ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork was 4.9. Topsoil 1% very short, 7% short, 67% adequate, 25% surplus. Corn 97% harvested, 100% 2003, 99% avg. Soybeans 99% dropping leaves, 96% 2003, 97% avg.; 50% harvested, 50% 2003, 48% avg.; condition 6% very poor, 6% poor, 12% fair, 71% good, 5% excellent. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 12% poor, 38% fair, 44% good, 4% excellent. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 12% fair, 64% good, 21% excellent. Harvest has been slow due to rainy weather, fog, and lower temperatures and more rain is forecast.

ARKANSAS: Day's suitable for fieldwork was 4. Soil 0% very short, 1% short, 70% adequate, 29% surplus. Soybeans 100% yellowing, 99% 2003, 96% 5-yr avg.; 97% shedding, 93% 2003, 95% 5-yr avg.; 93% matured, 86% 2003, N/A 5-yr avg.; 68% harvested, 73% 2003, 71% 5-yr avg. Cotton 65% harvested, 72% 2003, 81% 5-yr avg. Rice 99% harvested, 99% 2003, 99% 5-yr avg. Winter wheat 28% planted, 67% 2003, 56% 5-yr avg.; 18% emerged, 47% 2003, 33% 5-yr avg.; condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 35% fair, 55% good, 9% excellent. Pasture, Range feed 4% very poor, 13% poor, 36% fair, 42% good, 5% excellent. CROPS: Rain continued to delay harvest of both soybeans, cotton, the planting of winter wheat. The harvest of rice was almost completed. Pecan harvest has begun. LIVESTOCK: Livestock are in overall good condition, producers have begun to vaccinate calves. Warm weather, moisture have allowed pastures to improve. Fertilizing of cool weather forages has also been initiated.

CALIFORNIA: Ground preparation, planting of small grains, winter forage was gradually gaining momentum as many fields continue to dry out. Soil preparation activities included leveling, tilling, irrigation. Earlier emerged plantings showed vigorous growth. Wet soil conditions hampered the cotton harvest as it neared completion. Growers were concerned about the effect of recent rains on quality, yields. Harvested fields were being shredded, disced. Rice harvesting was complete or nearly complete in most areas with good yields reported. Straw was baled in a number of fields. Dry bean harvesting resumed in some fields where soil conditions allowed. Wet soil continued to delay sugar beet, soybean, vinedseed harvesting. Corn harvesting for seed, feed, human consumption was also hindered by recent rainfall. Harvesting of corn for silage was mostly complete. Growers expected some losses on recent alfalfa cuttings due to rainfall. Planting was winding down in most areas. Recently planted alfalfa showed strong growth. Harvesting of potatoes, sweet potatoes continued as weather conditions permitted. Raisin grape harvesting was completed. Most growers of dried-on-the-vine raisins had harvested their vineyards before the rain began. Picking, packing continued in a few table grape vineyards. Some late maturing varieties were covered with plastic to protect against the rain. Stone fruit growers were waiting for orchard conditions to improve before continuing with pruning, shredding, brushing operations. Some orchards were pushed out due to age, poor conditions, and were to be replaced with new varieties when weather conditions allowed. Harvesting of pomegranates continued, good yields were reported. The rain may have caused some damage but the extent was still unknown. Apples, persimmons, kiwifruit were also harvested, with some rain damage of kiwifruit reported. Strawberries in the San Joaquin Valley continued to be picked for sale at roadside stands. Harvesting of early Navel orange varieties accelerated, but was stopped temporarily by the rain. Fruit were coloring nicely thanks to cooler nighttime temperatures. Lemon, Mandarin orange harvesting was also disrupted by rain. Fungicide treatments were applied to citrus orchards as weather permitted. A few olives in northern areas of the State remained to be harvested. Growers continued to spray for olive fly. Pistachios, pecans, walnuts continued to be harvested in many locations, but the season was winding down. Harvesting in orchards with nuts on the ground was suspended again due to continued heavy rains. Between rains, growers applied herbicides to almond, pistachio orchards. Rain, muddy fields slowed or suspended vegetable field work in many areas. Planting of cauliflower and broccoli occurred as conditions permitted. Some tomato, cauliflower fields were sprayed with fungicides. Discing, preparations for fall, spring planting continued. There were some problems with lodging in sweet corn fields due to the rain, wind in Fresno County. Harvesting the last of the green tomatoes occurred in the San Joaquin Valley. Eggplant, freezer lima beans, broccoli, green bean, head lettuce, peppers, pickles cucumbers, spinach, squash, sweet corn, fresh market tomatoes, pumpkins continued to be harvested. Harvesting of cabbage, romaine lettuce was underway in Tulare County. The following vegetables were also harvested: basil, bok choi, carrots, cauliflower, daikon, gai choy, gai lan, jujube, kale, kohlrabi, lemon grass, long beans, moqau, opo, parsley, sinqua, snap beans, sugar cane, taro leaf, various herbs. Additional rain proved very beneficial to winter pastures. Mild daytime temperatures, a lack of frost at night was helping to boost new grass growth on the foothills. Many cattle continued to receive supplemental feed. Fall calving continued. Sheep were grazing in alfalfa fields, harvested tomato fields, on fallow land in the central, northern valleys. Fall lambing had begun. Feeder lambs were grazing on alfalfa pastures in the Southern State desert.

