Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin
State Stories

ALABAMA:

Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 0% very short, 5% short, 60% adequate, 35% surplus. Soybean 76% harvested, 82% 2003, 71% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 6% poor, 37% fair, 48% good, 8% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 3% poor, 14% fair, 55% good, 28% excellent. Harvest is well nigh complete.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA:

Temperatures for the State were above normal for the third week of November. Cotton 70% acreage harvest, ahead of 2003 64% 5-yr avg 76%. Alfalfa condition remains mostly good. Precipitation was reported at 12 of the 17 reporting stations, ranging from 0.03 inches in Coolidge to 0.59 inches in Safford.

ARKANSAS:

Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Soil 0% very short, 2% short, 55% adequate, 43% surplus. Soybeans 100% shedding, 99% 2003, 100% 5-yr avg; 99% matured, 98% 2003, 99% 5-yr avg.; 88% harvested, 95% 2003, 94% 5-yr avg. Cotton 90% harvested, 96% 2003, 97% 5-yr avg. Winter wheat 73% planted, 96% 2003, 90% 5-yr avg.; 54% emerged, 88% 2003, 77% 5-yr avg. Pasture, Range feed 3% very poor, 10% poor, 29% fair, 48% good, 10% excellent. CROPS: Rains late in the week halted soybean, cotton harvests after a productive beginning of the week. Reports of decreased quality for both cotton, soybeans have been reported citing continued wet weather as the main factor. Winter wheat was planted on fields with sandy soils or better drainage. Pecans continue to be harvested. LIVESTOCK: Livestock were in overall good condition. Cool season forages have benefitted from the rains and mild temperatures. The wet weather has lead to muddy lots and grazing fields.

CALIFORNIA:

Drier weather in some parts of the State allowed ground preparation, planting of small grains, winter forage to resume. Fields were disked, leveled, pre-irrigated to prepare for planting. Newly emerged grain fields were thriving. The cotton harvest was nearing completion but in some areas was still hindered by wet field conditions. The shredding, discing of cotton stalks was slowly progressing. Some rice fields remained to be harvested. The baling of rice straw was mostly complete. Some fields of corn were harvested for silage or greenchop. Many growers were preparing fields for sugar beet planting. Wet soil conditions continued to delay harvesting in many dry bean fields. Alfalfa was cut, windrowed, baled. Other fields were harvested for greenchop. Recently planted alfalfa showed excellent growth. Vineseed, potatoes, sweet potatoes were harvested where soil conditions allowed. With the completion of the table grape harvest, growers began to add soil amendments, prune vines in most locations. Some growers were pushing out, stacking, burning old vines. Pruning activities were also underway in many tree fruit orchards. The application of pre-emergent herbicides continued in both tree fruit orchards, grape vineyards. Pomegranates and persimmons were still being harvested in many locations. Good yields were reported for both crops. Harvesting of strawberries continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Susan, Zutano avocados were ready for picking. Citrus crops harvested included Navel oranges, Satsuma mandarins, lemons, pummelos, tangerines, clementines. Harvesting in some areas was slowed by adverse weather conditions. However, the cooler weather also caused rind color to improve significantly in Navel's. Splints remained the major quality problem with harvested Navel's. Many Valencia orange orchards were pulled, replaced with clementines, mandarins, tangerines. Growers began pruning activities in olive orchards. Pistachios, pecans continued to be harvested in several areas. Growers continued pruning, shredding, brushing operations in their orchards. Almond and walnut harvesting in orchards with nuts on the ground was nearly complete. Orchards were treated with micro nutrients such as zinc, boron, and also with pre-emergent herbicides. Field work and harvesting of vegetable crops resumed slowly as fields dried out from the recent rains. Transplanting of onions for seed was underway in the Sacramento Valley. Asparagus fields were topped. Fresh market tomato harvesting was nearly complete in Merced County. Planting of garlic and onions was once again underway in Fresno County. In other fields, preparations for planting resumed where conditions permitted. Eggplant, freezer lima beans, broccoli, cauliflower, green beans, head lettuce, picking cucumbers, squash, sweet corn, carrots, napa cabbage continued to be harvested. The following vegetables were also harvested: bean choy, daikon, gai choy, gai lan, julube, kale, kohirabi, lemon grass, romaine, leaf lettuce, moqua, opo, radicchio, snap peas, spinach, sugar cane, sugar peas, taro leaf, root, various herbs. New grass growth on winter pastures was excellent through most of the period, though cooler nighttime temperatures late in the period slowed grass growth in some areas. Supplemental feeding of cattle has declined in many areas. Fall calving is winding down. Milk production was reported to be good. Sheep were grazing in tomato and alfalfa fields, including alfalfa fields where hay that had been rained on was in the windrow. Fall lambing continued. Feeder lambs were grazing on alfalfa, other pastures in the Southern State desert. In Central California, beekeepers were handling winter maintenance of bee hives and completing contracts with almond growers.

