ALABAMA: Land preparation has begun, this is to include disking, braking of land for spring planting. Soil testing is a major priority right now. Farmers have also been repairing, preparing equipment for the upcoming planting season. Spring fertilization on wheat is another farm activity that is taking place. Pastures were over seeded. Cattle producers are feeding hay to cows on a regular basis. Farmers finally concluded their cotton harvest of the 2001 crop by mid-January or first of February. Grades on this cotton were significantly lower due to last harvest. Cattlemen enjoyed good grazing, warm growing conditions. The peach crop appears to be in good shape. Except for the peach orchards in the lowest elevations, extreme frost pockets, which were hit hard by temperatures in the mid-teens in the past week. Strawberry producers have been using protective measures, the expected strawberry crop looks good.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE:

ARIZONA: Temperatures throughout the state were above average for the week with no precipitation reported. Small grains emergence is virtually complete, while heading is just getting underway. Lack of precipitation has caused range, pasture feeds to deteriorate slightly over the past month.

ARKANSAS: Temperatures stabilized in February compared to the previous months of December 2001, January 2002. February weekly temperature departures from normal ranged from 2 to 8° above normal. The southern, central portions of the state had departure from precipitation norms ranging from 1 to 2 inches, while on a seasonal scale remained normal. Rivers, their tributaries' water levels decreased leaving no threat of flooding in those areas. There was no severe weather in February. Activities: Pruning of fruit trees, preparing land for the spring plantings, the cleaning, maintenance of equipment. Livestock is in good to excellent condition.

CALIFORNIA: February was warm and dry. Throughout the month cotton growers irrigated, applied herbicides to prepare fields for planting. Most alfalfa hay, alfalfa seed fields were thriving. Small grain, silage crops made good progress. A few early-planted silage crops were being harvested by month's end, some winter forage fields were being mowed. Irrigation was underway in many small grain fields. As March approached, some dryland wheat had started to show stress from lack of water. Growers applied fertilizer, broadleaf herbicides to oat, wheat, winter forage fields. Ground was prepared for grain, silage corn planting; some fields were furrowed, pre-irrigated. Sugar beet fields were planted throughout the month. Some rice fields were being burned prior to planting. Good weather in February permitted some early field cultivation. By the end of the month growers were applying pre-plant herbicides to safflower fields. February’s seasonal cultural Activities: Pruning, grafting, irrigating, cultivating continued in orchards, vineyards. New orchards, vineyards were being planted where older plantings had been removed. Crews pruned, tied vines in grape vineyards. Grape growers irrigated, shredded brush, mowed cover crops, fertilized, cultivated, applied herbicides. The month’s unseasonably warm weather accelerated stone fruit blossoming. Navel orange harvesting continued. Early variety valencia oranges were being harvested in Tulare County. Throughout the month grapefruit picking was ongoing in the desert and in the San Joaquin Valley. Lemons, minneola tangelos were also being picked. With March approaching bloom was underway in some avocado orchards. As February ended, the San Joaquin County strawberry harvest began. Nut growers were performing seasonal cultural activities such as pruning, irrigating, spraying trees. Almond orchards were blooming. Weather conditions were optimal for pollination. Some older almond trees were being removed. Brush removal, shredding continued. Onion, garlic plant growth was being stimulated by February's warm weather; fields were irrigated as necessary. Lettuce was also growing rapidly with the warm weather. Ground preparation continued in fields intended for tomatoes, other spring vegetables. Some tomato, melon fields were fumigated to control soil pests. As March approached, planting beds were being prepared for eggplant, squash was being planted under plastic caps. Asparagus harvest was just beginning in the Sacramento Valley as the end of the month neared. The following vegetables were harvested: Basil, cabbage, carrots, celery, cilantro, green onions, mustard greens, collard greens, daikon, romaine lettuce, leaf lettuce, parsley, radishes, radicchio, banana squash, spinach. Range, non-irrigated pasture land remained in generally good condition. By the end of February, vegetative growth was slowing due to a lack of rainfall; some areas were showing stress. Weather conditions were optimal for milk production continuing as sheep grazed sudan, alfalfa fields. As short February drew to a close, bees were active in the blossoming almond, stone fruit orchards.