ARIZONA: Temperatures for the State were below normal for the last week of October. Cotton 50% harvest acreage, ahead of 2003 41% average, but slightly behind the 52% 5-yr avg. Alfalfa condition remains mostly good. Precipitation was reported at 16 of the 17 reporting stations, ranging from 2.20 inches in Flagstaff to 0.15 inches in Tucson.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork was 5.6. Top soil 7% very short, 27% short, 64% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 20% very short, 34% short, 45% adequate, 1% adequate. Most parts of the state did not receive any precipitation last week, experienced temperatures that were slightly warmer than normal. The exception was the western slope that had above average rainfall, normal temperatures for the week. Sunflower condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 14% fair, 54% good 30% excellent. Alfalfa hay 4" cutting 75%, 83% 2003, 83% avg.; condition 3% very poor, 8% poor, 36% fair, 38% good, 15% excellent. Dry beans 91% harvested, 99% 2003, 100% avg. Dry onions 99% harvested, 100% 2003, 100% avg. Sugar beets 80% harvested, 80% 2003, 73% avg.; condition 1% poor, 16% fair, 57% good, 26% excellent.
DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 97% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 97% adequate, 3% surplus. Soybeans 34% harvested, 34% 2003, 39% avg. Sorghum 92% harvested, 88% 2003, 62% avg. Barley condition 72% good, 28% excellent; 89% planted, 91% 2003, 80% avg. Winter wheat condition 19% fair, 48% good, 33% excellent; 67% planted, 65% 2003, 51% avg. Pasture feed 11% fair, 83% good, 6% excellent. Other hay 4th cutting 80%, 88% 2003, 83% avg; 4th cutting 88%, 88% 2003, 95% avg; 5th cutting 37%, 22% 2003, 37% avg. Hay supplies 20% short, 78% adequate, 2% surplus. Weather conditions were favorable for finishing up corn for grain harvest, making good progress on soybean harvest. Sorghum harvest was over 90% complete, up slightly from last year. Planting of barley was almost complete with 89% planted. A small amount of progress was made for other hay fourth cutting and alfalfa hay fourth cutting. The apple harvest is complete with 96% harvested. Planting of winter wheat increased 22% from 45% to 67% planted. Hay supplies were rated adequate to short.

HAWAII: Crops made poor to good progress during the week. A lingering storm system generated frequent showers in windward areas during the first half of the week. Fields remained muddy for most of the week as cloudy skies, light winds prevented fields from drying. Farming activity was limited to harvesting in some areas. Humid conditions also made fieldwork uncomfortable. Trade winds returned briefly at midweek before another mass of unstable air resulted in additional showers over the weekend. Weekend showers were particularly heavy over Oahu. Crop producers have been busy harvesting papayas with generally good progress although heavy showers slowed harvesting in some areas. Papayas made steady progress; spraying for disease control increased due to daily showers. Vegetables in the upper-elevation areas of Waimae, Kula made good to fair progress as most of the inclement weather bypassed those areas.

