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**ALABAMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Topsoil 0% very short, 2% short, 31% adequate, 67% surplus. Corn 27% planted, 23% 2004, 22% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 57% good, 14% excellent. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 54% good, 28% excellent. Wet weather delayed field activity across most of the state. Rainfall was especially heavy in the southern part of the state with large size hail storms, flooding in some areas. Very windy conditions were also prevalent in many areas. Peach orchards are in various development stages from shuck-off to early bloom. Overall development is behind normal for this time of the year but crop potential looks good so far. Some varieties are showing signs of lack of chilling, are developing slowly. Growers have been active making fungicide, insecticide applications. Recent rains are hindering some orchard activities, causing concerns about diseases. Some blossom blight has been noticed as well as phomopsis twig blight. Trap captures of plum curculio doubled by the end of the week. Activities Included: Corn planting, applying nitrogen to wheat fields, general care of livestock, poultry, and catfish.

**ARIZONA:** Temperatures for the State were mostly below normal for the last week of March. Durum wheat 13% headed acreage. Barley 59% headed acreage. Cotton 14% planted acreage. Alfalfa condition remains mostly good. Precipitation was reported at 3 of the 17 reporting stations ranging from 0.04 inches in Flagstaff to 0.33 inches in Grand Canyon.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Soil 0% very short, 3% short, 64% adequate, 33% surplus. Corn 41% planted, 35% Previous Week, 59% 2004, 36% 5- yr avg.; 9% emerged, 0% Previous week, 3% 2004, 7% 5- yr avg. Soybeans 0% planted, 3% 2004, 1% 5-yr avg. Sorghum 1% planted, 6% 2004, 5% 5-yr avg. Cotton 0% planted, 0% 2004, 0% 5-yr avg. Rice: 1% planted, 7% 2004, 4% 5-yr avg. Winter wheat 1% headed, 1% 2004, 2% 5-yr avg; 0% very poor, 9% poor, 49% fair, 37% good, 5% excellent. Hay 2% very poor, 9% poor, 38% fair, 47% good, 4% excellent Alfalfa 0% very poor, 7% poor, 41% fair, 51% good, 1% excellent Pasture, Range Feed 3% very poor, 9% poor, 39% fair, 43% good, 6% excellent. Wet conditions due to rain the previous weekend has slowed corn planting and field work. Wheat fertilization is making slow progress. Producers are scouting wheat fields for leaf, stripe rust. Some counties have begun planting early soybeans. Most of the state is preparing ground for planting of all spring crops. LIVESTOCK: Livestock are reported to be in good condition. Many beef producers are nearing the end of the spring calving season. Some producers are fertilizing pastures, and forages made moderate growth for the week. Some producers are still feeding hay.

**CALIFORNIA:** Alfalfa cuttings were hampered Statewide last week due to the rain, although spraying for alfalfa weevil continued where conditions allowed. Limited planting of cotton occurred last week, while most cotton growers waited for better soil temperature, moisture conditions. Sugar beets continued making good progress. Sweet potato field fumigations continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Winter forage harvest continued as field conditions allowed, while winter wheat continued to head out across the State. Small fruit clusters began developing in many grape vineyards. Fungicides were applied in vineyards, tree fruit orchards to control disease, and herbicides were applied to manage vegetation. Apple orchards continued to bloom, were sprayed to control fire blight. Rain continued to hamper thinning activities on early apricots, nectarines, and peaches. Thinning was not required in early plum orchards due to cool, rainy weather during bloom that affected bee pollination, resulted in a light fruit set. Strawberries in the San Joaquin Valley were blooming, cane berries were pushing new growth. The cooler weather, however, slowed