COLORADO: February temperatures were seasonal to above average but the limited moisture received during the month was again below average. Snowfall has been primarily in the mountain areas, however, the February mountain snowpack was only 56% of average, statewide. The Eastern Plains remain very dry. A moderate snowstorm at the end of the month produced 6 to 10 inches of snow along the Front Range, other field crops gained momentum in western Panhandle, other areas were harvested: Basil, cabbage, carrots, celery, cilantro, green onions, mustard greens, collard greens, daikon, romaine lettuce, leaf lettuce, parsley, radishes, radicchio, banana squash, spinach. Rivers, their tributaries' water levels decreased leaving no threat of flooding in those areas. There was no severe weather in February. Activities: Pruning of fruit trees, preparing land for the spring plantings, the cleaning, maintenance of equipment. Livestock is in good to excellent condition.

DELAWARE: Warm, dry conditions prevailed in February with daily temperatures averaging 4.5° above normal, precipitation ranging from 1.7 to 2.0 inches below normal. Rainfall broke the dry spell in early March, alleviating arid conditions. Soil moisture levels for February have been rated short to very short. Small grain conditions could be in jeopardy if March, April continue the dry weather trend. Livestock is in good condition due to the wild weather. Winter activities include: Spreading lime, top dressing small grain fields, plowing, diskimg.

FLORIDA: Dry, warm weather persisted throughout most of February with the danger of wildfires increasing across the northern, central Peninsula and in a few western Panhandle localities. The warm weather prompted feathery new growth on citrus trees with pin head to pencil erasersized bloom buds appearing by the end of the month. Peaches, other cold chill cultivars of fruit trees, azaleas were blooming in northern areas by mid-month. Winter forages finalllygerminated in some northern areas, some central area pastures supported grazing for a longer time than normal. Land preparation for the planting of corn, tobacco, other field crops gained momentum in western Panhandle, northern counties. Northern growers laid plastic for the planting of
watermelons. Citrus harvesting continued in central, southern regions while grove caretakers mowed, chopped, disced cover crops, removed, reset trees, applied fertilizers as needed. The mostly clear conditions allowed sugarcane, vegetable planting, harvesting to proceed at the usual pace. Some southern, southeastern coastal localities received significant rainfall around mid-month with West Palm Beach recording almost six inches of rain. Ft. Lauderdale, Ft. Pierce reporting around two inches from these showers. Astorm system from the Gulf of Mexico brought at least two days of soaking rains to most areas near the end of the month with precipitation amounts ranging from a third inch to almost five inches. These rains delayed fieldwork, reduced the quality of some vegetables in the affected areas. The rains eased the threat of wildfires in most localities. Cold weather arrived at the end of the month bringing frost to the western Panhandle, some northern, central Peninsula localities.

GEORGIA: Temperatures for the month of February were near normal to slightly above normal, while rainfall was about half of normal. A cold snap the latter part of the month put some pastures back into dormancy. Pasture feed were mostly fair to good. Extensive hay feeding to livestock continues. The recent cold weather has caused some replanting of corn, some damage to peach blooms in south state. Small grains were in mostly fair to good condition, but need rain. Growers were applying nitrogen to small grains. Carrot harvest has begun. Onion condition was good. Land preparation for spring planting was active. Cattle are continuing to calve.

HAWAII: A cold frontal boundary brought strong trade winds and rain showers to parts of the State throughout the week. Winds were gusty at times and brought cool evening and early morning temperatures. Heavy rains curtailed farm activities in Big Island banana orchards and brought a higher incidence of black leaf streak disease. Lower Puna papaya orchards were in fair condition with an increase in black spot disease infection. Adverse weather also interrupted routine spraying and PRV surveillance. Ginger root harvest was temporarily halted by inclement weather.

IDAHO: The month of February brought below normal temperatures, minimal precipitation levels. The majority of the state’s winter wheat continues to be reported in good condition. Livestock are doing well in winter confinement, however Eastern areas reported some calf deaths due to very cold winter weather. Calving is 40% complete, Lambing is 39% complete. Reports indicate that hay, roughage supplies were mostly adequate this past month. Activities: Attending meetings, preparing taxes, marketing, feeding livestock, machinery maintenance.