IDAHO: Days Suitable for Fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 4% very short, 14% short, 78% adequate, 4% surplus. The temperature reading fell below normal, some precipitation in the form of rain, snow was received for most of the state. These rain, snow storms limited farmers in the amount of fieldwork able to be done this past week. Some areas of the state saw a good, soaking rain before the first hard freeze of Winter 2004. Livestock are being moved off of the range, are reported to be in good condition going into winter. Ranchers have started shipping calves out. Field corn harvested for grain 42%, 60% 2003, 46% avg. Alfalfa hay – 4th cutting harvested 100%, 99% 2003, 97% avg. Activities Included: Caring for, moving livestock to winter pastures, fall soil preparation, planting winter wheat when conditions permitted, and harvesting hay and sugarbeets.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.6. Topsoil 3% short, 63% adequate, 34% surplus. Rain fell across the state again last week with all districts receiving above normal precipitation. Strong winds reportedly broke-off corn stalks in Northern areas. In addition to harvest activities, farmers were planting wheat, tilling, applying lime, fertilizer between intermittent rains, and caring for livestock.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil 1% very short, 6% short, 73% adequate, 20% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 20% short, 72% adequate, 6% surplus. Showers slowed field activities in some areas of the state. Strong winds over the weekend caused lodging in some corn fields. Farmers made some progress harvesting corn, soybeans. Many farmers have completed harvesting of corn, soybeans. Corn harvest is 3 days ahead of average. Soybean harvest is on par with last year, the average pace at 90% complete. Some elevators are still limiting deliveries of corn, soybeans. Moisture content of corn harvested is averaging about 17%. Moisture content of soybeans harvested is averaging about 12.0%. Fall tillage has occurred in many fields. Winter wheat emergence and growth continues to improve. Pastures are greening up, improving. Temperatures averaged 10° to 14° above normal for the week. Precipitation averaged 0.00 to 2.06 inches. Soybeans virtually all mature except for very late planted dried out areas. Pastures 4% very poor, 18% poor, 40% fair, 35% good, 3% excellent. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Activities: Attending FSA offices for LDP sign up, tillage of soils, repairing, cleaning up equipment, chopping stalks, harvesting popcorn, sorting, weaning calves, spreading lime, fertilizer, hauling manure and taking care of livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil 6% very short, 16% short, 68% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 8% very short, 21% short, 64% adequate, 7% surplus. Agricultural Summary: Last week’s cool, wet weather slowed harvest progress to a crawl. Many farmers were unable to make substantial progress due to the weather. Extensive waits, or shortened hours at elevators also slowed progress. Reporters speculated the remainder of the harvest would continue at an unusually slow pace. Field Crops Report: The corn acreage harvested for grain or seed reached 62%, 10 days behind 2003 average of 87% harvested, 9 days behind the 5-yr avg 82%. All field corn 20% moisture, 19% harvested, 44% lodging none, 31% light, 19% moderate, 6% heavy, 61% ear dropage none, 27% light, 11% moderate, 1% heavy. Fall fertilizer application in preparation for the 2005 season was 20% complete statewide. Grain movement from farm to elevator 17% none, 26% light, 37% moderate, 20% heavy. Off-farm grain storage availability 50% short, 48% adequate, 2% surplus. On-farm grain storage availability 59% short, 39% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay, roughage availability 6% short, 77%
adequate, 17% surplus. Utilization of stubble fields for grazing 41% none, 31% light, 24% moderate, 4% heavy. Livestock, Pasture, Range Report: Pasture, range feed 5% very poor, 20% poor, 35% fair, 34% good, 6% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 12% short, 75% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil 8% very short, 34% short, 57% adequate, 1% surplus. Alfalfa 4th cutting 93%, 84% 2003, 94% avg. Range, pasture feeds 5% very poor, 20% poor, 37% fair, 33% good, 5% excellent. Feed grain supplies 2% very short, 5% short, 80% adequate, 13% surplus. Hay, forage supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 78% adequate, 15% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 16% short, 80% adequate, 2% excellent