COLORADO: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

DELWARE:

Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil 5% short, 77% adequate, 18% surplus. Subsoil 8% short, 87% adequate, 5% surplus. Soybeans 88% harvested, 77% 2003, 72% avg. Barley condition 71% good, 29% excellent. Winter wheat condition 64% good, 36% excellent; 93% planted, 85% 2003, 85% avg. Pasture feed 2% poor, 11% fair, 81% good, 6% excellent. Other hay 4th cutting 93%, 95% 2003, 93% avg. Alfalfa hay 5th cutting 69%, 34% 2003, 62% avg. Hay supplies 10% short, 88% adequate, 2% surplus. State’s farmers are focused on finishing their soybean harvest, preparing their fields for the winter season. Soybeans 88% harvested, well above last year, the five-year average. Other hay fourth cutting was 93 percent harvested, alfalfa hay 5th cutting 69% harvested. Small grains were in good to excellent condition. Planting of winter wheat is just about complete with 93% planted.

FLORIDA:

Topsoil 1% very short, 24% short, 72% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 18% short, 70% adequate, 12% surplus. Temperatures average: none to 3° above normal major stations. 2° below normal, West Palm Beach. Highs: 70s, 80s. Lows: 40s, 50s, 60s while one low recorded 30s, some Panhandle, northern Peninsula localities. Rainfall: none Jacksonville to over 1.00 in. Marianna. Most localities recorded less than a quarter of an inch of rain for week. Peanut 99% harvested, 100% 2003, 99% 5-yr complete. Cotton harvesting continues, Washington County expects to be complete 2 weeks. Rains needed to finish planting small grains, Washington County. Some cotton yields, Jackson County were low due to disease. Sugarcane harvesting active, Everglades. Harvesting to meet Thanksgiving demand continued at active pace. Warm days, mostly cool nights aided crop development which allowed field work to progress on schedule. Potato field preparation, planting are active, Hastings area. Strawberry harvesting increasing even though planting delayed due to hurricanes, Plant City region. Tomato picking virtually complete, Quincy area, while central, southern Peninsula areas increasing seasonally. Celery growers expect to begin harvesting by early
December. Producers picking snap beans, cucumbers, eggplant, okra, peppers, pickles, squash. Light supplies of vegetables, fruit; sweet corn, okra, radishes, watermelons. Above average temperatures, citrus producing areas. No significant amounts of rainfall in citrus belt. Fruit droppage evident in hurricane affected areas. Color improving on early tangerines, early oranges, some mids, grapefruit. Packing houses taking early; white, colored grapefruit, early tangerines, small amounts of tangelos. More processing plants opening the past week; Pasture feed: 20% poor, 35% fair, 15% good, 1% excellent. Cattle condition 5% poor, 40% fair, 54% good, 1% excellent. Panhandle; north: warm season grass production declining seasonally, planting of small grain for winter forage continues. Rain needed to finish planting of cool season forage.

Amyworm damage continues. Pastures getting dry, grass growth slowing. Cows starting to calve, cow condition drawn down by calving, poor quality grass. Central, southwest: range condition poor to good, most in good condition. Some pasture in Okieechee County flooded. Statewide: cattle condition mostly good

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 5.6. Soil 1% very short, 12% short, 80% adequate, 7% surplus. Rye 82% planted, 85% 2003, 79% avg. Sorghum 85% harvested for grain, 89% 2003, 87% avg. Other small grains 75% planted, 76% 2003, 70% avg. Onions 30% fair, 61% good, 9% excellent; 12% transplanted, 32% 2003, 23% avg. Apples 99% harvested, 94% 2003, 99% avg. Pecans 20% very poor, 35% poor, 28% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent; 54% harvested, 51% 2003, 54% avg. Rain showers were mostly isolated throughout the week. Most areas of the State received a light to moderate frost. In the drier areas, harvesting and other field activities resumed after delays from previous wet conditions. Producers were busy harvesting their remaining fall crops. Small grains for grain and winter grain continued to improve with additional moisture. Activities Included: Preparing the land for planting winter crops, routine care of livestock and poultry.