ILLINOIS: Average temperatures were once again on the mild side, precipitation was slightly above normal. Average temperature departure across the state was around 3° above normal, precipitation was about a tenth of an inch above normal for the month. Despite these above average temperatures, precipitation, the month of February still has not been ideal for livestock, winter wheat producers with the weather varying from sunny, 62° to windy, snowy, below freezing during the same week. February has been a good month to get equipment ready, plan for the spring. The milder periods have allowed some farmers to catch up on field work but the lack of snow cover is not ideal for the winter wheat. Warmer but muddy conditions have not been good for newborn calves, lambs, the periods of extreme cold are hard on the livestock. As of March 3, Winter wheat 10% excellent, 49% good, 38% fair, 3% poor.

INDIANA: Snow, windy conditions arrived last week halting field activities around most of the state. Rain was minimal during most of February allowing farmers to accomplish some fieldwork. Most regions received less than normal precipitation during February. Warmer than normal temperatures prevailed during most of the month. Tilling of soils, spreading fertilizer, lime along with discing stands took place on some farms. Amish farmers have plowed some fields intended for oats. Farmers attended FSA offices, seed, pesticide meetings along with farm machinery shows. Pastures, forage crops are in mostly good condition. Hay supplies are adequate to surplus. Winter wheat is in mostly good condition, turning green in the south. Livestock are in mostly good condition, but under stress this past week. Calving, lambing is underway. Major activities: Hauling grain to market, record keeping, stripping, marketing tobacco, building fence, spreading manure, preparing equipment, purchasing seed, other supplies, ditching, attending trade shows, clearing fence rows, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Summary for February 2002. Soil moisture improved with the late January snowfall, but nearly every region of the state could use additional moisture. The unusually low snowfall, warm temperatures this winter have been easy on state’s livestock but producers across the state are concerned about the lack soil moisture. The average depth of snow cover was less than one inch, compared to 5 inches last month, still well below the 9 inches 2000. The average depth of frost penetration was 4 inches, compared to last month’s 8 inches, 2001 12 inches. Soil 9% very short, 17% short, 53% adequate, 1% surplus. Grain movement 16% normal, 51% light, 31% moderate, 2% heavy. Availability of hay, roughage supplies for livestock feed 4% short, 74% adequate, 22% surplus. Quality of hay, roughage supplies 5% poor, 41% fair, 54% good. Utilization of stubble fields for grazing 29% none, 18% light, 35% moderate, 18% extensive. Cattle losses increased from the previous month, but remained below 2001, while hog losses remained nearly equal to the previous month. Hog, pig losses: below 19% avg.; 76% avg.; 5% above avg. Cattle, calf losses 21% below avg.; 77% avg.; 2% above avg.

KANSAS: Topsoil 19% very short, 44% short, 36% adequate, 1% surplus. Wheat 12% very poor, 24% poor, 38% fair, 24% good, 2% excellent. Wheat remains drought stressed with poorly developed root system. Moisture amounts received in many areas have not been sufficient to improve wheat condition. As wheat begins to come out of dormancy significant moisture will be needed. Damage from wind, freeze damage has been light. Moderate temperatures, generally dry conditions continued during most of February. Light amounts of precipitation received in the form of snow, sleet or freezing rain. Spring calving in full swing, few weather related problems. Stockmen providing supplemental feed to livestock. Hauling water to cattle necessary some areas. Hay, forage supplies 1% very short, 11% short, 84% adequate, 4% surplus. Feed grain supplies 4% short, 92% adequate, 4% surplus.

KENTUCKY: Mild temperatures continued through February extending the mild winter since January 1. Temperatures topped out in the 60’s with frequent periods in the 50’s. Cold temperatures returned the last 3 days of the month causing concern for fruit, small grain producers. Precipitation for February was over 2.5 inches below normal, soil moisture was adequate for the limited small grain, pasture growth caused by the warm temperatures. Wheat growers were concerned about potential damage from an extremely cold period might cause. Burley Tobacco Auctions, Contract receiving stations ended sales at the end of the month. State gross auction sales totaled 95.2 million pounds and averaged $195.22 per hundred lbs through the final sale. State contract sales receiving stations took in 167.8 million total pounds, averaged $199.17 per hundred lbs. Livestock were in mostly good condition as stress was light due to the generally warm, dry weather. Producers continued to provide extra grain, hay to their cattle.

