ALABAMA: January weather varied with some cold, some warm, some rainy days. Peach crop in Chilton, surrounding counties have been affected by the lack of chill time. Land preparation has begun for planting spring crops. Activities Included; General care of livestock, poultry, and catfish.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures for the State were mostly below normal for the first week of February. Durum wheat producers are ninety-five percent done planting. Barley producers are ninety-nine percent done planting. Emergence has occurred on fifty-three percent of the durum acreage and fifty percent of the barley acreage. Alfalfa condition remains mostly good. Precipitation was reported at 6 of the 17 reporting stations ranging from 0.01 inches in Tucson to 0.89 inches in Douglas.

ARKANSAS: Winter wheat is reported in fair condition. Cattle remain in good condition. Pastures condition varies by county depending on rainfall levels. Counties with adequate moisture report good pasture condition while counties with low rainfall amounts report fair condition. January was the warmest since 1998 and the wettest since 1999. Temperatures for the month averaged above normal on 17 days, below normal on 12 days and at normal on two days. The average temperature for full month of December was 45.8 degrees, 5.7 degree above normal. The highest temperature for the month was 74 degrees and the lowest was 18 degrees. There were 5 days with high temperatures in the 70s and one day with low temperatures less than 20 degrees. Precipitation during the month totaled 4.88 inches, 1.27 inches above normal.

CALIFORNIA: Most field work was delayed for much of January, due to heavy rainfall. Cotton shredding, plowed efforts were hampered because of continued wet conditions. Where weather permitted, herbicide applications continued on wheat, oats, alfalfa, winter forage crops, all of which benefitted from the higher than normal rainfall. Many fields of winter wheat were emerged, field conditions were reported to be good overall. Sugar beet plantings continued to grow well. Pruning, shredding activities nearing completion in fruit orchards, but growers continued to apply insecticides for worms, borers, scales. A few plum, nectarine orchards in Fresno County started pushing buds, early plum, prunus varieties in the San Joaquin Valley began to bloom. Tree, vine removal of non-productive grape varieties continued. Open ground was prepared for new plantings. Harvesting of clementines, grapefruit, lemons, Navel oranges, pummelos, tangerines continued as weather allowed. Ice mark, non-rind puff continued to show on some Navel oranges, resulting in heavier grading, lower yield. Field preparations for the spring strawberry crop continued. Harvest activity for avocados increased. Hulling, shellings of stockpiled nuts was completed in the first part of the month. Pruning, shredding activity in nut orchards took place, as weather permitted. A few almond trees were pushing buds in the San Joaquin Valley. Onion, garlic planting continued where conditions allowed. Early hothouse vegetables were progressing well. Harvest of broccoli, radicchio, lettuce, carrots, specialty Oriental crops continued at a slow pace. Cauliflower harvest was complete in Fresno County. Other crops harvested included beets, bok choy, daikon, gai choy, gaiIon, kale, kohlrabi, lemon grass, Napa cabbage, sugar cane, taro root, turnips, and you choy. Winter pastures were in good to excellent condition. Record rainfall early in the month in the southern dessert resulted in below normal weight gain on lambs grazing alfalfa pastures. Rain caused muddy conditions at dairies with reports of lower milk production, animal health problems, although conditions, production in some areas improved by the end of the month. In central state, beekeepers began to move beehives into almond orchards in preparation for pollination in February.

COLORADO: Temperatures across the state were warmer than average for the month of January. Almost all regions received above normal amounts of precipitation. Current snowpack level statewide is 114% of the average. The state has about 1% standing sorghum, corn from the 2004 crop season. Winter wheat is rated in mostly excellent condition due to the warmer temperatures, increase in moisture. Producers continue with normal livestock operations as well as some field work such as disking corn stalks and applying fertilizer.

DELAWARE: Livestock, poultry were in good condition despite cold weather. Hay supplies, silage are adequate for cows. Snow covers fields which protects small grains from the wind. Fruit trees were wintering well so far this year. Winter Activities Included: Tending livestock and poultry, repairing equipment, attending conferences, visiting FSA offices, and planning for the next crop season.

