities. Concerns about soil moisture for small grain planting have arisen as the current statewide rating slipped to 7% very short, 25% short, 64% adequate, 4% surplus. Crop harvesting was the main focus of farmers this week. Corn, cotton experienced moderate gains in harvest progress combined with significant gains in peanut threshing. Sorghum, sweetpotato harvest also had good gains while soybean harvest is still in it’s early stage. Even with concerns about lack of soil moisture, planting of all small grains advanced significantly, as all are at or above their 5-yr avg. Cotton boil opening continues to lag behind schedule but reached an estimated 90%. Soybean leaf dropping is near the 5-yr avg. Other activities included: spraying cotton defoliant, finishing tobacco and corn silage harvest, bailing hay, land preparation for small grain planting, tending livestock. Impact of frost ranged from merely cosmetic to light damage in soybeans, cotton.

OHIO: Days suitable for field work 5.0. Topsoil 0% very short, 3 short, 86% adequate, 11% surplus. Fall, winter apples 80% harvested, 73% 1999. Alfalfa hay 84% 4th cutting, 98% 1999. Corn 91% mature, 100% 1999, 86% avg.; 24% harvested for grain, 52% 1999, 27% avg.; 92% harvested for silage, 98% 1999, 83% avg. Grapes 95% harvested, 87% 1999. Other hay 93% 3rd cutting, 100% 1999, 98% avg. Soybeans 96% dropping leaves, 100% 1999, 98% avg.; 87% mature, 100% 1999, 58% harvested, 79% 1999, 63% avg. Tobacco 18% stripped, 8% 1999. Winter Wheat 61% planted, 75% 1999, 69% avg.; 17% emerged, 39% 1999, 30% avg. Corn 1% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 51% good, 20% excellent. Hay 1% very poor, 4% poor, 19% fair, 57% good, 19% excellent. Pasture 1% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 56% good, 15% excellent. Soybeans 3% very poor, 9% poor, 28% fair, 45% good, 15% excellent. Winter Wheat 0% very poor, 2% poor, 28% fair, 58% good, 12% excellent. Activities for the week included: Harvesting corn, soybeans; chopping silage; planting winter wheat; harvesting fruit, vegetables; fall tillage; chisel plowing; bush hogging; shelling corn; hauling grain; spraying weeds; making hay; spreading lime, fertilizers; pressing cider; cutting firewood; building, repairing fences; weaning, selling feeder calves. Frost in some regions killed back weeds but also caused some damage to late planted corn, beans. Reported weed pressures included giant ragweed, johnson grass, lambsquarters, yellow foxtail. Reported insects included Asian lady bugs in barns, houses, near feed bunk areas. Reported weed activity included Palmer amaranth, giant foxtail, yellow jacket. Reporting system moved to online this week. The impact of frost varied a great deal by location and crops. Frosty temperatures reached 30’s in some parts of the state, while others remained 40’s.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 5% very short, 37% short, 13% adequate. Subsoil moisture 55% very short, 33% short, 12% adequate. Wheat 92% seeded and prepared, 90% last week, 100% 1999; 3rd cutting, 10% 1999, 96% avg. Cotton 99% mature, 100% 1999, 95% avg.; 17% planted, 14% last week, 52% 1999, 54% avg.; 2% emerged, 1% last week, 16% 1999, 16% avg. Rye 85% seeded and prepared, 83% last week, 100% 1999, 93% avg.; 38% planted, 26% last week, 90% 1999, 74% avg.; 6% emerged, 5% last week, 60% 1999, 44% avg. Corn 98% harvested, 95% last week, 97% 1999, 88% avg. Sorghum 97% mature, 83% last week, 85% 1999, 70% avg. Soybeans 89% harvested, 78% last week, 81% 1999, 88% avg. Late hay 75% harvested, 57% last week, 46% 1999, 40% avg. Peanuts 12% very poor, 25% poor, 41% fair, 19% good, 3% excellent, 94% mature, 69% last week, 70% 1999, 75% avg.; 44% combined, 19% last week, 23% 1999, 19% avg. Cotton 26% very poor, 25% poor, 27% fair, 19% good, 3% excellent; Alfalfa Hay 17% very poor, 35% poor, 31% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent, 89% 4th cutting, 85% last week, 88% 1999, 89% avg.; 47% 5th cutting, 46% last week, 82% 1999, 30% avg. Other Hay 23% very poor, 29% poor, 31% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent, 82% 2nd cutting, 81% last week, 75% 1999, 77% avg. Livestock 3% very poor, 12% poor, 43% fair, 40% good, 76% excellent, 3% surplus.
OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil 9% very short, 25% short, 66% adequate. Subsoil 11% very short, 30% short, 59% adequate. Winter Wheat 22% fair, 78% good, 69% planted, 21% 1999, 60% avg.; 36% emerged, 2% 1999, 30% avg. Barley 26% planted, 24% 1999, 28% avg. Range, pasture 3% very poor, 24% poor, 42% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent. Activities: Rain helped farmers statewide. Mid-Columbia basin 46% & S/N cutting hay about complete. Sugar beet harvest underway, delaying fall cropping. Rain alleviated no-till conditions. Range grasses are still short. Activities: Rainfall in one inch or more is forecast for this week. Malheur County field corn harvest in full swing, sugar beet harvest began. Klamath basin harvest nearing completion. Willamette Valley fall seeding winding down. Some liming, fertilizing underway on perennial grasses. Field corn harvest nearing completion. Southern valleys haying continued, soil preparation underway. South coast corn silage being harvested. Nurseries digging, shipping plants for fall shipping season. Christmas tree growers flagging trees for harvest, ready to start harvest early November. Easter Lily growers south coast still digging commercial bulbs. Slow down by rains. Harvest of most summer vegetables coming to an end. Fall & winter crops available along with salad vegetables. Late harvest melons, tomatoes continued. Sweet corn harvest winding down in Willamette Valley. A few cucumbers being harvested. Potato harvest in Eastern State winding down. Onion harvest continued. Hazelnut harvest continued with some blight problem reported. Upper Willamette valley last of apples being picked, some fall copper sprays applied cherries, prunes, apples. Southern coastal areas cranberry harvest in full swing, reported good to excellent color, quality. Southern valleys finished pear harvest, apple harvest nearly complete. Most grapes harvested. Range, pasture feeds vary considerably over state from poor in the southwest, parts Malheur County to mostly good in Klamath Basin. Generally, pastures are good to good in Willamette Valley, coastal counties; fair to good east of Cascades. Some dryland pastures in the northern valley have enough growth to provide forage, supplemental feeding also continued. Weaning, gathering stock off ranges continued in northeast. Southeast most cows off ranges, most calves weaned.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for field work 6.1. Topsoil 35% very short, 37% short, 28% adequate. Subsoil moisture 39% very short, 33% short, 28% adequate. Feed supplies 6% very short, 19% short, 65% adequate, 6% surplus. Stock water supplies 38% short, 4% very short, 4% poor, 9% fair, 41% good, 4% excellent. Winter Wheat 94% planted, 94% 1999, 87% avg.; 74% emerged, 77% 1999, 85% avg. Soybeans 99% mature, 92% 1999, 96% avg. Sorghum 68% harvested-grain, 26% 1999, 34% avg.; 98% silage harvested, 81% 1999, 86% avg. Sunflower 6% very poor, 7% poor, 27% fair, 43% good, 17% excellent, 98% mature, 76% 1999, 93% avg.; 85% harvested, 17% 1999, 36% avg. Alfalfa hay 14% very poor, 18% poor, 31% fair, 30% good, 7% excellent. Range, Pasture 14% very poor, 23% poor, 34% fair, 23% good, 6% excellent. Cattle 2% poor, 18% fair, 63% good, 17% excellent. Sheep 1% very poor, 5% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, 11% excellent. Dry conditions are hastening row crop harvest while holding winter crops back, keeping ranchers busy. Soil moisture shortages continue to hamper crops, pasture growth. Weeks of dry weather have row crop harvest far ahead of average, but winter wheat seeded is behind average with the season drawing to a close. Calves are being weaned as ranchers are starting to bring cattle in early from pastures grown short. There were many reports of dry stock dams.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 6.5. Soil moisture 8% very short, 30% short, 57% adequate, 5% surplus. Apples 85% harvested, 73% 1999, 82% avg.; 71% fair, 29% good. Barley 31% planted, 26% 1999, 26% avg.; 21% emerged, 16% 1999, 16% avg.; 72% fair, 28% good. Corn 98% harvested, 100% 1999, 99% avg. Cotton 51% bolt open, 11% 1999, 33% avg.; 75% fair, 24% good. Tobacco 33% harvested, 89% 1999, 93% avg.; 65% harvested, 64% 1999, 67% avg.; 13% poor, 46% fair, 41% good. Soybeans 76% turned color, 74% 1999, 69% avg; 33% dropped, 30% 1999, 27% avg; 16% matured, 16% 1999, 14% avg; 7% harvested, 5% 1999, 4% avg; 2% very poor, 10% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Sweetpotatoes 59% harvested, 36% 1999, 43% avg.; 7% very poor, 37% poor, 43% fair, 13% good. Tobacco 97% stalks destroyed, 96% 1999, 93% avg. Winter Grazing 58% planted, 55% 1999, 55% avg.; 39% emerged, 40% 1999, 38% avg.; 2% poor, 81% fair, 17% good. Winter Wheat 13% planted, 14% 1999, 15% avg.; 8% emerged, 8% 1999, 7% avg.