LOUISIANA: Field crop producers continued preparing for spring planting. Sugarcane producers continued with off-barring, fertilizing, and herbicides. Rice producers began flooding their fields. Most vegetable and ornamental growers took precautionary measures last week when a cold front moved through with temperatures as low as 22 degrees reported in the central and southern parishes. Strawberries were being harvested. Livestock producers continued fertilizing winter pastures and feeding hay. Crawfish producers were putting out traps. Soil moisture levels continued to be below average. Louisiana is currently over 2 inches below the norm for this time in the year.

MARYLAND: Warm, dry weather continued into February as temperatures ranged from 1.3 to 6.3° above normal, precipitation fell short 1.3 to 2.2 inches below normal. The dry spell broke as March began with heavy rain in most areas. Bogging, moisture to dry soils. Moisture levels for soil in February were rated short to very short. As of yet, small grain conditions are maintaining despite the lack of rain last month, however if dry conditions persist through March, April, conditions will decline. The warm weather has been favorable for livestock with no disease or stress to report. Winter activities include: Tilling, applying herbicides to orchards, fertilizing small grain fields.
Livestock conditions were favorable due to the mild weather. with Elko averaging 7 but concerns about available moisture for the planting season are measurements were at 79 to 112% of normal at the end of the applying fertilizer, repairing equipment and moving livestock to market. Livestock conditions were favorable due to the mild weather. Calving and lambing were moderate. There were some reports of corn silage shortages because of the wet fall which made it hard to chop corn.

MINNESOTA: Above normal temperatures caused the majority of February to be unusually mild. However, cold weather arrived in the last week of February which resulted in below normal temperatures. Concerns remained about damage to alfalfa and winter wheat due to limited snow cover. There were also concerns that soil moisture levels were significantly low. Livestock conditions were excellent and feed availability was good.

MISSISSIPPI: Soil moisture 1 percent very short, 4 percent short, 63 percent adequate, 32 percent surplus. Hay supply 3 percent short, 63 percent adequate, 34 percent surplus. Feed Grain 2 percent short, 92 percent adequate, 6 percent surplus. Cold weather has slowed down winter grazing while hay supplies remain adequate. Some farmers are uncertain of their 2002 crop intentions, while those who are planning to plant corn are waiting on suitable field conditions.

MISSOURI: Rainfall in February averaged 1.09 inches, ranging from 0.54 inch in the northwest district to 2.03 inches in the southeast district. The State had virtually no snow cover during the month although temperatures dropped, snow fell in most northern counties during the following weekend. Winter wheat is generally in fair to good condition. Farmers have done some early fertilization, are getting ready for fieldwork. Hay supplies are adequate in most areas, with the generally mild winter causing some reduction in feeding needs.

MONTANA: Topsoil 56% very short, 38% short, 6% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 59% very short, 37% short, 4% adequate, 0% surplus. State experienced cold temperatures, little moisture was received throughout most of the state during the month of January. Protectiveness of snow cover for winter wheat 69% very poor, 14% poor, 15% fair, 2% good, 0% excellent. Wind damage to winter wheat 21% none, 16% light, 35% moderate, 28% heavy. Freeze, drought damage to winter wheat 10% none, 13% light, 36% moderate, 41% heavy, 6% very poor, 45% poor, 47% fair, 2% good, 0% excellent. Grazing 71% open, 20% difficult, 9% closed. While grazing is mostly open, little grass is available. Livestock receiving supplemental feed 96% for cattle, calves, 94% for sheep, lambs. Calving 96% complete, lambing 99% complete. Calving, lambing is underway with 3% of the calves, lambs born. Last year calving 11% lambing, 5%, respectively.

NEBRASKA: Weekly temperatures averaged above normal during February until the last week when temperatures were 10-13 below normal east and 17-21 below normals west. Measurable snowfall fell the first few days of March bringing needed moisture to wheat growing areas. Wheat 4% very poor, 14% poor, 36% fair, 42% good, 4% excellent. Hay, forage supplies were adequate. Cattle, calves feeds 1% poor, 15% fair, 68% good, 16% excellent. Supplemental feeding requirements have been less than normal as cattle were able to graze pastures, utilize stalk fields through most of the month. Calving 24% complete.