FLORIDA: Cool, mostly dry conditions during January continued to limit winter forage growth with some pastures not tall enough to graze. The demand for hay to feed to livestock was high. Significant rains near mid month delayed some field work but lowered the danger of wild fire. A cold front sweeping the State near the end of the month brought freezing temperatures to the northern, central Peninsula, to the Panhandle with frosts, hard freezes reported in several areas. Cut fern producers in the Pierson area, potted foliage growers around Apopka ran overhead sprinklers, heaters to protect plants from the cold temperatures with most plants escaping significant damage. Strawberry producers also ran overhead sprinklers to form ice caps over plants, berries as protection from the cold with most of the plants unharmed. Some vegetable growers covered plants with freeze cloths, also ran overhead sprinklers to avoid cold damage. Growers in the Quincy area started land preparations for the planting of spring crop tomatoes around mid-month. Vegetable planting remained active throughout the month. Grove caretakers irrigated in drier areas, mowed, hedged, topped trees, removed hurricane damaged trees. Vegetable, non citrus fruit harvesting continued during the whole month with snapbeans, cabbage, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, Romaine lettuce, sweet corn, peppers, radishes, squash, strawberries, tomatoes marketed by growers. Citrus growers harvested early, mid oranges, Sunburst tangerines, Tangelos, white, colored grapefruit, Temples, Honey tangerines during the month. Sugarcane harvesting continued throughout the month.

GEORGIA: Temperatures during January began unseasonably warm, ended with frigid temperatures in most of the state. The temperatures ranged from the lows in the 10's and the high's in the upper 70's. For the most part the average temperatures were in the 40's. The cold snap suppressed insects or disease that could have developed during the warm spell earlier in the month. Some damage to early growth in fruits, vegetables was seen after the cold. Producers continued the application of lime, fertilizer. Routine care of livestock, poultry, with increased hay feeding due to declining pasture conditions. Vegetable, Wheat conditions...
HAWAI'I: Weather systems brought more rain to the state. Earlier in the week a cold front moving down the island chain brought heavy rain to Kauai, Honolulu county. Lingering low pressure system brought downpour to eastside of the state county Mountain View received the heaviest downpour with 12.57 inches. Snow was reported on Mauna Kea, Mauna Loa. Sunny, dry conditions returned on the weekend allowed fields to dry, farmers to catch up on delayed farming activities. Irrigation was reduced for areas receiving more moisture. Pasture continued to benefit from more rainfall. Bananas were in fair condition. Papaya harvesting remains active. Cooler-climate vegetables of head cabbage, Chinese cabbage remained in good condition despite wet weather. Production of dry onion is expected lower. Young fields continued to make satisfactory progress during the week.

IDAHO: Topsoil 3% very short, 32% short, 64% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition 7% fair, 85% good, 8% excellent. Hay, roughage supply 1% short, 68% adequate, 31% excellent. Lambing 18% 2005, 10% 2004, 15% avg. Calving 14% 2005, 7% 2004, 8% avg. Above normal temperatures combined with below normal precipitation this winter have many growers concerned about current soil moisture conditions. Lack of snow pack in the mountains is also a concern for this year's irrigation season. Lambing, calving is going well. Farm Activities Included: Livestock feeding, milking cows, dairy manure handling, disposal, attending winter schools, and machinery maintenance.

ILLINOIS: Topsoil 1% short, 51% adequate, 48% surplus. Winter wheat condition 6% very poor, 13% poor, 32% fair, 44% good, 5% excellent. Activities Included: Calving, hauling, spreading fertilizer, attending agricultural meetings, events, working on taxes, working on machinery, getting ready for spring field work, and signing up for 2005 farm programs.

INDIANA: Several days of snow events during January limited most outdoor activities. Farmers were mostly engaged in equipment maintenance, general farm chores. Some spreading of dry fertilizer, lime took place. A lot of grain was hauled to market. Some regions received heavy amounts of rain. Ponding, flooding occurred in many low lying areas of fields, along river bottoms. Muddy conditions exist in most fields, feedlots. Winter wheat is in mostly good condition. There may be some damage to wheat from standing water, ice. Snow has protected most wheat fields during the cold temperatures. Stripping and selling of tobacco continued. Temperatures averaged about 3.7° above normal for January. Precipitation averaged 7.37 inches compared with 2.44 inches for normal. An ice storm during the first week of January caused damage, power outage in some areas. The worst ice damage occurred in the east central region. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Standing water, ice, snow, mud caused some stress to livestock. Farmers fed a large amount of hay during the month. Hay supplies are mostly adequate. Activities: Cleaning up, repairing equipment, attending farm related meetings, tax preparation, attending FSA offices for 2005 DCP, LDP's, loans, hauling manure and taking care of livestock.