HAWAII: The tail end of an old cold front continued to provide moisture, brisk trade winds to the State until midweek. Rains were limited to windward areas, with a few scattered showers in leeward districts. Crop progress varied by location, type of crop. Bananas made generally good progress. Papayas made steady progress with regular spraying for disease control. Vegetables were in mostly fair to good condition despite increasing disease incidence in some areas.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 10% short, 86% adequate, 4% surplus. Field corn harvested for grain 75%, 94% 2003, 79% avg. The majority of the state tended to be warmer than normal with a few areas reporting below average temperatures. Precipitation in the form of rain, snow showers was scattered this past week. Winter wheat is reported to be mostly in good condition headed into the winter months. Farmers are wrapping up fieldwork with the last of heavy tillage operations. Livestock are reported to be in good to excellent condition. The majority are on winter ranges, some range feeding is being done. Ranchers are busy shipping calves, pregnancy checking cows. Fall calving operations are well underway. Activities Included: Preparing operations for the winter months and wrapping up field corn for grain harvest.

ILLINOIS: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.00. Topsoil 1% short, 62% adequate, 37% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 7% short, 74% adequate, 18% surplus. Shower, wet field conditions slowed corn, soybean harvest in most areas of the state. Continued wet soil conditions in the southern regions in recent weeks has hindered field activities. Farmers have not been able to get winter wheat seeded, harvest has been slow in the south. Harvesting of corn, soybeans made some progress during the week. Many farmers have completed harvesting of corn, soybeans. Moisture content of corn harvested is averaging about 17%. Moisture content of soybeans harvested is averaging about 13.0% percent. Some fall tillage was completed last week. Winter wheat condition declined, 69% good to excellent. Pastures remain in good shape for this time of the year. Temperatures averaged 8° to 12° above normal for the week. Precipitation averaged 0.27 to 1.57 inches. Livestock was in generally good condition. Feeding of hay is necessary on a few livestock farms. Activities: Cleaning up, repairing equipment. Applying NH3, hauling grain to market, attending FSA offices for LDP’s, chopping stalks, tilling fields, sorting, selling feeder calves, spreading lime, fertilizer, hauling manure and taking care of livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Topsoil 2% very short, 10% short, 70% adequate, 18% surplus. Subsoil 6% very short, 22% short, 62% adequate, 9% surplus. Livestock are reported to be good close to wrapping up. Reporters in the southern section of the state note there are still some remaining corn fields. Rain, drizzle, wet soils were slowing progress. Rain also added to the uncertainty of storage challenges presented this year. Fall fertilizer, manure application continued, with some producers in the northern third of the state noting that tillage is nearly completed. Field Crops Report: The corn acreage harvested for grain or seed reached 94%, two weeks behind 2003, 11 days behind the 5-yr avg 99% harvested. Fall fertilizer application in preparation for the 2005 season was 41% complete statewide. Grain movement from farm to elevator 24% none, 33% light, 30% moderate, 13% heavy. Off-farm grain storage availability 66% short, 33% adequate, 1% surplus. On-farm grain storage availability 68% short, 32% adequate. Hay, roughage availability 6% short, 74% adequate, 20% surplus. Quality of hay, roughage supplies 5% poor, 31% fair, 64% good. Utilization of stubble fields for grazing 35% none, 22% light, 34% moderate, 9% heavy. Livestock, Pasture, Range Report: Overall livestock condition was good. Grazing of corn stalks by cattle continued. Some movement of calves, culled cows was reported despite being slowed by wet field and feedlot conditions. Cloudy, muddy conditions were also blamed for above normal shipping fever problems in cattle being placed in feed lots.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Topsoil 9% short, 66% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil 8% very short, 25% short, 60% adequate, 7% surplus. Cool, wet weather is slowing crop dry down, keeping producers out of the fields. Feed grain supplies are 1% very short, 4% short, 79% adequate, 16% surplus. Hay, forage supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 76% adequate, 17% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 15% short, 81% adequate, 2% surplus.