NEVADA: High pressure covered much of western state during February, promoting higher than normal temperatures, deterring storms. Reno recorded a record high temperature of 73° on the 22nd, 5° above the previous record. The northeastern part of the State was colder than normal with Elko averaging 7° below normal for the month. Precipitation was below normal in most areas. The water content of winter snow pack fell as a percent of normal in nearly all primary watersheds. Water content measurements were at 79 to 112% of normal at the end of the month with many hoping for a boost in March. Calving was underway during the month, as was farm flock lambing, kidding. Marketing of yearling cattle was active. Hay shipping to dairy accounts continued, sales to equine accounts continued. Fall seeded grains were wintering well. Garlic fields were in good condition. Shipments of onions from storage ended. Potato processing remained active. Winter livestock feeding demands were minimized by lack of snowfall. Main farm, ranch activities: Equipment maintenance, ditch burning, livestock care, fence repairs, crop, livestock marketing.

NEW ENGLAND: Above normal temperatures continued throughout most of February in state, drought conditions have not yet been alleviated. Maple producers were busy preparing for the upcoming season; some have already started tapping trees. Farm activities during the month included: Nursery/greenhouse work, tending livestock, preparing for the spring planting season.

NEW JERSEY: Dry conditions and unseasonably warm temperatures continued into February. Statewide precipitation totaled .76 inches, nearly 2 inches below normal for the month. Average precipitation levels for the past 365 days ranged from 10 to 16 inches below normal in many areas. Surface reservoirs were reported at 40% capacity. Continued dry conditions caused three northeastern counties to declare drought emergencies while the rest of the state remained under a drought warning. The monthly average temperature was 38 degrees. The highest reported temperature was 71 degrees reported on February 1 while the lowest reported temperature was 13 degrees reported in February 14.

NEW MEXICO: The month of February was very mild for the state of state. Evening temperature were in the 30's and day time temperatures were in the fifty's except for two days of warm 70° weather. There were a few days of high wind, very little moisture throughout the state. The end of this month brought spring calving. Calves, regular maintenance kept ranchers very busy. Farmers spent the month of February pruning pecan trees, preparing fields for planting.

NEW YORK: Unseasonably mild weather, interrupted only briefly by snow, ice storms, dominated the month. Outside activities were aided by the exceptionally good conditions. Major activities included: Caring for livestock, moving potatoes, onions, apples, cabbage from storage, winter pruning in apple orchards, spreading manure, machinery repair, maintenance. Many producers attended various commodity meetings, trade shows.

NORTH CAROLINA: Soil moisture 13% very short, 38% short, 49% adequate, 0% surplus. Overall the month of February was mild. Though a wide range of temperatures were recorded during the month, on average water was warmer than normal. The dry weather that has plagued the State since October persists, as rainfall was 1 to 3 inches below normal for all reporting stations in February. Even with above normal rainfall recorded in January, most areas are already below normal for the year. Widespread rainfall last weekend will bring temporary relief to most areas, but concerns about available moisture for the planting season are prevalent. Reflecting the precipitation deficiencies. Small grains, specifically wheat, are still suffering from inconsistent stands but are currently in mostly good condition.

NORTH DAKOTA: Soil moisture conditions remain very dry with periods of wind erosion occurring. Mild winter temps have enabled livestock producers to conserve feed supplies. Livestock are generally reported in good to excellent condition as lambing season begins. The average snow cover for the state was 0.6 inches as of March 3, down from 2.9 inches on February 3, 2002, 7.2 inches on March 4, 2001. Snow cover was sufficient to protect 15% of alfalfa fields. Hay 0% very short, 4% short, 84% good, 12% surplus. Producers reported giving supplemental feed to 100% cattle, 100% sheep. Calving 11% complete while lambing was 25% complete. Shearing of sheep 49% complete. Cattle, cow 0% very poor, 1% poor, 13% fair, 89% good, 17% excellent. Sheep 2% very poor, 3% poor, 12% fair, 67% good, 14% excellent. Cattle sales 3% below normal, 93% normal, 4% above normal. Road conditions 99% open, 1% difficult. Some producers are expressing concern about the potential for increased levels of winter kill in alfalfa fields. Producers are busy cleaning seed, marketing grain, working on machinery for spring.

OHIO: February 2002 was 4.0 ° warmer than normal in state, with temperatures averaging 34.0° across the state. Precipitation averaged
OKLAHOMA: Dry conditions persisted in western counties. Winter wheat conditions remained in mostly fair to poor condition. Range, pasture feeds were in fair to poor condition. Some counties reported livestock being sold in poor condition due to a lack of wheat pasture, over grazed native grass pasture. Hay supplies remain tight.