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Soil 27% short, 71% adequate, 2% surplus. Pecans 37% harvested, 25% last week, 35% 2003, 30% avg. Soybeans 100% dropping leaves, 98% last week, 95% 2003, 100% avg. Sugarcane 3% very poor, 20% poor, 46% fair, 22% good, 9% excellent; 32% harvested, 21% last week, 40% 2003, 36% avg. Sweet potatoes 70% harvested, 56% last week, 92% 2003, 84% avg. Wheat 32% planted, 17% last week, 35% 2003, 42% avg.; 4% emerged, 2% last week, 18% 2003, 20% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 3% poor, 37% fair, 56% good, 3% excellent. Vegetable 8% very poor, 14% poor, 45% fair, 31% good, 2% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 12% short, 79% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 8% short, 85% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn for 87% grain harvested, 82% 2003, 85% avg. Soybeans 94% dropping leaves, 87% 2003,95% avg.; 39% harvested, 39% 2003, 47% avg. Sorghum 84% harvested, 82% 2003, 73% avg. Barley condition 3% very poor, 4% poor, 8% fair, 54% good, 31% excellent; 90% planted, 89% 2003, 91% avg. Winter wheat condition 2% very poor, 2% poor, 8% fair, 56% good, 32% excellent; 70% planted, 70% 2003, 64% avg. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 7% poor, 20% fair, 45% good, 26% excellent. Tobacco 21% stripped, 21% 2003, 25% avg. Other hay 4th cutting 86%, 89% 2003, 89% avg. Alfalfa hay 4th cutting 89% 76% 2003, 89% avg.; 5th cutting 35%, 12% 2003, 46% avg. Apples 93% harvested, 94% 2003, 94% avg. Hay supplies 6% very short, 13% short, 73% adequate, 8% surplus. Clouds covered much of the state last week with air temperatures in the 60's, precipitation mainly in the Western part of the state. Corn for grain 87% harvest complete, up 5% from last week. Soybean harvest was 39% complete, on target with last year. Sorghum 84% harvest complete, up slightly from last year, the five-year average. Good progress was made in planting small grains. Apple harvest was complete with 93% harvested.
2003 98% complete. Dry bean 98% harvest, 2003 progress of 100%. Potato 99% harvest complete, 2003 98% complete. Other hay 2nd cutting complete 97%. Range, pasture feed 19% very poor, 26% poor, 34% fair, 17% good, 4% excellent, 2003 44% very poor, 34% poor, 18% fair, 4% good, 0% excellent. Movement of cattle, calves from summer ranges 75%, 2003 82%. Movement of sheep, lambs from summer ranges 83%, 2003 84%. Seventeen percent of the cattle, 19% of the sheep are being supplemental fed.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil 7% very short, 30% short, 62% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 25% very short, 36% short, 39% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures for the week ending October 31, 2004 averaged from 3 to 12° above normals. Precipitation was state-wide but scattered, light, with only one report exceeding one-half inch. The last alfalfa condition rating of the season showed 9% very poor, 15% poor, 33% fair, 36% good, 7% excellent. Producer activities this past week centered around fall harvest.

NEVADA: A low pressure system moved slowly across the State, keeping temperatures below normal. Temperatures averaged 3 to 7° below normal for the week, but were sharply colder at the end of the week. Precipitation was moderate, falling as rain in most areas with light snow in the north-central, northeastern areas. Mountain snow pack continued to pace heavier than normal. Winnemucca recorded .66 inch of precipitation. Ely, .47 inch. Elko, 2.93 inch. Reno, .01 inch. Precipitation at Reno, Elko and Winnemucca was statewide but scattered, light, with only one report exceeding one-half inch. The last alfalfa condition rating of the season showed 9% very poor, 15% poor, 33% fair, 36% good, 7% excellent. Producer activities this past week centered around fall harvest.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for field work 6.4. Topsoil 2% short, 94% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% short, 95% adequate. Pasture feed 13% poor, 27% fair, 60% good. Massachusetts Potatoes 100% harvested, 100% 2003, 99% avg. Field Corn 100% harvested, 100% 2003, 99% avg. Hay 3rd Crop 100% harvested, 99% 2003, 96% avg. Apples 99% harvested, 99% 2003, 99% avg. Pears 100% harvested, 100% 2003, 100% avg. Massachusetts Cranberries 99% harvested, 95% 2003, 95% avg. Temperatures were seasonable during the week mixed with light precipitation over the weekend. Activities Included: Harvesting apples, cranberries; finishing harvest of pears, potatoes, silage corn; spreading manure; cleaning equipment to put away for winter.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 6.0. Soil 100% adequate. There was some rainfall across most of the state during the week. Fieldwork included harvesting field corn for grain, soybeans, fruit, and vegetables. Soybean harvest was slow in some localities because beans were not dry enough due to weather conditions. Planting of fall harvest cover crops continued where conditions allowed. Spinach was planted to overwinter. Apple harvest nearing completion in the central district. Cranberry harvest was winding up. Pasture feed was generally fair.