down fruit maturity in some strawberry fields. Navel and Valencia oranges, Minneola grapefruit, tangelos, lemons continued to be harvested. Heavier grade out was required on some Navel lots due to rind puff, lack of firmness, granulation in the larger sized fruit. Growers were monitoring orchards for cutworms, thrips, and red mites. Hopping, topping, pruning continued on oranges, olives. Late avocado harvesting continued. Almond set in many locations appeared light due to poor weather conditions during bloom. Some almond trees were down as a result of wet soil and recent strong winds. Orchard floor herbicide treatments were being conducted as orchards dried out enough to allow equipment into the fields. New almond orchards continued to be planted. Pecan trees began leafing out, and blight sprays were applied to walnut orchards. Cool temperatures slowed vegetable development, and wet fields hindered field activities. Spring vegetable planting was two weeks late in some locals due to the persistent precipitation. Tomatoes, melons were planted as field conditions allowed. Fungicides were applied to some onion and garlic fields. Pre-planting spraying in some tomato fields occurred. Asparagus, broccoli, head, romaine lettuce, turnip harvest continued. The following vegetables were also reported harvested: bok choy, carrot, daikon, gai choy, gai lon, green onions, spinach, you choy. Follihast pastures were reported to be in very good to excellent condition. Ample soil moisture and mild temperatures continued to boost grass growth. Sheep, cattle were in very good condition, cattle weight gains were reported above normal. The new crop alfalfa hay harvest has begun, most sheep have been removed from alfalfa fields. In central state, ewes with lambs were grazing on foothill pastures, a few older alfalfa fields, on retired farmland. Most new crop lambs have been sold except for smaller lambs that will be marketed later. In the central area, movement of bees from almond orchards was nearly complete with many being placed in citrus orchards. Out-of-State bees continued to be shipped to other states.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 3% very short, 33% short, 59% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 19% very short, 34% short, 43% adequate 4% surplus. Overall, State temperatures were below average last week. Precipitation was received across the state with the southeastern area getting measurable amounts of snow and/or rain. Spring barley 30% seeded, 24% 2004, 22% avg.; 9% emerged, 11% 2004, 4% avg. Dry onion 46% planted, 58% 2004, 41% avg. Sugar beets 15% planted, 26% 2004, 15% avg. Summer potatoes 2% planted, 1% 2004, 4% avg. Spring wheat 16% planted, 15% 2004, 15% avg.; 3% emerged, 4% 2004, 2% avg. Cows 65% calved, 69%, 2004, 63% avg. Ewes 53% lambed, 63% 2004, 55% avg.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.2. Topsoil 100% surplus. Subsoil 5% short, 67% adequate, 28% surplus. Corn 1% planted 2004, 1% avg. Barley condition 4% poor, 21% fair, 71% good and 4% excellent. Winter wheat condition 20% fair, 77% good, 3% excellent. Pasture feed 22% fair, 73% good, 5% excellent. Strawberries 0% bloomed, 3% 2004, 5% avg. Apples 0% bloomed, 4% 2004, 4% avg. Peaches 0% bloomed,3% 2004, 22% avg. Snap beans 0%, 4% 2004, 3% avg. Green peas 18% planted, 26% 2004, 22% avg. Potatoes 9% planted, 16% 2004, 15% avg. Hay supplies 3% short, 70% adequate. Heavy rains have delayed small grains, pastures are very wet. Planting has begun for...
Jackson County: continued rains slowed ground preparation; most corn Abundant rains western Panhandle caused some major flooding; land in 40s at end of week; Quincy, Jay recorded lows in 30s on April 3. plunged readings into 40s, most localities, except for extreme southern Pensacola; balmy temperatures prevailed until cold front at end of week occurred mainly over windward, mountain areas with some spilling over pressure system north of the state brought brisk trade winds. Showers livestock and poultry.