PENNSYLVANIA: The average high temperature for February was 46.6°F, which was above normal. The average low temperature was 26.4°F on the 14th of the month, which was also above normal during this time of the year. The average monthly temperature was 36.5°F. The highest temperature of the month was in the mid 60's on the 20th. The lowest was around 13°F which occurred on the 14th of the month. There were about 6 to 8 days with measurable precipitation in February. The majority of the precipitation occurred on the 10th of the month. Most counties remain under a drought emergency or warning status. This decision is based upon stream flow, ground water, long-term precipitation conditions. Snowfall was just a trace for the month. The seasonal snowfall amount is still below normal. Major activities: Caring for livestock; buying hay, corn; hunting; hauling, spreading manure; attending the Farm Show organizational meeting; preparing income taxes, planning for the 2002 crop season.

SOUTH CAROLINA: The weather for February was more seasonal with some sleet, freezing rain in western state early in the month. Heavy rains were recorded during mid-month, at the end of the month which helped greatly with the ongoing rainfall deficit. Temperatures were 1 - 2°F above normal for most of the month. Small grains made good progress, were several days ahead of schedule; some fields had injury from the freeze early in the month. Farmers were busy with land preparation for early corn planting, pruning fruit trees, caring for livestock.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Feed supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 86% adequate, 7% surplus. Stock water supplies 5% very short, 14% short, 80% adequate, 1% surplus. Accessible livestock feed supplies 99% readily, 1% difficult. Accessible stock water supplies 96% readily, 4% difficult. Winter rye 2% poor, 34% fair, 59% good, 5% excellent. Winter wheat 6% very poor, 21% poor, 39% fair, 32% good, 2% excellent. Cattle 1% poor, 9% fair, 71% good, 19% excellent. Sheep 1% poor, 10% fair, 72% good, 17% excellent. Cattle death losses, 41% below normal, 59% normal. Sheep, lamb deaths 43% below avg.; 56% avg.; 1% above avg. Calf deaths 40% below avg.; 59% avg.; 1% above avg. Average snow depth 0.60 inch. Alfalfa snow cover 94% poor, 6% adequate. Winter wheat snow cover 98% poor, 2% adequate. Winter rye snow cover 94% poor, 6% adequate. County road conditions 100% open. Township road conditions 100% open. Farmers, ranchers kept busy by tending to livestock, fixing machinery, preparing for the upcoming growing season. With below average precipitation levels for this time of year, the lack of snow cover that would contribute to snow melt, producers are concerned about the lack of moisture, its effect on winter crops.

TENNESSEE: Temperatures were mostly seasonable across the State for the month of February. Precipitation was below normal for the entire month, with little snowfall occurring. High pressure dominated the weather during the week ending February 17 with temperatures above normal, precipitation well below normal in every section of the State. Thermometer readings averaged 2 to 4°F above normal for the week ending February 24. The following week, however, changed drastically as two separate arctic cold fronts passed through. The first of these fronts ushered in some of the coldest air of the season. As a result, early blooming fruit crops may have been susceptible to freeze damage. Livestock were in mostly good condition, most areas should have adequate hay supplies.

TEXAS: Conditions in February have extremely variable as far as temperatures were concerned. Several arctic fronts crossed the state, each bringing high winds, cold temperatures. Periods of light rain, drizzle, snow flurries accompanied each front but, were mostly concentrated across the Plains, North State. Record low temperatures accompanied with high winds were recorded throughout the month which kept the stress levels high for livestock. Small grains, pastures also suffered as the lack of moisture continued. Supplemental feeding remained high as producers attempted to maintain body condition in their livestock herds however, to some producers were forced to rely on feed supplies, which were supplied as hay and hay supplies depleting. Planting of warm season crops began in southern, central locations, but rains were needed to maintain normal planting progress. In some areas of the state, it has been several years since normal conditions were reported.