KENTUCKY: Temperatures averaged 53°, 8° above normal. Temperatures varied from a high of 71 to a low of 28. This was the 5th week avg. temperatures were at or above normal. Rainfall totaled 0.65 in., 0.27 in. below normal. It varied from a low of 0.19 to a high of 1.29 in. for the week. The below avg. precipitation for the week broke a 5 week string of above normal precipitation. Farmers actively harvesting soybeans. Quality of soybeans suffering due to delayed harvest. Burley stripping continuing with crop in case. Stripped tobacco tending to weigh lighter than estimated at housing time. Sowing winter wheat continued as soil conditions permit. Winter wheat 75% seeded. Farmers normally nearly complete sowing winter wheat by Thanksgiving weekend. Range, pasture feeds continue good to fair. Cattle going into winter good to excellent condition.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Soil 4% short, 74% adequate, 22% surplus. Pecans 61% harvested, 50% last week, 69% 2003, 58% avg. Sugarcane 1% very poor, 15% poor, 51% fair, 28% good, 5% excellent; 55% harvested, 43% last week, 66% 2003, 59% avg. Sweet potatoes 96% harvested, 88% last week, 100% 2003, 94% avg. Wheat 65% planted, 48% last week, 57% 2003, 70% avg.; 50% emerged, 35% last week, 44% 2003, 55% avg. Livestock 1% very poor, 6% poor, 46% fair, 43% good, 4% excellent. Vegetable 6% very poor, 23% poor, 50% fair, 21% good. Pasture 8% very poor, 20% poor, 52% fair, 20% good.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 86% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil 90% adequate, 10% surplus. Soybeans 81% harvested, 75% 2003, 80% avg. Barley condition 3% poor, 11% fair, 61% good, 25% excellent. Winter wheat condition 9% fair, 64% good, 27% excellent; 94% planted, 91% 2003, 91% avg. Pasture feed 8% poor, 25% fair, 43% good, 24% excellent. Tobacco 36% stripped, 36% 2003, 36% avg. Other hay 4th cutting 93%, 95% 2003, 97% avg. Alfalfa hay 5th cutting 66%, 34% 2003, 65% avg. Hay supplies 6% very short,10% short,80% adequate, 4% surplus. Field activity was wrapping up with farmers finishing up their soybean, hay harvest. Scattered showers last week slowed soybean harvest in some counties. Soybean were 81% harvested, above 2003, five-year average. Winter wheat 94% planted, in good to excellent condition. Other hay 4th cutting 93% harvested, alfalfa hay 5th cutting was 66% harvested. Most farmers are focused on their soybean harvest and preparing their fields for the winter season.
MICHIGAN:  Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Subsoil 1% very short, 26% short, 72% adequate, 1% surplus. Across State, temperatures well above normal for week. Most areas experienced extended periods of cloudy, damp weather. Average temperatures ranged from 6° above normal east central Lower Peninsula to 8° above normal Upper Peninsula northwestern Lower Peninsula. Although precipitation amounts weren’t excessive, overcast skies limited drying. Totals ranged from 0.31 inches western Upper Peninsula to 0.74 inches eastern Upper Peninsula, with most of primary crop growing districts receiving at least 0.50 inches. Corn, soybean harvest slowed due to rainy, overcast weather last week. The high moisture content of late planted corn, soybeans continued to delay harvest. Wheat fields look good, but plantings down due to delayed soybean harvest. Sugar beet harvest completed last week. Sugar content reported very good. A few carrots, squash for processing still being harvested. Harvest of most other vegetable crops complete.

MINNESOTA:  Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 2% very short, 13% short, 81% adequate, 18% remaining. The warmer temperatures of the state for most of the week. There were at least once 47%, similar to k of pasture available for grazing, Farmers were

MISSISSIPPI:  Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Soil 4% short, 57% adequate, 39% surplus. Cotton 97% harvested, 100% 2003, 98% avg. Wheat 97% planted, 100% 2003, 93% avg.; 72% emerged, 94% 2003, 93% avg.; 72% 1.87 avg.; 1% poor, 63% fair, 33% good, 3% excellent. Sweet potatoes 92% harvested, 100% 2003, 100% avg. Cotton 4% very poor, 9% poor, 22% fair, 52% good, 13% excellent. Farmers were in the fields harvesting until the rains arrived over the weekend. Cotton harvesting continues with the late planted, replanted fields remaining. The warmer temperatures have been beneficial to the late maturing cotton crop. Warm temperatures continue to hamper ryegrass growth. Farmers struggling with preventing blast damage have replanted some of their ryegrass fields. Beef, dairy producers are concerned with the lack of pasture available for grazing, continue to feed hay and supplements until fields are ready for grazing.

MISSOURI:  Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Topsoil 2% very short, 1% short, 64% adequate, 33% surplus. Showers, damp, cloudy weather have continued to limit progress of row crop harvesting, fall planting of winter wheat. Combines have left ruts in many fields where soils have been slow to dry out, as farmers are making every effort to get the crops harvested. Ground intended for spring crops worked at least once 47%, similar to average. Corn harvesting is least advanced in the northeast district at 89%, central at 91%, followed by the northwest, north-central at 93%. Other districts vary from 98% to 100%. Soybean harvesting varies from 70% in the west-central district, 77% southwest, to 95% in the northwest district. Sorghum harvesting varies from less than 70% harvested in the northeast, central districts to 100% in the southeast. Cotton harvesting at 90% caught up to last year but remains a week behind average. Wheat planting ranges from 50% in the west-central district to about 88% in the north-central, southeast. Pastures 1% very poor, 4% poor, 33% fair, 50% good, 12% excellent. Supply of hay 1% short, 81% adequate, 18% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% short, 80% adequate, 18% surplus. Rainfall over the State averaged 0.49 inch, ranging from 0.22 inch or less in the northwest and north-central districts to 0.89 inch in the southeast.