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil 12% very short, 33% short, 55% adequate. A somewhat mixed bag of fall weather during the week brought scattered showers to just about all locations, with the southwest areas receiving nearly an inch while the northern, central mountains averaged near one half inch from a mix of snow, rain. Temperatures reflected the variable weather with the southwest, southwest-facing mountain areas reaching to 2 to 4° warmer than normal, while northern districts were cool at 2 to 4° below normal. Farmers spent the week harvesting chile, corn, cotton, hay, peanuts, sorghum as the irrigation season finished. Alfalfa conditions 7% very poor, 21% poor, 25% fair, 41% good, 6% excellent. Wet conditions slowed harvest, many will not get a 7th cutting with the 6th cutting at 84% complete and the 7th at 30% complete. Red chile harvest continued with 43% harvested to date. Cotton conditions declined slightly as rains caused some cotton to be strung out, bolls were slow to open in some fields. Cotton harvest was reported at 14% compared to the 5 year average of 34%. Corn harvest was well underway with 68% of the crop harvested. Sorghum conditions 1% poor, 44% fair, 52% good, 3% excellent; 44% mature, 11% harvested by week’s end. Peanut harvest continued 44% harvested. Lettuce 46% harvested. Wheat was in fair to good condition with some replanting. Ranchers were shipping livestock, mending fences, moving cattle from summer pastures during the week. Potato conditions 7% poor, 31% fair, 58% good, 4% excellent. Sheep conditions 9% poor, 33% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Pasture feeds 6% very poor, 14% poor, 38% fair, 39% good, 3% excellent.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil 3% very short, 7% short, 76% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil 8% very short, 17% short, 71% adequate, 4% surplus. Rye 1% very poor, 3% poor, 15% fair, 57% good, 24% excellent. Oats 3% poor, 26% fair, 65% good, 6% excellent; 89% seeded prepared, 85% last week, 89% 2003, 90% avg.; 48% planted, 44% last week, 57% 2003, 57% avg.; 40% emerged, 38% last week, 48% 2003, 41% avg. Corn 97% harvested, 92% last week, 96% 2003, 99% avg. Sorghum 1% poor, 40% fair, 49% good, 10% excellent. Soybeans 86% mature, 85% last week, 87% 2003, 91% avg.; 60% harvested, 57% last week, 61% 2003, 71% avg. Peanuts 4% poor, 20% fair, 64% good, 12% excellent; 76% dug, 62% last week, 83% 2003, 79% avg. Alfalfa hay 3% very poor, 2% poor, 27% fair, 54% good, 14% excellent; 85% 5th cutting, 83% last week, 71% 2003, 57% avg.; 40% 6th cutting, 33% last week, n/a 2003, n/a avg. Livestock 1% poor, 16% fair, 64% good, 19% excellent. Pasture, Range 1% very poor, 6% poor, 28%
OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil 4% very short, 20% short, 73% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 7% very short, 31% short, 60% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat 94% planted, 81% 2003, 83% 5 yr avg.; 76% emerged, 46% 2003, 46% 5 yr avg.; conditions 17% fair, 69% good, 14% excellent. Rye. Pasture 4% very poor, 28% poor, 35% fair, 32% good, 1% excellent. Activities: Cold, rainy conditions across the State put a halt to many field operations last week. In western State, the weather was mostly cold, wet with some sunshine. Greater than normal rain helped Jackson County pastures. In eastern State, the weather was cooler, wetter than last week. Wasco County reported several nights of freezing temperatures in high elevation areas, while Lake County had some snow. High temperatures were mostly in the fifties with some low sixties. Low temperatures were in the twenties; low thirties, frosty nights, temperatures as low as eighteen in south central areas of the State. Fall seeding was virtually complete, most crops had emerged by last week. A few producers applied fertilizer, pesticides between rain showers. Sugarbeet, corn harvest was stopped by the wet weather in Malheur County. Many hay producers in Wasco County were busy bringing in their crops from the fields. Most fruits, nuts have been harvested. There were still a few late pears, apples, late season grapes to pick. Hazelnut harvest was virtually complete; a few walnuts may remain to pick. Trees with evident eastern filbert blight were pruned. Some fall copper sprays were applied to apples, stone fruits in Yamhill County. Nursery shipmenets have picked up, digging of bare root material is underway. Greenhouses are busy with holiday plants, fall outdoor decorative plants. Christmas tree growers are planning harvest of trees, getting equipment ready for harvest. Due to the cooler weather, there was a limited amount of fall vegetables available for harvest. The pumpkin supply was plentiful throughout the week but was coming to a close. Cole crops were going to the processors in Washington County. Potatoes in Klamath County were 99% harvested. Malheur County had rain showers early in the week, which slowed the harvest of onions. Pastures, rangeland were reported in good fall condition across the State. Fall growth continued in areas where temperatures remained warm. With adequate moisture available, pastures will continue active growth under frost free conditions. Producers were moving livestock in fall pasture rotations, supplemental feeding continued. Livestock were reported in good fall condition heading into the winter months throughout the State.