ALABAMA: Parts of the state received snow. It has been wet over most of the state, with some flooding in low lying areas. A little corn has been planted in south Alabama, but in general very little land preparation has been done due to wet weather. Pastures are beginning to grow and livestock are doing well.

ALASKA: No data available.

ARIZONA: Area generally recorded above average temperatures with mild precipitation throughout the state during the month of March. Warmer than normal temperatures have helped small grain crops and cotton planting progress. Range and pasture continued to improve in most areas during early part of the month due to good precipitation, but ranchers report needing more precipitation for good Spring growth. Precipitation has little impact on row crops due to irrigation.

ARKANSAS: Temperatures below normal, precipitation at or above normal for the month. Winter wheat is fair to good. Producers fertilizing pastures, winter wheat. Herbicides being applied to winter wheat. Land preparation underway for row crops slowed by precipitation. Corn and rice planting underway in some areas of the state. Fruit growers continued annual pruning, special pruning to repair damage from storms. Vineyards were leafing. Early varieties were setting fruit. Growers were treating fungal pest control continued in some fields. Peppers, tomatoes, eggplant, squash, cucumbers and melons were being planted by growers serving farmers’ markets. Growth of spring melons appears to have been delayed by cooler early cold weather. Harvesting of winter vegetables was winding down; beds were being tilled in preparation for planting late spring or summer crops. Harvesting of spring lettuce was in full swing in the San Joaquin Valley. Fresh and processing tomato fields were planted with seed or transplants. Onion seed fields were treated for diseases. Sweet corn planting continued; new shoots were visible in some earlier planted fields. Harvesting of broccoli, asparagus, cauliflower continued. Additional vegetables harvested include: bok choy, carrots, kale, cucumbers, turnips, collard greens, daikon, cabbage, cilantro, mustard greens, green onions, red onions, spring onions, parsley, radicchio, and spinach. Some livestock operations were limiting visits as a precautionary measure, until disease problems in Europe are resolved. Rangeland conditions varied from good to excellent. Some pastures were being mowed. Foothill springs were flowing. Cattle were making good weight gains, due to the increased volume and nutrient values of range and pasture grasses. Sheep continued to graze in some alfalfa fields. Milk cows were producing under nearly ideal weather conditions. Bees were active. Some hives were being removed from almonds and stone fruit orchards, and placed in citrus orchards.

CALIFORNIA: Cotton planting was underway in fields with lighter soils; pre-plant cultivation and herbicide applications continued elsewhere. Corn growers prepared fields for planting. In some areas planting was already underway. Alfalfa hay and seed fields were progressing well. Alfalfa hay was being cut for silage in some areas. Herbicides and insecticides were applied to control pests. Alfalfa fields in some areas had weevil pressure at the highest level seen in many years. Sugarbeets continued to show good growth in response to the warm weather. Herbicide applications began in several sugarbeet fields. Wheat, oats and barley continued to progress well; head development was visible in some fields. Growers continued to apply herbicides and fertilizers. Silage wheat harvest began in fields where growth was in the boot stage for optimum nutrition. Green chopping of oats was underway. Rice growers were preparing fields for planting. Herbicides were applied to some fields. Warm, sunny weather accelerated growth and facilitated pollination in orchards and vineyards. Apricots, freestone peaches, nectarines, and plums were in full bloom; some trees were already leafing. Early varieties were setting fruit. Growers were treating fungal problems. Pesticide application and mowing were active. Grape vineyards were leafing. Vineyards were treated with herbicides, mowed and cultivated. Grapefruit picking was active in the desert areas. Harvesting of navel and valencia oranges continued. Good quality was observed. Lemon, tangerine and satsuma picking also continued. Strawberries were being weeded and trimmed. Almonds were being treated for brown rot and shot hole fungus. Pollination of early varieties may have been affected by the cool, wet weather that occurred during bloom. Warm weather aided pollination of the later varieties. Warm weather created ideal conditions for growth of most vegetables. Early varieties of squash (zucchini, yellow crook neck, summer and sunburst) and cucumbers under hot caps benefitted considerably. Lettuce, onions, cabbage and garlic fields were thriving; irrigating, weeding, thinning and spraying continued.