MONTANA:  Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.30. Topsoil 19% very short, 39% short, 41% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 45% very short, 33% short, 22% adequate, 0% surplus. The state experienced cooler temperatures along with limited precipitation throughout the week ending November 21st, 2004. Winter wheat 100% seeded. 98% emerged, 2003 100% and 89%, respectively, condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 52% good, 24% excellent. Sugar beet harvesting is currently 100% compared to last year’s 100% complete. Range, pasture feed 28% very poor, 25% poor, 29% fair, 15% good, 3% excellent. Movement of cattle, calves from summer ranges is currently 95%, compared to 2003 at 87%. Movement of sheep, lambs from summer ranges is currently 96% compared to 2003 at 88%. Thirty percent of the cattle and 30% of the sheep are receiving supplemental feed.

NEBRASKA:  Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 3% very short, 30% short, 63% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 28% very short, 43% short, 29% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures for the week ending November 21, 2004 averaged from 3° to 13° above normals. Precipitation was statewide. Amounts received were generally largest in the central portion of the state with a few reports nearing two inches. Activities Included: Preparations for winter, putting cattle out on stalk fields, and LDP paperwork.

NEVADA:  Temperatures fell sharply at the end of the week, going from several degrees above normal to much below. Precipitation was light in most areas, but Las Vegas received .78 inch of rain on Sunday. Hay shipping continued, as did cattle shipping. Supplemental feeding of stock was ongoing. Equipment maintenance was common and grower meetings were being held.

NEW ENGLAND:  In the six-State region, cold temperatures continued throughout the week. On Sunday, snow, flurries fell in the high northern elevations. Activities Included: Tending livestock, preparing for the winter months ahead. Christmas tree growers continued to prepare for a busy season. Many also geared up for holiday sales.

NEW JERSEY:  Days suitable for field work 6.0. Temperatures were variable across most of the state for most of the week. There were measurable amounts of rainfall across most of the state on Saturday, November 20, 2004. Fieldwork included harvesting field corn for grain, soybeans, fruit, and vegetables.

NEW MEXICO:  Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil 6% very short, 7% short, 63% adequate, 24% surplus. State remained in the storm track with two systems passing through the state during the week. The first system helped produce some fairly heavy precipitation amounts over southern state early in the week. Carrizozo, Johnson Ranch were the only two spots that did not report precipitation. Highest total for the week included 1.87 inches at Ruidoso, 1.78 inches at Carlsbad. Farmers were harvesting cotton, chile, corn, sorghum when the rains allowed. Red chile harvest was ongoing with 74% of the crop harvested to date. Cotton harvest was slowed by the weeks moisture with 45% harvested. Sorghum conditions were reported as mostly fair to good with 53% of the crop harvested. Peanut harvest was delayed by the rain with 78% of the crop harvested. Lettuce harvest nearing completion with 95% of the crop complete. Wheat condition 20% fair, 61% good, 19% excellent. Ranchers were marketing their calves, culling older animals. Cattle conditions 11% poor, 26% fair, 50% good, 13% excellent. Sheep conditions 13% poor, 22% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent. Pasture feeds 3% very poor, 12% poor, 38% fair, 46% good, and 1% excellent.

NEW YORK:  Days suitable 6.0. Topsoil 20% surplus, 80% adequate. Pastures 6% very poor, 26% poor, 25% fair, 26% good, 17% excellent. Corn for grain harvest continued while mild weather prevailed. Vegetable harvests were winding down. Activities: Spreading manure, packing, grading fall potatoes, apples, onions, orchard clean-up, machinery repair, maintenance, and tending livestock.

NORTH CAROLINA:  Days suitable for field work 5.0. Soil 7% short, 77% adequate, 16% surplus. Christmas tree preparations are in full swing for the upcoming holiday season. Activities Included: Harvesting cotton, soybeans, sorghum, cutting hay, and general farm maintenance. Several areas of the State received above normal temperatures during the week with highs ranging from 64 to 80°; very little precipitation. The continued dry conditions allowed for an increase in farm activity. All small grain plantings are above 80% complete.