IOWA: Agricultural Summary: MILD WEATHER GOOD FOR LIVESTOCKGrain movement is picking slightly, corn piled outside on the ground continues to diminish. Reporters note that some beans are moving, but not much corn has been delivered yet from farms as elevators are finding space for the outside piles of corn. Producers are concerned about Asian Rust and some are attending sessions to learn more. At the end of January, the average depth of snow cover across Iowaa was visibly 4 inches, compared to 5 inches at the same time last year. The average depth of frost penetration for the state was 16 inches, compared to last year’s 15 inches. Soil 2% very short, 15% short, 72% adequate, 11% surplus. Movement of grain for the state 28% none, 45% light, 23% moderate, 4% heavy. Availability of hay, roughage supplies 7% short, 78% adequate, 15% surplus. Quality of hay, roughage supplies 8% poor, 35% fair, 57% good. Utilization of stubble fields for grazing 37% none, 28% limited, 24% moderate, 11% extensive. Hog, pig losses in January 20% below avg., 73% avg., 7% above average. Cattle, calf losses 28% below avg.; 68% avg.; 4% above average. Reporters across the state indicate it has been a great winter for livestock, not too cold or snowy. Some feedlots had icy conditions, then got muddy when temperatures warmed up. The lack of snow left stubble fields for much extended livestock use. There were scattered reports of some early calving underway.

KANSAS: Topsoil 1% very short, 9% short, 75% adequate, 15% surplus. Wheat condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 20% fair, 57% good, 17% excellent; wind damage is 80% none, 17% light, 3% moderate, freeze damage is 81% none, 15% light, 4% moderate. Hay, forage supplies 1% very short, 7% short, 82% adequate, 10% surplus. Feed grain supplies 2% very short, 4% short, 85% adequate, 9% surplus. The State experienced both normal, above normal temperatures most of the month, including an ice storm during the first week. Precipitation was generally light throughout the State during January.

KENTUCKY: January began mild, wet. A frontal boundary stalled across the Ohio River Valley keeping temperatures well above average, skies cloudy. By midweek flood watches, warnings were widespread as many creeks, streams, rivers, including the Ohio, were overflowing their banks. On Friday the front finally moved east. Temperatures dropped to near normal levels as high pressure settled over the area. Over the weekend, the clouds began to break up allowing the sun to shine. Temperatures began to warm up into the 50’s and 60’s. Temperatures for the period averaged 48, 16° above normal. The highest temperature for the week was 68° in Somerset. The lowest temperature was 28° in Henderson. Precipitation (lq. equ.) totaled 2.54 in. statewide which was 1.82 in. above normal. Precipitation totals ranged from a low of 1.92 in. at Hardinsburg to a high of 4.70 in. at Covington. The trend for above normal temperatures continued into the second week. A warm/stationary front settled across the Ohio River Valley bringing warm humid air to the region. Nearly all week was plagued by clouds, rain. At the beginning of the week, daytime highs were nearly 30° above normal. Record highs were set across the State with temperatures climbing into the lower 70’s. Flood watches, warnings were routinely issued due to rising waters and continuing precipitation. On Thursday a vigorous cold front swept through with rain, thunderstorms, winds gusts greater than 40 miles per hour. Temperatures dropped dramatically over the weekend to below normal levels as an arctic high pressure moved over the state. Parts of the state got over 6 inches of snow during the massive winter storm system. Temperatures averaged 45° which was 13° above normal. The extreme high temperature was 74° in Grayson. Precipitation (lq. equ.) totaled 0.96 in. statewide which was 0.24 in. above normal. Precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.53 in. at Grayson to a high of 1.42 in. at London. Arctic high pressure was over the region on Monday, Tuesday keeping temperatures below freezing. Temperatures warmed up significantly on Wednesday with wind chill temperatures over 70° due to the strong cold front moving in warm air from the southern US. A boundary stalled across the state keeping cold air to the north, warmer air to the south. Several weak storm systems moved along this boundary keeping clouds over the state and bringing light snow. A more intense winter storm pushed through on Saturday. Rain, snow fell, winds were very gusty. High pressure returned on Sunday with below normal temperatures. Temperatures averaged 26° which was 6° below normal. The extreme temperature difference was 57° in Paducah. The extreme low temperature was 3° in Covington. Precipitation (lq. equ.) totaled 0.10 in. statewide which was 0.62 in. below normal. Precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.00 in. at Bowling Green to a high of 0.47 in. at Grayson. High pressure was in control of the weather during the first couple days of the week. Skies were clear, daytime highs were a few degrees above normal due to southwesterly winds. Two cold fronts moved through midweek. The first one brought a decent amount of rain. The second was a stronger system.