COLORADO: Overall temperatures throughout the month of March remained generally below average, with snowstorms, high winds occurring periodically. Mountain snow pack also remained below average for the whole state. The occasional winter-like conditions along with the first rain showers of the spring season covered the fields with snow, improved moisture supplies, left most fields too muddy for fieldwork. Planting of spring grains, onions, sugar beets are all progressing behind the normal pace, as farmers could only manage an average of 3 days suitable for fieldwork per week this past month. Recent moisture has slightly improved winter wheat condition, but still less than 60% of 2001 crop is rated in good or better condition. Timely rains will be needed to maintain or improve current prospects. On the other hand, calving, lambing are progressing at a normal, steady rate, with death losses remaining mostly average for this time of year. Currently, pasture, range feed is reported to be in mostly fair condition, while stored feed supplies remain mostly short throughout the state.

DELAWARE: Temperatures ran slightly below normal throughout March with highs in the upper 40’s to mid-50’s, with some snow and showers to close the month. The water table in some wells, especially Sussex County, was near ground surface, while in some areas near Middletown the water table was as deep as 35 feet. Some farmers have begun land prep work including deep tilling, incorporating lime, fertilizer. Major activities were: Fruit tree pruning, attending meetings for pesticide applicator, nutrient management certifications, applying lime, top dressing small grain with nitrogen, clearing ditch banks, logging, preparing field equipment for spring work, receiving seed potatoes, meeting with vegetable processor field representatives.

FLORIDA: Significant rain fell early in week over western Panhandle, northern Peninsula localities, some central Peninsula areas. Precipitation at major stations totaled from about 0.66 in. at Orlando to over 5.00 in. at West Palm Beach. Immokalee area received up to 6.00 in.; Homestead, Palmetto-Ruskin region reported 0.50 in. or less. Strong winds following storms felt in many central, southern Peninsula localities. Storms...
crossing over western Panhandle, northern Peninsula on Saturday and Sunday March 24 and 25 left, many central, southern Peninsulas dry with potential for wildfires increasing. Temperatures at major stations averaged 1 to 6 deg. below normal. Most daytime highs 60s, 70s with most Miami highs 80s. Nighttime lows mostly 40s, 50s, 60s. Moisture in Panhandle mostly adequate to surplus. Moisture in rest of State very short to short with scattered areas adequate moisture. Farmers starting field preparations for spring planted crops. Farmers starting to plant corn, tobacco, sugarbeets,joan-spring. Winter wheat is reported in mostly good condition. Activities: irrigation water shortages this season. Calving, lambing are progressing well. Winter wheat mostly good condition. Winter kill, heaving minimal damage. Wheat greening up. Fieldwork underway, progress ahead of normal. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Hay supplies mostly adequate. Calving, lambing active. Farmers concerned about high input costs. Nitrogen supplies mostly adequate. Fertilizer, lime being spread. Major activities: Tilling soils, harvesting grain to market, spraying, equipment cleaning, repair, top dressing wheat, spreading manure, purchasing inputs, cleaning fence rows, ditching, feeding hay, caring for livestock.

GEORGIA: Topsoil moisture was adequate to surplus during the month of March. Overall, the state received much needed rainfall. Heavy rainfall, snowfall, freezing conditions, high winds caused tree damage, delayed fieldwork. North State experienced freezing conditions, high winds which damaged some fruit trees. Peaches began to bloom, the overall conditions was good to excellent. Planting of corn was delayed due to heavy rains in south state. Top dressing of hay needed completion. Tobacco conditions mostly good; limited transplanting was reported. Harvest of carrots continued. Fertilizing of pastures was reported. Small grain conditions improved. Land preparation for spring planting reached the halfway point. Livestock producers continue to feed hay to animals.

HAWAII: A low pressure system north of the State pushed a weak cold front across the islands throughout the week. East state banana orchards experienced both sunny, cloudy days with showers, which required increased spraying to control black leaf streak disease. Papaya growers in east state also continued regular spraying to control phytophthora diseases. PSRV incidence was low, but growers must continuously check their fields, destroy infected trees. Head cabbage fields remained in mostly fair to good condition with regular spraying to control insect infestations. Ginger root planting was temporarily interrupted by wet conditions. Winter wheat mostly good condition. Winter kill, heaving minimal damage. Winter wheat mostly good condition. Wheat greening up. Fieldwork underway, progress ahead of normal. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Hay supplies mostly adequate. Calving, lambing active. Farmers concerned about high input costs. Nitrogen supplies mostly adequate. Fertilizer, lime being spread. Major activities: Tilling soils, harvesting grain to market, spraying, equipment cleaning, repair, top dressing wheat, spreading manure, purchasing inputs, cleaning fence rows, ditching, feeding hay, caring for livestock.