NORTH DAKOTA:  Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 5% very short, 18% short, 69% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil 13% very short, 18% short, 61% adequate, 8% surplus. Favorable weather allowed late season crop harvest to continue. Producers used the good weather to also complete fall fieldwork, apply fertilizer for next year’s crop. Stockwater supplies 9% very short, 15% short, 74% adequate, 2% surplus.
OHIO: Days suitable for field work 3.0. Topsoil 0% very short, 0% short, 64% adequate, 36% surplus. Corn harvested for grain 90%, 91% 2003, 94%avg. Soybeans 95% harvested, 100% 2003, 99% avg. Winter Wheat condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 17% fair, 59% good, 20% excellent. The major field activities during the week were corn and soybean harvesting.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.6. Topsoil 1% short, 36% adequate, 63% surplus. Subsoil 5% short, 68% adequate, 27% surplus. Rye 2% poor, 10% fair, 68% good, 20% excellent. Oats 18% fair, 71% good, 11% excellent; 92% seedbed prepared, 91% last week, 94% 2003, 96% avg.; 58% planted, 57% last week, 57% 2003, 66% avg.; 57% emerged, 58% last week, 66% 2003, 65% avg. Sorghum 89% mature, 88% last week, 98% 2003, 99% avg. Soybeans 76% harvested, 75% last week, 83% 2003, 91% avg. Peanuts 94% dug, 90% last week, 100% 2003, 96% avg. Alfalfa hay 3% very poor, 3% poor, 30% fair, 51% good, 13% excellent; 90% 5th cutting, 89% last week, 84% 2003, 66% avg.; 45% 6th cutting, 44% last week, n/a 2003, n/a avg. Livestock 2% poor, 15% fair, 63% good, 20% excellent. Pasture, Range 1% very poor, 4% poor, 26% fair, 57% good, 12% excellent. Livestock: Producers were still holding many cattle back from the wheat fields due to the muddy conditions. Some producers were even pulling cattle off of the wheat fields to keep small grain pasture damage to a minimum. Livestock conditions were in good to excellent condition with a light to average death loss reported. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds took a drop of two dollars and nineteen cents to $111.95 per cwt, while prices for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds went down fifty-two cents to $105.00 per cwt.

OREGON: Days suitable for field work 5.3. Topsoil 1% very short, 25% short, 72% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 38% short, 56% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat 99% emerged, 94% last week, 77% 2003, 83% 5-yr avg.; condition 20% fair, 71% good, 9% excellent. Range, Pasture 4% very poor, 25% poor, 37% fair, 32% good, 2% excellent. Activities: Fall growing conditions continued to be favorable, with cool weather conditions throughout most of the State. Winter wheat status still generally rated from fair to good last week. Winter care of livestock continued. Field preparations for the upcoming season, while greenhouses were busy with holiday plants. The state water basin sites are generally one-third of average so far for November, according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Pennsylvania: Days suitable for field work 5.0. Soil 1% short, 74% adequate, 25% surplus. Fall plowing 93% complete, 71% 2003, 83% avg. Corn 88% harvested, 77% 2003, 85% avg. Winter wheat 88% emerged, 91% 2003, 93% avg.; condition 3% poor, 18% fair, 66% good, 13% excellent. Soybeans 84% harvested, 74% 2003, 84% avg. Activities Included: Feeding livestock, harvesting corn, soybeans, chopping corn stalks, spreading manure, equipment maintenance, and preparing for the winter months.

South Carolina: Days suitable for field work 6.0. Soil 7% very short, 18% short, 72% adequate, 3% surplus. Peanuts 99% harvested, 100% 2003, 99% avg. Sorghum 99% harvested, 98% 2003, 97% avg. Cotton 79% harvested, 68% 2003, 77% avg.; 3% poor, 21% fair, 66% good, 10% excellent. Pastures 2% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 59% good, 12% excellent. Soybeans 98% leaves dropped, 96% 2003, 97% avg.; 93% mature, 90% 2003, 90% avg.; 35% harvested. 62% 2003, 56% avg.; 4% good, 21% fair, 66% avg. Arg.; 2% poor, 26% 2003, 65% avg.; 70% avg., 19% good, 81% fair. Oats 89% planted, 79% 2003, 81% avg.; 72% emerged, 67% 2003, 67% avg.; 47% fair, 53% good. Rye 82% planted, 85% 2003, 79% avg.; 66% emerged, 71% 2003, 66% avg.; 3% poor, 31% fair, 66% good.