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 5% very short, 15% short, 72% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil 14% very short, 20% short, 63% adequate, 3% surplus. Feed supplies 11% very short, 18% short, 66% adequate, 5% surplus. Stock water supplies 16% very short, 23% short, 58% adequate, 3% surplus. Sunflower 11% very poor, 11% poor, 37% fair, 46% good, 5% excellent; 96% maturity, 100% 2003, 100% avg. 35% harvested, 87% 2003, 82% avg. Sorghum 71% harvested-grain, 94% 2003, 84% avg. Cattle condition 2% poor, 17% fair, 63% good, 18% excellent. Sheep condition 3% poor, 13% fair, 63% good, 21% excellent. Range. Pasture 11% very poor, 20% poor, 33% fair, 31% good, 5% excellent. Wet weather continued to delay harvest progress for many farmers, ranchers last week. With precipitation received in many areas throughout the state, corn moisture remains too high for harvest, wet fields continue to postpone harvest of sorghum, sunflowers. Activities Included: Combining row crops, fall tillage, working cattle, and caring for livestock.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 2. Topsoil 4% short, 71% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil 8% short, 77% adequate, 15% surplus. Burley 51% stripped, 52% 2003, 43% avg. Winter Wheat 28% seeded, 73% 2003, 56% avg.; 20% emerged, 37% 2003, 22% avg. Pastures 4% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 11% excellent. For the third consecutive week, rainfall continued to delay harvest, seeding. Producers struggled to make much progress last week, as showers limited the days suitable for fieldwork to only two. The wet weather has limited the amount of 2005 winter wheat acreage sown. Winter wheat seeding progress is close to two weeks behind normal. The rains, however, have provided good moisture for germination, as well as stripping burley tobacco, helping improved pastures. Over half of the burley crop has been stripped, steady with last year and ahead of the normal pace by about four days. Activities Included: Working on equipment, repairing fences, updating farm records. Temperatures across the State averaged above normal for the week.

TEXAS: Agricultural Summary: Conditions for planting, harvesting were mostly undesirable across many areas of the state during the week. Soaked rain showers across many areas of the Plains preventing most farming activities, however some areas remained dry, harvest moved forward. Heavier rainfall occurred in many other areas of the state with some localized flooding, isolated property damage occurring as the result of severe thunderstorms. Maturity in remaining crops was slow as a result of the cloudy, moist conditions. The above average moisture levels continued to benefit small grain producers however, some planting was on hold as the result of the wet conditions. Range, pasture forage growth remained adequate, ample grazing for livestock continued. However dormancy continued with the decrease in day length, cooler conditions. Forage growth was still active in extreme southern locations. Small Grains: Good moisture conditions, warm temperatures have produced excellent growing conditions for small grains in most areas of the state. Producers were able to begin grazing some earlier planted fields. A few locations were experiencing problems with green bugs, army worms. Wheat condition 91% normal, compared with 53% normal 2003. Corn harvest continued, but was slow in some wetter locations. In a few locations across the plains, drying down remained necessary in late planted fields. Cotton: Cotton harvest was slow or stalled in many areas as the result of wet field conditions. Maturity was running behind in some areas of the plains as adequate heat units were not available for continued development. Re-growth remained a problem for some producers as crop conditions made stalk destruction impossible. Some minor losses were reported as the result of heavy rainfall. Cotton condition 79% normal, compared with 52% 2003. Sorghum: Harvest continued in areas of the plains where weather conditions permitted. Drying down was still needed in some late planted fields. Peanuts; Peanut harvest remained slow across most areas of the state due to the rainy conditions. Early planted fields were producing well, however some late planted fields were being held in storage. Peach condition normal, compared with 83% 2003. Rice: Harvest of the Ratoon crop was slow due to the cloudy humid conditions. Commercial Vegetables, Fruit, Pecans