TEXAS: Temperatures moderated from the below normal conditions that covered the state late last week. Rain totaled upward to six inches across Southern areas, portions of the Edwards Plateau. These rains replenished soil moisture, available water for livestock in varied locations however, it came too late in the season to add much to pasture recovery. Across the Plains conditions remained mostly dry but some moisture was received. In the wetter areas land preparation, remaining harvest was halted until drying could occur. In the dryer areas harvest moved ahead as weather permitted. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in most all and some health problems continued as a result of the dry conditions. Some livestock, mostly goats, were lost as a result of the cold rain that was associated with the last weather front. Field Crops: Small Grains: Planting of wheat, oats continued in most locations across the state. Some areas, however remained extremely dry, producers continued to wait for adequate moisture before planting. Winter wheat germination of winter wheat, fall forage crops.
remaining production continued to be limited to irrigated acres. Peanuts: Harvest continued across the state. Yield potential for irrigated peanuts remained satisfactory, however yields in some areas were down from earlier estimates. Colder temperatures, rain showers slowed harvest progress in some areas. State wide peanut 48% of normal compared with 77% 1999. Soybeans: Conditions for soybean harvest remained varied in most locations. In areas where showers fell, harvest was delayed for remaining beans. Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans Rio Grande Valley, harvest preparation continued. Limited cutting in the Rio Grande Valley continued as a result of earlier rain showers. San Antonio-Winter Garden, limited planting of some vegetables continued. Earlier rain showers aided in land preparation in a few area, planting efforts will begin soon. Chili pepper harvest continued in some locations. State, fall planting continued in varied locations as recent rainfall has increased soil moisture. Sweet potato harvest continued but slowed or halted as weather permitted. High Plains, colder temperatures slowed harvest for remaining watermelons, pumpkins. Yields remained variable. Land preparation moved ahead but slowed in some locations as weather related problems persisted. In the Trans Pecos, harvest of chili peppers continued and tomato harvest was in full swing. Pecans: Harvest activities increased in varied locations across the state. Production will be extremely varied depending on the severity of adverse conditions encountered this growing season. As a result of the recent ice storm in portions of the Trans Pecos region some pecan trees were permanently damaged or killed and all production lost. Shuck split continued in most areas and harvest will begin soon. Range, Livestock: Recent rainfall in portions of the state continued to aid in pasture improvement. Some minor green up of pastures has occurred in areas where rains fell, however the rains have come too late in most areas as winter dormancy has began. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued across the state and hay supplies continued to decline. Herd culling activities for the week included. Finishing the harvest, fall tillage. Many counties received needed precipitation this week. UTAH: Days suitable for field work 5. Topsoil 7% very short, 20% short, 69% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 16% very short, 32% short, 50% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat 89% planted, 88% 1999, 95% avg.; 41% emerged , 57% 1999, 67% 5-yr avg. Corn 78% mature, 74% 1999, 71% avg.; 20% harvested for grain , 20% 1999, 20% avg.; 93% harvested for silage, 94% 1999, 90% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 18% fair, 58% good, 19% excellent. Alfalfa hay 85% 4th cutting, 76% 1999, 74% avg.; 90% harvested, 48% 1999, 70% avg. Onions 90% harvested, 86% 1999, 84% avg. Potatoes 83% harvested, 76% 1999, 79% avg. Cattle moved from 86% summer range, 72% 1999, 73% avg. Sheep/ewe lamb moved from 91% summer range, 73% 1999, 77% avg. Apples 72% picked, 81% 1999, 67% avg. Range, pasture 14% very poor, 39% poor, 34% fair, 11% good, 2% excellent. Major farm, ranch activities included. Finishing the harvest, fall tillage. Many counties received needed precipitation this week. VIRGINIA: Days suitable for field work 6.9. Topsoil 9% very short, 36% short 52% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 19% short, 71% adequate, 4% surplus. Pastures 1% very poor, 4% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 