South Dakota: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 4% very short, 14% short, 73% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 12% very short, 16% short, 66% adequate, 6% surplus. Feed supplies 11% very short, 17% short, 64% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 18% very short, 19% short, 60% adequate, 3% surplus. Sorghum harvested-grain 94%, 100% 2003, 99% avg. Sunflower 89% harvested, 100% 2003, 98% avg. Cattle condition 2% poor, 18% fair, 61% good, 19% excellent. Sheep condition 5% poor, 17% fair, 59% good, 19% excellent. Warm temperatures, minimal precipitation across the state allowed harvest to advance significantly in several areas throughout the state. However, wet fields, high moisture content, and surface crusts delayed harvest for many farmers, ranchers. Activities Included: Combining row crops, fall tillage, working cattle, and caring for livestock.

Tennessee: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 76% adequate, 24% surplus. Subsoil 2% short, 80% adequate, 18% surplus. Burley tobacco 77% stripped, 74% 2003, 69% avg. Winter wheat 58% seeded, 94% 2003, 89% avg.; 45% emerged, 90% 2003, 73% avg.; 1% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, 7% excellent. Although the State had dry weather the first half of the week, saturated fields from five straight weeks of rain, prevented some farmers from getting into their fields at all. The number one county in winter wheat production reported that their 2005 crop was rated in poor-to-fair condition due to excessive rains over the last month. Wheat seedings continued to be almost a month behind the 5-year average, many counties are reporting that their acreage will be less than expected due to unfavorable weather. Temperatures averaged above normal and precipitation averaged below normal last week.