KANSAS: Topsoil 2% short, 80% adequate, 18% surplus. Wheat 3% excellent, 30% good, 40% fair, 20% poor, 7% very poor. Precipitation generally above normal, temperatures generally below normal. Spring temperatures were below average for March. Many areas received less than an inch of rain. Snowfall was minimal. Soils dry out rapidly, most areas. Winter wheat mostly good condition. Winter kill, heaving minimal damage. Wheat greening up. Fieldwork underway, progress ahead of normal. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Hay supplies mostly adequate. Calving, lambing active. Farmers concerned about high input costs. Nitrogen supplies mostly adequate. Fertilizer, lime being spread. Major activities: Tilling soils, harvesting grain to market, spraying, equipment cleaning, repair, top dressing wheat, spreading manure, purchasing inputs, cleaning fence rows, ditching, feeding hay, caring for livestock.

LOUISIANA: Field activities were still very limited due to wet conditions. Dryer conditions near the end of the month allowed some corn producers to get some planting done. These drier conditions also allowed some spring plowing. But the end of the month brought more rain. Sugarcane producers continued with off-barring, fertilizing, applying herbicides. Citrus producers were spraying crop to control diseases. Strawberries were being harvested. Livestock producers were fertilizing winter pasture, weaning fall calves. Other activities included: Repairing, cleaning equipment.

MARYLAND: Currently, the precipitation level in Maryland is 4.29 inches, which is 2.15 inches more than last month. Temperatures varied throughout the state this month. Cold temperatures in the north were reported to have delayed spring growth in small grains. However, crops in Southern state are greening up nicely. Livestock appear to be well conditioned, healthy. Hay, feed supplies are at adequate to surplus levels in most areas. On the Eastern Shore, farmers are: housing, storing poultry manure. Farming activities throughout the state include: Liming fields, spreading manure, soil testing, nutrient management planning, cleaning, repairs to barns, equipment, other farm maintenance.

MICHIGAN: March brought variable temperatures with lows of 2° highs of 60°. Normally precipitation for the month would range from 1.83 to 2.48, but precipitation for this year decreased ranging from 0.25 in the Central Lower Peninsula to 0.92 in the Eastern Upper Peninsula. The Upper Peninsula reported some snow still in fields. Farm activities included manure application, fertilizer application, soil testing, preparing equipment for spring planting. Maple tree tapping was well underway with
MINNESOTA: Spring field work, planting will be much later than normal. Snow cover still exists across the at least 95% of the state. Snow cover ranges from 1 inch to 30 inches. There was roof damage to farm buildings due to the excess snow load during March. The statewide average precipitation was 1.08 inches below normal for March. The March statewide average temperature was 3.9ª below normal. Intermittent thawing could have help to lessen the chance for spring flooding. Calving is in full swing. There were reports of dairy farms with sudden breakthroughs of calf scours.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Soil moisture, 3% short, 61% adequate, 36% surplus. Corn 28% planted, 55% 2000, 26% avg. Cattle, 3% very poor, 13% poor, 33% fair, 43% good, 8% excellent. Pasture 4% very poor, 20% short, 38% fair, 31% good, 7% excellent. Wheat 42% jointing, 60% 2000, 51% avg.; 0% heading, 6% 2000, 2% avg.; 3% very poor, 6% poor, 39% fair, 36% good, 16% excellent. Hay 4% very poor, 13% poor, 50% fair, 27% good, 6% surplus.

MISSOURI: Hay shortages are reported throughout most of the state. Winter wheat is greening up, reported in good to fair condition. Farmers are working ground with corn planting beginning in the southern parts of the state.