LAMBERT: Lambing and calving are ongoing. The first lamb was produced January 4th. Calves were calving January 17th. Lambing 19% 2005, 12% 2004, 15% avg. Calving 13% 2005, 9% 2004, 11% avg. Above normal temperatures combined with below normal precipitation this winter have many growers concerned about current soil moisture conditions. Lack of snow pack in the mountains is also a concern for this years irrigation season. Lambing, calving is going well. Farm Activities Included: Livestock feeding, milking cows, dairy manure handling, disposal, attending winter schools, and machinery maintenance.

LOA: Sunny, dry conditions returned on the weekend allowed fields to dry, farmers to catch up on delayed farming activities. Irrigation was reduced for areas receiving more moisture. Pasture continued to benefit from more rainfall. Bananas were in fair condition. Papaya harvesting remains active. Cooler-climate vegetables of head cabbage, Chinese cabbage remained in good condition despite wet weather. Production of dry onion is expected lower. Young fields continued to make satisfactory progress during the week.

MIDWEST: Topsoil 3% very short, 32% short, 64% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition 7% fair, 85% good, 8% excellent. Hay, roughage supply 1% short, 68% adequate, 31% excellent. Lambing 18% 2005, 10% 2004, 15% avg. Calving 14% 2005, 7% 2004, 8% avg. Above normal temperatures combined with below normal precipitation this winter have many growers concerned about current soil moisture conditions. Lack of snow pack in the mountains is also a concern for this years irrigation season. Lambing, calving is going well. Farm Activities Included: Livestock feeding, milking cows, dairy manure handling, disposal, attending winter schools, and machinery maintenance.

MILD WEATHER GOOD FOR LIVESTOCK: Winter wheat condition 7% fair, 85% good, 8% excellent. Hay, roughage supply 1% short, 68% adequate, 31% excellent. Lambing 18% 2005, 10% 2004, 15% avg. Calving 14% 2005, 7% 2004, 8% avg. Above normal temperatures combined with below normal precipitation this winter have many growers concerned about current soil moisture conditions. Lack of snow pack in the mountains is also a concern for this years irrigation season. Lambing, calving is going well. Farm Activities Included: Livestock feeding, milking cows, dairy manure handling, disposal, attending winter schools, and machinery maintenance.
Flooding of low lying areas left farmers debris to clean up. No major winter kill has been reported in small grain and hay

LOUISIANA: Field crop producers were preparing for spring planting as weather conditions permitted. The state averaged 2.82 inches of rain over the last 4 weeks. Strawberry producers took precautions (including covering) to avoid any major freeze damage as temperatures dropped into the lower 20s in the central, southern parishes during January. Livestock producers were fertilizing winter pastures, feeding hay. Crawfish producers continued putting out traps as harvesting was just getting started. Activities Included: Repairing and cleaning equipment

MARYLAND: Livestock, poultry were in good condition despite cold temperatures. Hay supplies, silage are adequate for livestock. Extra fuel needed during January due to cold weather. Fields are snow covered which protects small grains from the wind. Winter Activities Included: Stripping tobacco, reaping equipment, attending conferences, visiting FSA offices and planning for the next crop season

MICHIGAN: Most of the State received precipitation over the month. Farmers reported snowfall were adding to soil moisture levels. Temperatures were highly variable across the State, over the course of the month. Northern growers reported exceptionally cold periods punctuated by a few warmer spells. Operators in the southern districts reported more average temperatures, but some fairly cold snaps occurred as well. Snow cover was variable. The warmer days led to precipitation in the form of rain and freezing rain rather than snow. Some areas reported decent snow cover, while operators in other districts worried that a lack of snow, concurrent cold temperatures could damage winter wheat and alfalfa. Other growers reported ponding from the rains, were concerned about the underlying crops. Farmers continued with their normal winter Activities: Plowing snow, caring for livestock, repairing machinery, hauling manure. In some counties, snow cover or muddy fields limited hauling progress. The periods of cold temperatures led to higher feed consumption levels. A few districts projected feed shortages, but on the whole feed supplies were reported as generally adequate. Some farmers noted higher quality hay in limited supply

MINNESOTA: Topsoil, subsoil moisture continues to remain high. Favorable winter conditions prevailed on farms this past month. Mild temperatures were received during most of the month, with below normal temperatures for the middle of the month. Livestock feed supplies are adequate at the present time, livestock conditions have been favorable. The snow cover received throughout the state was welcomed to help protect alfalfa stands.