9% excellent. Livestock 1% poor, 6% fair, 77% good, 16% excellent. Corn 91% mature, 98% 1999, 97% 5-yr avg.; 59% grain harvested, 71% 1999, 67% 5-yr avg. 95% silage harvested, 99% 1999, 97% 5-yr avg. Soybeans 1% very poor, 4% poor, 13% fair, 49% good, 33% excellent, 64% dropping leaves, 62% 1999, 37%/5-yr avg.; 10% harvested, 8% 1999, 10% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat 20% seeded, 11% 1999, 44% 5-yr avg. Barley 47% seeded, 46% 1999, 38% 5-yr avg. Peanuts 7% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 14% excellent, 88% dug, 68% 1999, 77% 5-yr avg.; 72% combined, 46% 1999, 56% 5-yr avg. Cotton 6% poor, 11% fair, 50% good, 33% excellent, 81% bolls opening, 93% 1999, 93% 5-yr avg.; 14% harvested, 13% 1999, 26% 5-yr avg. Apples 23% fair, 68% good, 9% excellent. Fall apples 90% harvested, 76% 1999, 69% 5-yr avg. Winter apples 71% harvested, 49% 1999, 41% 5-yr avg. Picture perfect weather conditions allowed farmers to make good progress on peanut harvest, small grain planting, defoliating, harvesting cotton. First frosts were reported in several areas which will slow growth of grasses. Corn harvest delayed due to shortage of on, off farm grain storage space. Hay cutting, baling continue in some areas. Other activities for the week included: Land preparation for small grain planting, mowing corn stalks, late vegetable harvest. WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 11% very short, 33% short, 56% adequate. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 40% short, 56% adequate. Winter wheat 97% planted, 90% 1999, 92% avg.; 81% emerged, 76% 1999, 77% avg. Winter wheat seeding was nearly complete with many counties reporting reseeding in areas with crustling, soil erosion problems. Potatoes 83% harvested, 89% 1999, 79% avg. Potato harvest starting to wind down. Hay, roughage, 98% adequate, 2% surplus. Range, Pasture, 2% very poor, 37% poor, 39% fair, 22% good. Cattle producers continued bringing cows, calves down from summer pastures. Dairymen continued applying solids to forage fields as they empty lagoons in preparation for the rainy season. Apple, grape harvest continued under ideal conditions. Potato, dry bean harvests were nearly complete. Corn harvested for silage finished up last week with sweet corn harvest still progressing nicely. Christmas tree growers were grading harvest roads in preparation for harvest scheduled for the end of the month. U-pick pumpkin farms continued to do a brisk business. WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 10% short, 85% adequate, 5% surplus. Feeder calves are being marketed. Yearling board sales are in progress, with cattle being shipped to purchasers. Wheat planting was in full swing this week. Corn, soybean harvest continues. Third cutting of hay continues, with some areas reporting a fourth cut. Hay 10% fair, 75% good, 15% excellent; Hay 75% 3rd cut, 67% 1999, 82% 5-yr avg. Corn 5% fair, 60% good, 35% excellent.; 99% denting, 99% 1999.92% mature, 86% 1999, 91% 5-yr avg.; 26% harvested, 43% 1999, 48% 5-yr avg. Soybean 5% fair, 50% good, 45% excellent, 90% dropping leaves, 95% 1999, 96% 5-yr avg.; 50% harvested for grain, 23% 1999, 32% 5-yr avg. Wheat 55% planted, 24% 1999, 45%-5-yr avg.; 10% emerged, 8% 1999. Apple 15% poor, 10% fair, 50% good, 25% excellent, 80% harvested, 71% 1999. Cotton 10% fair, 65% good, 25% excellent. Sheep 20% fair, 65% good, 15% excellent. WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 3% very short, 30% short, 63% adequate, 4% surplus. Excellent weather last week allowed harvest to continue at a good pace all around the state. According to reports plant harvest moisture varied from too dry to too wet around the state. The good drying weather for corn, soybeans, dropped plant moisture below optimum in some areas. Growers in these areas were harvesting soybeans early or late in the day to increase moisture, decrease splits. In other areas, growers were waiting for late-planted corn, soybeans to dry down. Sheboygan County reported snow covered fields this past week..
WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 15% very short, 48% short, 37% adequate. Winter wheat 92% emerged, 99% 1999, 97% avg.; 12% poor, 46% fair, 42% good. Corn 93% mature, 96% 1999, 97% avg.; 20% harvested, 13% 1999, 24% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 4% fair, 88% good, 4% excellent. Dry beans 96% combined, 94% 1999, 96% avg. Sugarbeets 52% harvested, 60% 1999, 52% avg.; 1% poor, 8% fair, 84% good, 7% excellent. Alfalfa 88% 3rd cutting, 95% 1999, 88% avg. Range, pasture feed 29% very poor, 38% poor, 28% fair, 5% good. Cooler than normal with light precipitation in most areas.