FLORIDA: Topsoil 1% very short, 3% short, 50% adequate, 46% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 4% short, 50% adequate, 45% surplus. Rainfall range: none at Tallahassee. Homestead to nearly 14.50 in. at Pensacola about 7.25 in. Jay; 2.00 to 4.00 in. several northern Peninsula areas; 0.25 to 1.00 in. most central Pennsylvania localities; less than 0.50 in. southern Peninsula. Temperatures 1° to 3° above normal, major cities; 1° below, Pensacola; balmly temperatures prevailed until cold front at end of week plunged readings into 40s, most localities, except for extreme southern Peninsula. Daytime highs: 70s, 80s. Nighttime lows: 50s, 60s; many lows in 40s at end of week; Quincy, Jay recorded lows in 30s on April 3. Abundant rains western Panhandle caused some major flooding; land preparations for peanuts, cotton halted many areas until ground dries. Jackson County; continued rains slowed ground preparation; most corn yet to be planted. Jefferson County: wet fields delayed field operations; some corn planting delayed. Madison County: some corn, already planted, washed out due to recent heavy rains; producers planning to replant. Flooding, Baker County, made it hard to dig some field grown ornamentals. Sugarcane cutting virtually completed, Everglades region. Soil moisture supplies increased northern, central Peninsula, Panhandle. Southern Peninsula soil moisture mostly adequate to surplus; some short, very short supplies reported for southeastern coast. Jefferson County; wet fields delayed some watermelon planting. Lesser amounts of rain over central, southern Peninsula kept most vegetable planting, harvesting on schedule. New potato planting continued to slow seasonally. Growers marketed significant amounts of snap beans, cabbage, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, peppers, potatoes, radishes, squash, tomatoes. Lighter amounts of blueberries, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce also available. Spring-like weather throughout week, citrus areas; highs mid to upper 80s; lows upper 40s; low 50s early in week. Rainfall only on Saturday morning, between 0.40 in. to just over an 1.00 in. Oranges in full bloom, some petal drop, grapefruit mostly in bloom bud stages. Growers continue post-harvest herbiciding, fertilizing, aerial spraying, grove maintenance clean-up. Early, mid orange harvesting relatively complete; increasing amounts of late oranges (Valencias), mostly for processing. Tangelo, Temple harvesting decreasing; Honey tangerine harvest remained steady, primarily going fresh. Pasture feed 5% poor, 35% fair, 60% good. Cattle condition 10% poor, 40% fair, 50% good. Panhandle- cattle, good to excellent condition; cool season forages growing well; winter forages grazed down but looking good. North: pastures greening up, cool season forages at peak production though wet conditions exist in some locations. Central: rain plus moderate temperatures promoting excellent grass growth. Southwest: cattle condition poor to good, range condition fair to good. Statewide: cattle condition mostly good.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 1.8. Soil 24% adequate, 76% surplus. Corn 7% very poor, 11% poor, 36% fair, 44% good, 2% excellent; 42% planted, 57% 2004, 54% avg.; 33% emerged, 40% 2004. 38% avg. Cotton 0% planted, 0% 2004, 0 avg. Hay 1% very poor, 12% poor, 40% fair, 46% good, 1% excellent. Tobacco 13% poor, 69% fair, 18% good; 4% transplanted, 13% 2004, 19% avg. Wheat 80% jointing, 78% 2004, 81% avg.; 27% boot, 47% 2004, 51% avg.; 6% headed, 19% 2004, 18% avg. Onions 8% very poor, 8% poor, 20% fair, 42% good, 22% excellent; 0% harvested, 2% 2004, 1% avg. Watermelons 11% very poor, 20% poor, 41% fair, 28% good; 28% planted, 32% 2004, 33% avg. Apples 100% good; 5% blooming, 13% 2004, 10% avg. Peaches 21% fair, 79% good; 76% blooming, 58% 2004, 81% avg. Additional rainfall made routine land preparation, planting challenging for producers, according to the State Agricultural Statistics Service. There were reports of erosion in some areas of the State. Wet conditions delayed spraying applications on crops. Corn planting was running behind normal, producers are anxious to get back into their fields. There were concern that the flooding conditions, in low land areas, could lead to future disease problems. Peaches, apples remained in good shape. Tobacco transplanting lagged behind normal for this time of year. Some producers were having problems feeding hay as muddy conditions made travel in difficult. Animals Included: Aerial application of fungicides on small grain, applying burn-down chemicals, and the routine care of livestock and poultry.