MISSISSIPPI: During January, temperatures were about 10⁰ above normal, but were slightly below average toward the latter part of the month. State rainfall averages were below average, however, above average rainfall was reported the first part of the month in parts of northern, central, western state. Some field preparation is underway as weather permits. Hay supplies are adequate and winter grazing is in mostly good to excellent condition throughout the State

MISSOURI: Precipitation for the State during January averaged 5.02 inches, sharply above the 30-year average of 1.71 inches. Only a few northwestern counties had less precipitation than normal. A few days of cold temperatures early in the month caused some extra care of livestock but weather has been mild in recent weeks. Livestock feed, water supplies are adequate in virtually all areas. Winter wheat has had no recent snow cover but the crop appears to be in normal condition. Farmers are doing taxes and planning for the new crop season

MONTANA: Soil 29% very short, 48% short, 22% adequate, 1% surplus compared to 2004 which was 25% very short, 46% short, 26% adequate 3% surplus. Subsoil 45% very short, 38% short, 16% adequate, 1% surplus compared to 2004 during which subsoil moisture 45% very short, 39% short, 16% adequate, 0% surplus. During the first part of January, temperatures in the state below normal with snow fall throughout the state, but the second half of the month saw above normal temperatures, limited precipitation. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 6% poor, 37% fair, 43% good, 13% excellent. Despite the lack of snow cover, the winter wheat crop condition is better than last year. Wind damage to the winter wheat crop 45% none, 36% light, 18% moderate, 1% heavy. Freeze, drought damage for the crop 45% none, 31% light, 23% moderate, 1% heavy. Snow cover for winter wheat 68% very poor, 27% poor, 5% fair, 0% good, 0% excellent. Most of the pastures are available for grazing. Livestock grazing 74% open, 12% difficult, 14% closed, compared to 2004 when 81% open, 15% difficult, 4% closed. Currently, 96% of the cattle, 90% of the sheep are receiving supplemental feed. Caving is 6% complete, lambing 3% complete.

NEBRASKA: The end of month snow depth averaged about 0.4 inches with little to no snow cover reported across the state. January temperatures averaged from 8 to 15⁰ below normals the first half of the month, from near normal to 16⁰ above normals the last half. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 39% fair, 43% good, 13% excellent. Hay, forage supplies mostly adequate. Condition of cattle, calves mostly good to excellent with winter calving underway. Activities Included: Livestock care and farm business activities

NEVADA: Two strong Pacific storms crossed over the State during the month, dropping snow in the north, heavy rains in the south. Las Vegas received a record high 2.07 inches of rain, surpassing the previous record of 1.78 inches set in January of 1940. The lower Colorado River watershed had tremendous flow that raised the level of drought-plagued Lake Mead 9 feet. Snow pack in the northern mountains swelled with the Sierra accumulations nearing twice normal. Rare valley fog was common across the north during the second half of the month, keeping temperatures down and slowing snow melt. Temperatures averaged well below normal north, well above normal central, south. Snow cover increased winter cattle feeding needs, heavy calves continued to move to market. Hay marketing, shipping continued. Potato processing remained active. Fall seeded grains, garlic were in generally good condition. Activities: Equipment maintenance, livestock care, fence repairs, crop and livestock marketing, industry meeting

NEW ENGLAND: In early January there were two storms with a mixture of snow, ice that hit the state. During the last two weeks of the month, temperatures dipped below freezing. On January 23, a blizzard dumped close to three feet of snow in southern state, coastal region. Then three days later a snow storm covered all of the state. Farmers kept busy tending livestock, moving apples and potatoes out of storage

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures for the month of January were above normal until the middle of the month, when it dipped to below normal at mid-month until the end of the month, across most of the state. On January 14, 2005 precipitation was over an inch across most of the state. Activities for the month included cleaning and preparing equipment for spring planting.

NEW MEXICO: Two storms impacted the state during the week, one at the beginning, the other over the weekend. Nearly all reporting locations measured precipitation, with the heavier amounts in the south, and east. Ruidoso, Alamogordo both measured over an inch of moisture. Temperatures ranged from near normal over the northwest to generally a few degrees below normal elsewhere, with the greatest departures in the south. Ranchers continued normal supplemental feeding during the month, were also preparing for spring calving. The pecan harvest was completed by months end, while cotton farmers spent the month tilling cotton fields. Some farmers began preparing the ground for the 2005 crops.