UTAH: Topsoil moisture for the month was at critical levels. Beef Cattle 4% Forage, NA 2001, NA 5-yr avg. Milk Cow 2% Forage, NA 2001, NA 5-yr avg. Sheep 6% Forage, NA 2001, NA 5-yr avg. Pasture 42% very poor, 26% poor, 23% fair, 9% good. Livestock 2% very poor, 12% poor, 28% fair, 51% good, 7% excellent. Small Grain, Winter Grazing Crops 10% very poor, 18% poor, 44% fair, 23% good, 5% excellent. Winter Wheat 8% very poor, 18% poor, 43% fair, 27% good, 4% excellent. Barley 14% very poor, 11% poor, 47% fair, 26% good, 2% excellent. The Commonwealth has experienced another month of above normal temperatures, extremely dry conditions. The dry conditions have caused a shortage in the water supply for livestock, reduced feed from pastures. Alternate water, feed supplies were needed for livestock. With little to no snow or rainfall, pastures continued to suffer. Many farmers were preparing for spring by top dressing small grains, seeding pastures, adding clover to some fields. Activities Included: Attending educational meetings, applying herbicides, lime, running deep tillage equipment, repairing machinery, seeding tobacco greenhouses, making tax preparations. Temperatures for the month were unseasonably warm. There was little to no precipitation. 50 per ton.

VIRGINIA: For the week ending March 3. Topsoil 27% very short, 35% short, 38% adequate, compared to 17% short, 80% adequate, 3% surplus at this time 2001. Wheat ranged from 34% poor, 60% fair, 6% good, compared to 30% poor, 66% fair, 4% good 2001. Small grains have been slowed due to dry weather. Cattle, calves, sheep, lambs were reported in fair to excellent condition as a result of the warmer than normal temperatures. The absence of freezing weather during most of the month was very important to livestock having access to limited water supplies. Below normal rainfall throughout most of the fall has required earlier feeding of livestock, providing water in some areas. Dry conditions have been an aid for calving, lambing. Hay, feed grain supplies are adequate. Farm activities included: Feeding livestock, general maintenance. Drought, near drought conditions exist over much of the State as precipitation continues at below normal levels.

WASHINGTON: The month of February brought hints of spring across the State. Warmer weather on the western side of the state caused some flooding, but no crop damage was reported. Mountain snow pack was considered average. Little field work was accomplished due to saturated fields or cold weather. Fruit trees have survived winter conditions with very little crop damage. Fruit tree pruning was finishing up. Vine grape pruning was in full swing. Daffodils began to be hand harvested in March. The month of February brought words of spring to the region. There were about 6 dozen balled, burlapped, bareroot plants ongoing. Winter orchard pruning was finishing up. Vine grape poor, 28% fair, 51% good, 7% excellent. Small grains, pastures also suffered as the lack of moisture continued. Supplemental feeding remained high as producers attempted to maintain body condition in their livestock herds however, to some producers were forced to rely on feed supplies, which were supplied as hay and hay supplies depleting. Planting of warm season crops began in southern, central locations, but rains were needed to maintain normal planting progress. In some areas of the state, it has been several years since normal conditions were reported.

WEST VIRGINIA: For the week ending March 3. Topsoil 27% very short, 35% short, 38% adequate, compared to 17% short, 80% adequate, 3% surplus at this time 2001. Wheat ranged from 34% poor, 60% fair, 6% good, compared to 30% poor, 66% fair, 4% good 2001. Small grains have been slowed due to dry weather. Cattle, calves, sheep, lambs were reported in fair to excellent condition as a result of the warmer than normal temperatures. The absence of freezing weather during most of
the month was very important to livestock having access to limited water supplies. Below normal rainfall throughout most of the fall has required earlier feeding of livestock, hauling water in some areas. Dry conditions have been an aid for calving, lambing. Hay, feed grain supplies are adequate. Farm activities included: Feeding livestock, general maintenance. Drought, near drought conditions exist over much of the State as precipitation continues at below normal levels.

### WISCONSIN:
February was characterized with above normal temperatures, below normal snowfall. Locations throughout the state saw bare ground during the month.

### WYOMING:
Topsoil 50% very short, 39% short, 11% adequate. Subsoil moisture 58% very short, 33% short, 9% adequate. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 11% poor, 26% fair, 62% good, wind damage 31% none, 51% light, 14% moderate, 4% severe, freeze damage 84% none, 11% light, 5% moderate. Cattle 1% poor, 38% fair, 60% good, 1% excellent. Sheep 1% poor, 39% fair, 59% good, 1% excellent. Hay, roughage supplies 12% very short, 25% short, 57% adequate 6% surplus. Spring grazing prospects 16% very poor, 31% poor, 46% fair, 7% good. February below normal temperatures, very dry. Winter wheat in fair to good condition. Soil moisture supplies short in 90% of the State.