MONTANA: The state continues to lag behind its moisture requirement. During March, Topsoil 30% very short, 38% short, 31% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 43% very short, 40 % short, 16% adequate, 1% surplus. The condition of the winter wheat crop 8% very poor, 18% poor, 54% fair, 20 % good, 0% excellent. Wind damage to winter wheat 22% none, 50% light, 22% moderate, 6% heavy. Early indications of the winter wheat spring stages show that 49% is still dormant, 42% is greening, 9% is green, growing. Livestock grazing was 76% open, 15% difficult, 9% closed. Although pasture land is open, grazing is sparse due to poor grass condition as a result of 2000 drought. It is reported that feed supplies are still very short, that some animals are losing condition as a result. When hay is available, it’s expensive. Livestock receiving supplemental feed was 100% for cattle, calves, 100% for sheep, lambs. Calving 52% complete, lambing 44% complete. Reports that field work has started in some parts of the state are coming in.

NEBRASKA: Temperatures for the month averaged near normals and ranged from 7 degrees above to 7 degrees below normals statewide. Precipitation occurred weekly in the form of snow and/or rain. Amounts ranged from traces to over an inch. Very limited spring field work to date.

NEVADA: No data available:

NEW ENGLAND: Maple sugaring season off to a slow start compared to previous years. For most operators tapping is complete, but for others, deep snow packs have made tapping trees, retrieving sap in the woods difficult. Operations have started to slowly increase during the day allowing sap to flow. Operations are reporting an improvement from 2000 in syrup color. Farmers also stayed busy tending livestock, repairing machinery, bringing tractors, trucks, implements out of storage in preparation of the spring planting season. Manure spreading by dairy farmers continues.

NEW JERSEY: The average monthly temperature in March was 38.9ª with a minimum of 16º recorded on March 27, a maximum of 59º recorded on March 11 and 24. A winter storm brought rain, sleet, snow to much of the State from March 4 - 6. Accumulations ranged from a 0-1 inch of snow South, 1-3 inches Central, 3-7 inches Northwest and 7-9+ inches in extreme Northwestern counties. Coastal regions were spared any significant accumulation, with most areas receiving only a trace of snow. A second nor’easter arrived March 21, bringing high winds, heavy rains throughout the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic. Rain totals averaged from 1 to 1.6 inches across the state, with the heaviest 24-hour total of 2.54 inches recorded at Freehold, area. The storm caused minor flooding in some coastal areas, river communities. Moderate to heavy rains fell across the state March 29 - 30, with average daytime temperatures remaining in the mid 40’s despite windy conditions. As of March 30, estimated soil moisture averaged 100% North, 99% Central, 97% South. Four inch soil temperatures averaged 39º North, 44º Central, 45º South.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 5.6. The Topsoil 23% short, 77% adequate. The temperatures across the northwest area of the state were above normal. The precipitation was mostly over the Northeast part of the state from Red River to Tucumcari. Farmers spent the week preparing fields, planting crops, repairing ditches, irrigation pumps. The total wheat 33% fair, 61% good, 6% excellent. Lettuce was reported in fair to good condition. Onions were listed in mostly good to excellent condition. Chile 25% planted. Alfalfa was listed in fair to excellent condition. Last week sheep producers prepared for spring shearing, while ranchers did small repairs needed for spring, summer activities. Cattle, sheep conditions were mostly poor to good. Pasture, range feed 18% very poor, 40% poor, 33% fair, 9% good.

NEW YORK: Heavy snowfall, continued cold weather made outside activities difficult. Maple producers fought adverse conditions to tap trees, run tubing. In areas with deep snow some producers expressed concern about not being able to tap as many trees as planned. Before month’s end warmer days resulted in several good sap runs. Fruit growers continued pruning trees, grading, packing fruit. Potato, onion growers moved crops from storage for grading, packing. Other major activities included: Caring for livestock, spreading manure, preparing machinery for upcoming season, attending meetings, trade shows.