In the Rio Grande Valley early planted vegetables continued to make good progress. Harvest of early citrus remained active. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden, land preparation continued for later plantings of vegetables. Irrigation of earlier planted carrots, onions, cabbage was active. Spinach planting was winding down but, earlier planted fields needed cooler weather. Some problems with insect populations occurred in isolated locations. In East State, harvest of sweet potatoes continued, however other remaining vegetables crops were mostly harvested. In the High Plains pumpkin harvest was nearing completion. In the Trans Pecos region, harvest of watermelons, potatoes continued. Pecans: Pecan conditions were variable across the state. Some producers reported varied degrees of nut drop, some web worm infestations were also reported. Generally, producers expected an average production season. Livestock, Range and Pasture Report: Generally, range, pastures across the state were in good condition. Forage growth continued in central, southern locations, but dormancy was beginning in some northern locations. Supplemental feeding was minimal in all areas. Livestock condition around the state was good as the result of a good forage season. Some producers began grazing small grain fields. Hay production remained active in many areas, supplies were believed to be adequate for the upcoming winter months. Some producers were experiencing problems with army worm infestations, but control measures were minimal.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for field work 3. Subsoil 5% very short, 22% short, 69% adequate, 4% surplus. Irrigation water supplies 23% very short, 35% short, 41% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat 98% planted for harvest 2005, 92% 2003, 96% avg.; 90% emerged, 58% 2003, 75% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 10% fair, 63% good, 7% excellent. Corn 97% mature, 100% 2003, 98% avg.; 57% harvested (grain), 77% 2003, 58% avg.; 100% silage, harvested (silage), 100% 2003, 100% avg. Alfalfa hay 4th cutting 100%, 99% 2003, 97% avg. Alfalfa seed 82% harvested, 94% 2003, 89% avg. Onions 100% harvested, 100% 2003, 100% avg. Dry beans 96% harvested, 100% 2003, 100% avg. Cattle, calves moved from summer range 91%, 93% 2003, 96% avg. Cattle, calves condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 19% fair, 70% good, 10% excellent. Sheep, lambs moved from summer range 94%, 95% 2003, 96% avg. Sheep condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 11% fair, 86% good, 3% excellent. Stock water supplies 6% very short, 35% short, 59% adequate, 0% surplus. Apples 94% harvested, 89% 2003, 93% avg. A winter weather pattern continued to pound the state last week. The precipitation received in the past two weeks was well above average for this time of year. There have been some reports of flooding, some crop damage, but overall the moisture has been welcomed. The moisture received was not enough to break the drought in all areas but it has definitely been beneficial. Late season crop harvest has been delayed due to the precipitation, cool weather. Some producers continued to finish harvesting late season crop in between rain, snow showers. Range, pasture feeds showed improvement, will benefit from the last two weeks precipitation. Producers continued to pull annuals off of summer ranges, but rain and snow have slowed the process.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for field work 3.7. Topsoil 1% short, 74% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil 6% short, 76% adequate, 18% surplus. The week started off cool with drizzle, heavy fog, ended with a pleasantly warm weekend. The weekend high climbed up into the 80s; the low for the week was around 44°F. Most of the State received a quarter of inch of rain, except for the western region of the State which experienced about one inch of rain. Farmers were busy harvesting their crops, planting winter grains. Overall, the yields continue to look good for all of the state’s crops. Some areas have not yet experienced a frost, are still harvesting a few fall vegetables. Activities included: Vaccinating cows, calves, breeding sheep, keeping the last cutting of hay, and building fences.