NEW YORK: Below average temperatures with moderate to above normal snow fall totals were recorded across the state. A mid-month blizzard and bitter, marked the weather highlight of the month. Albany had record lows. Activities: Tending livestock, spreading manure, machinery repair, maintenance, grading, packing onions, apples, orchard clean-up, and preparing facilities for winter.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 2.7. Soil 4% short, 72% adequate, 24% surplus. Activities Included: Feeding, tending livestock, tax preparation, crop planning, and general winter farm maintenance. January brought a wide range of temperatures, weather conditions. The month began with abnormally high temperatures, several sunny days. By mid-month, most areas experienced normal temperatures,
accompanying with the typical precipitation mixes of ice, snow. Most farm activities have been limited due to weather conditions. The small grain crop conditions are currently rated good with small percentages rated excellent. Winter wheat seedings for the 2005 crop are estimated at 580,000 acres, down 3% from 2004.

NORTH DAKOTA: Below normal temperatures dominated the first three weeks of January while precipitation was generally near to below average across the state. However, temperatures warmed the last week of January into the first week of February as temperatures averaged 10-20° above the seasonal average. The mild weather late in the month, combined with reduced snow cover made the month of January a relatively easy period for livestock and roads. Average snow cover was 2.7 inches on February 6, compared to 14.0 inches one year ago. Hay, forage supplies 3% very short, 14% short, 74% adequate, 9% surplus. Snow cover protection for alfalfa 71% poor, 24% adequate, 5% excellent. Cattle conditions 0% very poor, 3% poor, 10% fair, 75% good, 12% excellent. Sheep conditions 1% very poor, 4% poor, 11% fair, 72% good, 12% excellent. County, secondary roads 92% open, 6% difficult, 2% closed. Four percent of the roads were drifted, 11% icy, 3% muddy, 82% dry.

OHIO: The January 2005 average temperature across the state 28.6°, 2.3° above normal. Precipitation averaged 6.96 inches, 4.42 inches above normal. Several counties reported that this year’s winter wheat is of poor quality because of a wet fall, however the quality can improve sharply with a warm and sunny March. No major problems with cattle, livestock have been reported. As of December 1st the dry hay storage was down state wide compared to the previous year. Wet weather in October, November forced some operators to store hay wet, quality was affected. Farm activities in January included moving grain from farms to elevators, gearing up for nitrogen application on winter wheat fields, attending Farm activities in January included moving grain from farms to elevators, attending technical meetings. Manure spreading has been slowed due to wet field conditions and snow cover.

OKLAHOMA: Topsoil 3° short, 57% adequate, 40% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 6% short, 73% adequate, 20% surplus. Wheat 2% very poor, 6% poor, 22% fair, 53% good, 17% excellent. Rye 4% poor, 17% fair, 70% good, 9% excellent. Oats 1% very poor, 7% poor, 31% fair, 54% good, 7% excellent. Wheat grazed 54% 2005, 46% 2004, 41% average. Rye grazed 81% 2005, 69% 2004, 48% average. Oats grazed 39% 2005, 29% 2004, 29% average. Livestock 4% poor, 22% fair, 64% good, 10% excellent. Pasture, Range 1% very poor, 9% poor, 37% fair, 46% good, 7% excellent. Livestock: Livestock was rated in mostly good condition. Livestock conditions 64% good, 22% fair compared to 41% good, 36% fair at this time 2004. The death loss of cattle was average to light. Hay supplies were rated as mostly average.

OREGON: Activities: During the month of January high temperatures were generally in the fifties, sixties throughout the month, with overnight lows mostly in the twenties, teens. Freezing overnight temperatures were recorded in southeastern, south central areas. Precipitation was minimal in most areas of the state, except for coastal areas in Coos, Lane and Clatsop counties. Snowpack levels across the State are below average, are continuing to decrease according to the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Winter care of livestock continued across the State, cranberry pruning activities were ongoing throughout the month as well. According to the State Department of Agriculture sudden oak death is expected to create a larger work load for nursery inspectors heading into the busiest time of the year.