Texas: Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions across the state went from bad to worse at the beginning of the week, remained that way throughout the week for the majority of locations. Heavy rainfall, wind, slleet and snow crossed portions of the plains during the week; causing some minor flooding and undetermed crop damage in some locations. In other areas mostly heavy rains occurred causing heavy flooding resulting in major damage to roadways and fences. Many areas remained under flood advisories at the time of this report. Harvest was generally at a standstill across the state, with only a few locations reporting some pecan harvest. Some locations will require an extended period of dry weather before harvest can resume. Dormancy in range and pastures continued to expand with a large portion of pastures remaining dormant and supplemental feeding began for many producers. Livestock condition declined in many areas as generally all pastures were extremely muddy or in some cases standing water was present. Sickness in livestock was on the rise as a result of the present weather conditions. Small Grains: Growth and development slowed as the result of continued wet conditions. Excessive yellowing and drowning out was a problem in grain fields for many producers. Grazing of grasses continued to be a problem as boggling and trampling was a significant problem with varied degrees of damage occurring. Some producers indicate that further planting may not occur as the result of this rainy spell. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 90 percent of normal, compared with 62 percent last year. Corn: Remaining harvest was on hold during the week as rain continued to prevent any field activity. In a few remaining locations corn was beginning to lay down and harvest will be more difficult due to subnormal rainfall. Cotton: Cotton harvest remained on hold across the state as field conditions remained extremely wet. Stringing out continued to increase with the heavy rains and quality of remaining cotton was declining. Ginning activities were on hold in some locations as modules could not be moved due to excessive mud. Further stalk destruction remained impossible across the state. In extreme southern locations, producers were anxious to begin harvest preparations for next year’s crop. Cotton condition was rated at 74 percent of normal, compared with 54 percent last year. Sorghum: Remaining harvest was totally on hold during the week. It will require an extended drying period before harvest can resume. A few producers indicate that harvest may not occur due to varying degrees of field damage. Peanuts: Remaining peanut harvest was on hold during the week as conditions were totally unfavorable. Grade and yield have been affected on peanuts that have been dug, but not thashed. Much concern remained as to the condition of peanuts that have not been dug. Commercial Vegetables, Fruit and Pecans In the Rio Grande Valley good progress continued on early planted vegetables. Harvest of early citrus and sugarcane remained active as conditions allowed. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden, land preparation was spotty, but generally staled as the result of widespread rainfall. Harvest of early cabbage was slow at best. Raines could delay harvest of spinach greens for fresh market. Tomatoes and carrots continued to make good progress. In East Texas, land preparation was on hold during the week. Harvest of sweet potatoes was considered complete. In the High Plains land preparation was on hold during the
week. In the Trans Pecos land preparation for next year’s crops was on hold across the area. Pecans: Generally, harvest was on hold across the state, however in a few locations harvest moved ahead slowly. Some producers reported standing water in their orchard and drying out was necessary before harvest could resume. Livestock, Range and Pasture Report: Generally, range and pastures across the state were in excellent condition due to the abundant rainfall experienced this season. Dormancy in native grasses continued to expand as winter approaches, especially in northern areas. Supplemental feeding increased in many areas across the plains where temperatures were cooler and extreme wet conditions were present. Bogging and trampling remained a problem for many producers. Remaining hay production was on hold in southern locations. Livestock sickness was minimal, however suffering was evident as weather conditions remained unimproved.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Subsoil 4% very short, 18% short, 75% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter wheat 96% emerged, 94% 2003, 96% avg.; condition 0% very poor, 6% poor, 18% fair, 49% good, 27% excellent. Corn 74% harvested (grain), 100% 2003, 89% avg. Alfalfa seed 95% harvested, 100% 2003, 100% avg. Cattle, calves condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 17% fair, 66% good, 16% excellent. Sheep condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 15% fair, 81% good, 4% excellent. Range, Pasture 4% very poor, 13% poor, 34% fair, 48% good, 1% excellent. The state started to dry out last week but experienced scattered rain, snow showers late in the week. Producers were able to make some progress harvesting late season crops. High moisture content was still slowing harvest. Range, pasture feeds had some variances mostly due to temperatures and precipitation received during the week.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork last week 4.7. Soil 1% very short, 6% short, 83% adequate, 10% surplus. Harvest Continues. Light rains, for most of the week, slowed harvest progress in many areas of the state. Temperatures were 10 to 12° higher than normal for this time of year. Low temperatures were reported in the 10’s and 20’s, while high temperatures reached the 50’s and 60’s during the week. Most of the state has adequate supplies of soil moisture. The southeastern part of the state experienced marginal improvement in soil moisture conditions. Corn harvest continues to move slowly. High moisture corn is being harvested in northern areas of the state; drier conditions are still needed. Yields have been reported as average, with mold problems in some fields. Recent rains in the central areas have slowed harvest. Producers continue to harvest late-planted corn, with average yields. There have been reports of low test weights in the east-central area. Harvest in the southern parts of the state is moving closer to completion. Yields have been reported average to above average with good test weights. Soybean harvest was also slowed by wet weather. Reporters in the northern areas indicate that yields are below average, with some reports of white mold in late-planted soybeans. Most soybeans have been harvested in the southern area of the state, with yields average to above average. Fall tillage continues behind harvested fields; however, many producers are still waiting for dryer conditions and the remaining fields to be harvested.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 1% very short, 11% short, 79% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 21% short, 74% adequate, 3% surplus. Irrigation water supply 2% short, 98% adequate. The highest temperature in the state was 64° in Bellingham. The lowest temperature in the state was 19° in Yakima. Winter wheat condition was 1% poor, 22% fair, 73% good, 4% excellent; 100% planted, 97% emerged. Potatoes 100% harvested. Corn 84% harvested for grain. Christmas trees were in high demand as producers harvested under ideal weather conditions. Some Christmas tree growers added floodlights to their baling equipment in order to extend the workday. Due to wet conditions there were a few producers that could not complete their corn harvest. Hay, other roughage supplies 2% short, 96% adequate, 2% surplus. Range, pasture feeds 1% very poor, 9% poor, 49% fair, 41% good. Current conditions in some counties allowed most cattle to remain on fall pastures while some cattle were on winter feeding grounds. Other counties reported that feed was being supplemented to cattle. Shellfish growers were harvesting operations. Oyster hand, dredge harvesting was heavy in all parts of Willapa Bay, with good yields from strong summer growth. Clam harvests were also up for the seasonal market. Raspberries were still being pruned and tied. Apple harvest was completed with pruning underway.

WYOMING: Corn 98% mature, 100% 2003, 100% 5-yr avg.; 45% harvested, 97% 2003, 91% 5-yr avg. Temperatures through Friday, November 19, averaged above normal for the State. Temperatures ranged from 2.4° above normal in Archer to 8.7° above normal in Cody. The highest temperature was 65° in Recluse, while the lowest temperature was 8° also in Recluse. A trace to no precipitation was reported throughout the State. Over the weekend, however, the Southeastern part of the state received a significant amount of snow. The most precipitation fell in Evanston with 0.04 inch.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for field work 3.0. Topsoil 54% adequate, 46% surplus, 2003 45% adequate, 55% surplus. Corn 85% harvested, 80% 2003, 88% 5-yr avg. Soybeans 76% harvested, 79% 2003, 92% 5-yr avg. Wheat conditions 6% fair, 94% good; 90% emerged, 80% 2003, 74% 5-yr. avg. Cattle, calves 1% poor, 13%fair, 83% good, 3% excellent. Sheep, lambs 1% poor, 43% fair, 43% good, 13% excellent. Activities Included: Harvesting soybeans, making silage, plowing fields. Harvest of the corn, soybean crops is progressing slowly due to the weather conditions and moisture content of the grains.