NORTH CAROLINA: The month of March was highlighted by four weeks with significant statewide rainfall. Regardless of the wet weather pattern, many areas of the State continue to be several inches of precipitation below normal for the year, especially along the heavily crop concentrated Coastal Plain. The most recent topsoil 0% very short, 3% short, 60% adequate, 37% surplus. These ratings reflect excess moisture, however flooding has not yet become a concern. In fact, due to an extended period of dry weather going back to last fall, there are concerns of lack of subsoil moisture. The combined effect of rainfall, periodic cooler than normal temperatures have limited outdoor activities throughout the month. Small grains continue to respond to fertilizer treatments, recent rainfall as conditions have improved. Irish potato, cabbage producers have made good planting progress as both are presently ahead of their 5-yr avg. Tax preparation, equipment maintenance, greenhouse work were the main farm activities. Other activities included: Conservation practices, top-dressing small grains, isolated field preparation. Nitrogen supplies for the State appear to be in good standing though high prices will cut farmer’s profit margins.
NORTH DAKOTA: Fieldwork has not started as of yet. Topsoil moisture can not be measured until the frost goes out. Calving, lambing are progressing at normal pace with a few scattered reports of pneumonia, scours problems. Cattle lots, calving pastures remain muddy across the state. In the southeast region of the state, large amounts of snow remaining were reported. Some cattle producers in the north central and southeast regions of the state are starting to be concerned that hay supplies will run short if the cold, wet conditions continue for the rest of the Spring. Grain marketing has slowed in many areas due to soft yards, roads. Supplies of urea appear to be adequate with some producers already spreading urea on their field. Anhydrous ammonia prices are hovering around $340/ton with very little movement reported this early in the season. Dealers are uncertain whether supplies of anhydrous ammonia will be adequate to meet demand. Some operators in the southeast part of the state anticipate starting fieldwork around April 16th.

OHIO: March 2001 was 4.4°F colder than normal in state, with temperatures averaging 34.9°F across the state. Precipitation averaged 3.02 inches, 1.22 inches below normal. The spring plowing is progressing well. Winter Wheat is reported in good condition. Livestock remains in mostly good condition.

OKLAHOMA: Wet conditions, cold weather hampered the State for much of March causing wheat development to be behind normal. Row crop field preparation was slowed or halted during the month as a result of the soggy fields. Some producers had begun planting corn on a limited scale in areas where conditions allowed.

OREGON: Activities: Winter digging, shipping of balled, burlapped, bare-root plants ongoing. Grain shipments continue. Winter farm, ranch activities continued. Cattle, sheep reported in good condition. Pastures starting to greenup. Some wheat growers in the Klamath Basin area are reporting they are not planting due to lack of rainfall. The entire state is below normal for the year. Officials have not yet declared a drought but are warning if things continue there may be shortages and are planning for it.

Pennsylvania: Much of the state received rain this month. The total amount, departure from normal depended on the area. Overall, the rainfall was close to normal. The Northwestern Region of the State was the driest. Major activities for March were: Hauling, spreading manure, machinery maintenance, buying hay and feed, fixing fences, caring for livestock, preparing, finishing income taxes, planning for the 2001 crop season. Still too wet, cold for field work in some areas.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Average temperatures during March were below normal across the state. Sub 30°F temperatures during the early morning hours of the 27th and 28th created problems for the peach farmers, especially on the early blooming varieties. Loss estimates vary by location, will not be fully known until later in the season. Soil moisture was aided by a series of storms passing through the state during the month, but at month’s end, total precipitation for the year was still several inches below normal. Farmers were beginning their spring planting with some early corn, melon, vegetable planting already underway in the lower part of the state. Tobacco transplanting was just beginning. Other activities included: Equipment, machinery work, livestock care, tax preparation.

SOUTH DAKOTA: March brought cooler than normal temperatures, a slow spring thaw. Calving death losses are reported as 74% normal with 11% higher than normal due to below normal temperatures, lack of sunshine, wet conditions. Producers are anticipating a late spring with no reports of field work beginning. Water, feed supplies are reported as adequate. Statewide fieldwork is anticipated to begin on April 15.

TENNESSEE: Weather conditions throughout most of March were near normal in terms of temperature, precipitation. However, freezing temperatures during the last week of the month has caused concern among the State’s fruit growers. Limited damage has already been reported but its too early to tell what affected it will have on overall fruit production. Warmer springtime temperatures have allowed corn growers to begin planting, cotton growers are currently working their fields. The State’s wheat crop, cattle are in mostly good condition.

TEXAS: Generally, the weather across state remained mostly undesirable for farming efforts during the month of March. The state saw a few days when land preparation, planting could begin or continue however, continued weather fronts accompanied with rain kept fields soggy. As a further result, crops in Central, Eastern and Southern locations are much behind their intended planting dates. Extensive acreage of corn will possibly not be planted as a result of the wet conditions. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued but, generally slowed as growth of cool season forages increased. Hay supplies in varied locations were depleted, all that remained was the available pastures forages. Fruit trees in some locations were slightly damaged by frost but, a good crop set is expected. Water shortages for livestock remained in some isolated Lower Valley locations.