PENNSYLVANIA: Principal farm activities for the month of January included milking cows, machinery, fence repairs, spreading manure in select areas, making accounting, other bookkeeping decisions in preparation for tax season, attending organizational meetings, giving their overall support to agriculture in the state by attending the State Farm Show held from the 8th through the 15th of the month. Some operators are busy planning for this year’s crop, while others are vacationing on the ski slopes or down south where the weather is much warmer. State, after enduring a rather mild December, received a bit more of the harsh winter weather as been in other parts of the country. The month of January began with temperatures well above normal but soon turned bitterly cold. The first week notwithstanding, average highs in the northern, mountain areas of the state have been running in the upper-10s and lower-20s with lows at night consistently in the single digits, occasionally dipping below 0 (°F). In the southern, valley areas of the state, from Harrisburg to Lancaster on over to the state, temperatures ran well above normal the first week or so of the month but soon turned bitterly cold. High temperatures have been consistently in the 20s and lower-30s. Lows at night have been running consistently in the 10s, with a few frigid nights of single digit weather. Winter precipitation picked up considerably from last month, wound up bringing levels that were typical for this time of year. The snowfall throughout the month of its duration in the Southern Appalachian can be blamed for the biggest part of snow accumulations in the state. For the month of January, snowfall in the northern and mountain areas of the state have totaled right around one foot, with some isolated areas receiving upwards of 15 inches. Snowfall in the southern, valley areas was much more modest, ranging anywhere from 5 to 9 inches for the month.

SOUTH CAROLINA: On New Year’s Day mild 70° temperatures were reported in many parts of the State. Springlike, warm weather continued through the second week of January. Scattered light showers fell on Thursday, again on Friday. The thermometer climbed over the 80° mark along the central coast on Saturday afternoon, high temperature records were set daily in Charleston. Mostly sunny, dry weather ended the week. For the period, the State average temperature was twelve degrees above normal. A freeze was felt over most of the State during the third week with cold nightime temperatures. Temperatures rebounded to the 50’s by the end of the week. The temperatures averaged 2° below normal. Temperatures rose to the high 50’s and low 60’s the first part of the last week then plummeted as a mixture of rain, freezing rain, sleet covered much of the State the last Saturday of the month. The state fared much better than her neighbors to the west, north. By the last Sunday of the month, temperatures rebounded into the 50’s. The state average temperature was 4° below normal for the week. Some early plowing, land preparation occurred in more temperate areas. Small grains were still in fair to good shape despite the unsettled weather experienced during the month.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Feed supplies 13% very short, 11% short, 68% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 21% very short, 16% short, 62% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat 3% poor, 51% fair, 35% good, 11% excellent. Cattle condition 2% poor, 16% fair, 66% good, 16% excellent. Sheep condition 7% poor, 18% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent. Accessible livestock, feed supplies 96% readily available, 4% difficult. Accessible Stock Water Supplies 92% readily available, 7% difficult, 1% inaccessible. Road conditions, county 100% open, township 100% open. Average snow depth 0.1 inch. Alfalfa snow cover 93% poor, 7% adequate. Winter wheat snow cover 98% poor, 2% adequate. Cattle death losses 30% below normal, 68% normal, 2% above normal. Calf deaths in January 38% below avg.; 61% avg.; 1% above average. Sheep, lamb deaths in January 32% below avg.; 68% average. Average January temperatures were slightly above normal for much of the state, with highs reaching into the mid 60’s and lows in the mid -20’s. Snowfall was minimal again this month compared to some areas receiving only trace amounts of precipitation. Having little snow to contend with, farmers, ranchers have kept busy with routine chores, hauling, marketing grain, tending to livestock, and repairing machinery.

TENNESSEE: During the first half of January, temperatures, precipitation were above normal statewide. Weather during the second half of the month was influenced by a number of cold fronts that moved through the state, helping keep temperatures below normal. Weekly rainfall totals for this period were also mostly below normal. Winter wheat remained in mostly fair-to-good condition. Livestock were reported in mostly good condition with hay supplies adequate to surplus. In East Tennessee State, farmers were performing winter activities such as fertilizer, lime applications to pastures. Overall, many farmers were not able to complete any meaningful fieldwork, as field conditions were wet and muddy.

TEXAS: Weather conditions across the state were variable throughout the month. Brief periods of mild, dry days have been followed by relatively strong cold fronts accompanied by strong cold winds, snow across the plains; rain in central, southern locations. Remaining harvest has been mostly completed, however a few weather related delays remained at months end. Preparations for spring planting were ongoing whenever weather conditions allowed. Livestock condition was variable, sickness in livestock was normal to above normal depending on the severity of the
cold front. Some weather related losses were reported. Range, pastures received adequate moisture levels, however varying degrees of damage was reported due to trampling in wet soils. Supplemental feeding increased across the state due to the extreme weather conditions, however a few southern locations remained dry, producers were concerned about available hay supplies lasting until spring. Dry weather was needed by months end as producers were attempting land preparation for spring planting and some planting dates were just around the corner.