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for field work was 5.4. Topsoil 10% short, 86% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 20% short, and 78% adequate. Irrigation water supply 100% adequate. The highest temperature in the state was 63°F in Yakima. The lowest temperature in the state was 20°F in Republic. Winter wheat condition was 2% poor, 28% fair, 62% good, 8% excellent; 99% planted, 92% emerged. Potatoes were 95% harvested. Corn harvested for silage was 99% harvested, corn harvested for grain was 82% harvested. Dry edible beans 99% harvested. Cool temperatures, a little bit of wet weather caused field activities to quiet down. Winter wheat planting was mostly complete, while potato, corn silage, grain harvests were not far behind. Christmas tree producers continued to prepare fields for harvest. Turfgrass growers took advantage of rainless days to cut, harvest fields. Hay, other roughage supplies 2% short, 89% adequate, 9% surplus. Range, pasture feeds 4% poor, 34% fair, 61% good, 1% excellent. Calves continued to be moved to market. U-pick pumpkin growers finished up another great season with the end of Halloween. Wine grape, apple harvests nearing completion. Raspberry fields were being pruned and tied. Commercial blueberry growers mowed cover crops. Processing carrot harvest continued.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for field work 4.0. Topsoil 80% adequate, 20% surplus, 2003 2% short, 90% adequate, 8% surplus. Corn s 96% mature, 90% 2003, 5-yr avg. unavailable. Corn 62% harvested, 36% 2003, 53% 5-yr avg. Soybeans conditions 2% poor, 19% fair, 77% good, 2% excellent; 63% harvested, 62% 2003, 61% 5-yr avg. Wheat 81% planted, 78% 2003, 72% 5-yr.; 48% emerged. 49% 2003, 46% 5-yr. avg. Apple harvest 89% complete, 90% n 2003, 5-yr. avg. was not available. Cattle, calves 1% poor, 13% fair, 79% good, 7% excellent. Sheep, lambs 1% poor, 9% fair, 84% good, 6% excellent. Activities included: Plowing, harvesting soybeans, planting wheat, preparing livestock for market and repairing fences.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for field work 3.3. Soil 2% very short, 8% short, 71% adequate, 19% surplus. Damp Conditions Slow Harvest: Harvest progress was delayed during the past week. Moisture received across the state stopped combines from rolling throughout the week. The average temperature was 9 to 11°F above normal. Low temperatures were reported in the upper 30’s. High temperatures reached the mid 70’s during the week. Northern areas of the state received over an inch of rain, while the south central, southeast received less than an inch. With the damp weather, soil moisture conditions have improved from the previous week. Corn harvest progress slowed with the weather. Reports from northern parts of the state indicated that high moisture corn is still being harvested with better than expected yields. However, more time is needed for the fields to dry before the pace of harvest can accelerate. Harvest in the central areas of the state was also slowed by the weather. High moisture corn is still being harvested there, when the weather allows. There were reports of corn on heavy soils still too wet to harvest. Reporters have commented that yields in the southwest, South Central areas are better than expected. There have been mixed reports on yields in the southeast part of the state. Soybean harvest was slowed by the rains. Soybean yields in the northern parts of the state were reported to be average. In central areas, most of the soybeans that were killed by frost have been harvested. Producers are waiting for the late-planted soybeans to dry down. Muddy fields across much of the state slowed any fall tillage progress.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for field work 3.9. Topsoil 13% very short, 30% short, 53% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 26% very short, 34% short, 36% adequate, 4% surplus. Dry beans 88% combined, 98% 2003, 98% 5-yr avg. unavailable. Corn 62% mature, 100% 2003, 99% 5-yr avg.; 21% harvested, 79% 2003, 62% 5-yr avg.; condition 4% very poor, 5% poor, 15% fair, 74% good, 2% excellent. Sugarbeets 78% harvested, 89% 2003, 92% 5-yr avg. Condition of winter wheat 24% fair, 72% good, 4% excellent. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 91%, 96% 2003, 97% 5-yr avg. Range, pasture feeds 36% very poor, 23% poor, 24% fair, 13% good, 4% excellent. Stock water supplies 22% very short, 30% short, 48% adequate. Temperatures through Friday, October 29 averaged mostly above normal with a few Western areas having below normal amounts. Temperatures ranged from 5.4°F below normal in Evanston to 4.5°F above normal in Redbird. The highest temperature was 71°F in Wheatland, while the lowest temperature was 20°F in Deaver and Powell. A trace or more of precipitation was reported throughout the State with some Western areas having below normal amounts. The most precipitation fell in Recluse with 0.93 inch, Altun with 0.84 inch, and Rock Springs with 0.80 inch. Wintry weather over the weekend brought colder temperatures and rain or snow to much of the state.