UTAH: Major activities included plowing, applying fertilizer, preparing irrigation systems. Planting onions, small grains has begun, alfalfa in some areas appears to be at least two weeks ahead of normal. Some winter kill of fall planted grains has been reported. Most areas are seeing good soil moisture due to snow melt, recent rain showers. Early grass has improved the range feed, but livestock producers continued to feed hay. Livestock was in fair to good condition, with some in poorer condition due to short hay supplies. Lambing, calving continues, branding, vaccinating calves has begun.

VIRGINIA: Pasture 8% very poor, 26% poor, 34% fair, 30% good 2% excellent. Livestock 4% poor, 21% fair, 67% good, 8% excellent. Small Grain and Winter Grazing Crops 6% very poor, 9% poor, 39% fair, 42% good, 4% excellent. Winter Wheat 5% very poor, 8% poor, 31% fair, 50% good, 6% excellent. Barley 3% very poor, 10% poor, 38% fair, 45% good, 4% excellent. Other Hay 1% very poor, 2% poor, 63% fair, 28% good, 6% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 8% poor, 55% fair, 32% good, 5% excellent. Tobacco Greenhouse 3% fair, 64% good, 33% excellent. Tobacco Plant beds 2% very poor, 8% poor, 29% fair, 58% good, 3% excellent. Apples 1% fair, 99% good. Peaches 2% very poor, 8% poor, 10% fair, 80% good. Tobacco Greenhouse 93% seeded, NA 2000, NA 5-yr avg. Plant bed 90% seeded, NA 2000, NA 5-yr avg. Summer Potatoes 88% planted, NA 2000, NA 5-yr avg. Small grain crops were looking better as the month came to a close. Much needed rainfall helped to improve the condition of the crop with second application of nitrogen on small grains beginning. Many farmers were making preparations for corn planting. Potato farmers have had good conditions to get their crop planted, should complete their planting soon. Tobacco farmers have been busy with seedling greenhouses, plant beds. Farmers remain concerned about the low commodity prices, high nitrogen fertilizer costs. Activities for the month included: Attending nearby auctions, spreading lime, taking soil samples, seed ordering, repairing, maintaining equipment, preparing land for spring planting. Rains fell during the month of March which helped to improve the ground water moisture levels. Temperatures were varied throughout the month.

WASHINGTON: Spring activities were in full swing throughout most of the month as unseasonably warm, dry conditions characterized most of March. Precipitation was below normal in some dryland areas of the state have been reported. Domestic, livestock, irrigation water are still a concern as springs, streams may not supply sufficient amounts. Many producers are having difficulty determining what crops to plant due to poor prices, higher input costs, lagging markets. Winter wheat conditions look good with undetermined amounts of snow mold. Spring grain seeding is underway in many areas. Christmas tree growers finished up planting, began applying herbicides. Turfgrass growers were busy fertilizing, mowing, harvesting. Dairy producers applied liquid manure to forage fields. Range, pasture were reported underdeveloped so far this spring.

WEST VIRGINIA: The colder than normal temperatures of early March made field activities, livestock feeding difficult. As the month progressed,
mild temperatures returned, less feeding was necessary. However, field activities remained difficult as muddy conditions were a problem in most areas of the State. Topsoil 9% short, 71% adequate, 20% surplus. Hay, Roughage 1% short, 74% adequate, 25% surplus. Feed Grain 2% short, 92% adequate, 6% surplus. Wheat 7% poor, 58% fair, 35% good. Tobacco beds seeded 27%, 21% 2000. Cattle 1% poor, 16% fair, 70% good, 13% excellent; Percent 73% calved, 59% 2000. Sheep 9% fair, 72% good, 19% excellent; Percent lambed 71%, 57% 2000.

WISCONSIN: The month was characterized normal temperatures, scattered snow, rainfall. Snow cover remains in the northern half of the state.

WYOMING: Cold, wintry weather continued most of March. Dry conditions persist. Cold temperatures, frozen ground kept producers out of the fields most of the month. Producers in some areas were able to start seeding barley the last half of March. Progress was rated at 19 % complete as of March 26, well below both 2000, the 5 yr avg.. Snowpacks were well below average, are a major concern as state begins another growing season with below normal moisture conditions.