UTAH: The state has received above average precipitation this water year though out the state. Flooding has been a big problem in Washington County, river, creeks have caused a great deal of erosion. Producers in Washington County face a lot of hard work restoring lost crop land, preventing further erosion. Most soils have high moisture content so further flooding is a major concern across the state. Most of Northern State has been experiencing a weather inversion. Pastures look good, should be in much better condition this spring than in previous years. Producers are expressing concern over rising fuel, fertilizer costs. Most producers are completing winter maintenance on equipment, working on financial statements, planning for the new season. State’s producers are optimistic about the upcoming crop year, they are expecting a good water year the first in six years.

VIRGINIA: Warmer than normal temperatures at the end of December, the start of January allowed livestock to graze on pastures longer than normal. However, cold snaps at the end of the month lead to increased supplemental feedings. Feeding the livestock was made difficult by muddy conditions that persisted with melting snow, thawing ground. The cold wet weather has affected the state’s small grains as they slowed in development, showed signs of nitrogen deficiency. Most farming activities were limited due to the cold weather. Despite this, farmers kept occupied attending meetings, conferences, purchasing seed, chemicals, cutting firewood, sampling soils, grading roads. Most of the Commonwealth was warmer than normal for January with random cold snaps during the last two weeks of the month. The cold snaps were accompanied with a wintery mix, consisting of snow, sleet, and freezing rain. Temperatures ranged from the single digits to 40+ degrees. The ground froze and thawed throughout the month, causing muddy conditions.

WASHINGTON: January started out with typical winter weather but it did not last long. Unseasonably warm, dry temperatures were the norm in most areas of the state. Snow pack in the mountains, soil moisture, precipitation were at record lows for the month, causing concern for water availability this spring, summer. Winter wheat crops had lost most of their snow cover. It appeared as though an early spring had arrived. Pastures had begun to green up, grow. Livestock owners had been able to reduce supplemental feeding due to rapidly growing pastures. Daffodil cut-flower harvest started about two weeks earlier than normal. Early season blueberries, first year raspberries, older fields were at green bud stage. Greenhouse tomato growers had transplants that were ready for greenhouse planting. Home gardeners had to temporarily put aside pruning chores in order to mow their lawns. No major damage due to weather reported.

WEST VIRGINIA: Topsoil 1% short, 55% adequate, 44% surplus compared to last year’s 55% adequate, 45% surplus. Hay, roughage supplies 1% short, 82% adequate, 17% surplus. Feed grains 1% short, 55% adequate, 41% surplus. Wheat conditions 5% fair, 24% good, 71% excellent. Cattle, calves 2% poor, 16% fair, 73% good, 9% excellent. Sheep, lambs 1% poor, 12% fair, 82% good, 5% excellent. Activities Included: Lambing, calving, feeding cattle, maintaining livestock health. Due to the favorable weather conditions feed and hay supplies seem to be holding steady.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures averaged 1 to 4° above normal for the month of January. Average high temperatures were in the mid 20’s. Average low temperatures in northern areas of the state were 10°, while southern areas were around 15°. Precipitation varied across the state. Southern areas received 2 to 3 inches of moisture during the month. Northern areas received between .60 and 1.60 inches of moisture. The snow was needed in some areas that are experiencing below normal precipitation for this time of year. The northeast part of the state is below average in precipitation, while the remaining areas are up to 1.5 inches above normal. Snow cover was reported across all of the state during the month of January.

WYOMING: Calves born 6%, 8% 2004, 8% 5-year average. Farm flock ewes lambed 12%, 9% 2004, 10% 5-year average. Farm flock sheep shorn 20%, 9% 2004, 12% 5-year average. Temperatures for the five weeks ending Friday, February 4 averaged above normal for the State. Temperatures ranged from 1.1° below normal in Big Piney to 9.3° above normal in Riverton. The low temperature for the month was recorded in Recluse at 28° below zero, the high temperature was 71° in Sheridan. Precipitation averaged below normal for most of the State. The most precipitation fell in Jackson with 1.45 inches, Afton with 0.98 inches, and Lander with 0.91 inches.