HAWAII: Mixed weather conditions continued over the State. A high pressure system north of the state brought brisk trade winds. Showers occurred mainly over windward, mountain areas with some spilling over into leeward areas due to strong winds. Most crops made fair to good progress with active harvesting. Banana, papaya harvesting remained active. Most leafy crops continued to make good progress.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 2.2. Topsoil 13% short, 78% adequate, 9% surplus. Spring wheat 30% planted, 32% 2004, 19% avg. Barley 19% planted, 20% 2004, 14% avg. Sugarbeets 19% planted, 45% 2004, 22% avg. Oats 18% planted, 21% 2004, 125 avg. Onions 25% planted, 40% 2004, 50% avg. Dry peas 12% planted, 31% 2004, 9% avg. Hay, roughage supply 1% short, 91% adequate, 8% surplus. Lambing 83% 2005. Calving 83% 2005. The majority of the state’s winter wheat crop is in good to excellent condition. Some much needed rain throughout the week improved the soil moisture condition. Cooler temperatures slowed evaporation, allowed moisture to remain in the top 3 to 4 inches of the soil profile. Lambing, calving is going well throughout the state, ranchers are branding cattle. Major farm activities were halted due to rain, snow showers. Pea, lentil planting is expected to begin as soon as the rain subsides and the ground dries out.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.2. Topsoil 2% short, 60% adequate, 38% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 77% adequate, 20% surplus. Some fieldwork was accomplished during the week where weather, field conditions were favorable to support heavy equipment. Field activities have been slow in most regions of the state as cold weather, wet soils have hindered fieldwork. Some discing, chisel plowing took place last week. Fertilizer, lime were being spread. A few fields of corn, oats are planted. Hauling corn, and soybeans to market was the major activity. Winter wheat is in mostly good condition. Wheat is starting to green up in the northern areas. Winter wheat 3% jointed, 11% 2004, 9% avg. Hay supplies 5% short, 80% adequate, 15% surplus. Pastures 2% very poor, 12% poor, 36% fair, 46% good, 4% excellent. Temperatures averaged 2° above to 6° above normal. Precipitation average 0.10 to 2.93 inches. Heavier rain in the southern areas during the week. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Calving continued. Lambing is winding up. Activities: Preparing equipment, cleaning ditches, tiling, purchasing supplies, attending FSA offices for 2005 DCP, LDP’s, and loans, top dressing winter wheat, hauling manure, spraying chemicals, applying anhydrous ammonia and taking care of livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil 3% very short, 14% short, 77% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 19% short, 73% adequate, 5% surplus. Warmer temperatures have triggered the onset of Spring fieldwork for state farmers. While some areas remain too wet for field activities, other farmers have begun applying lime, fertilizer, tilling, planting oats, applying nitrogen. There were a few reports of tiles running throughout the state. This overwhelmingly adequate topsoil moisture rating is very similar to conditions reported a year ago. Field Crops Report: Oats 33% seedings, 14% ahead of both last year’s progress, 28% 5- yr avg. No significant corn planting was reported in the state. Primary seedbed preparations were 34% complete compared to 32% 2004, 44% 5-yr avg. Fertilizer 56% applications, 7% above2004, 5-yr avg. Livestock, Pasture, Range Report: Calving was well underway with mainly favorable conditions reported. Lambing was reported as nearly complete with equally favorable conditions persisting. Drier weather helped reduce both calving, lambing problems. Pasture, range feed 5% very poor, 15% poor, 32% fair, 43% good, 5% excellent. The warmer temperatures have promoted growth and development.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 1% very short, 10% short, 83% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 19% short, 75% adequate, 3% surplus. Warm temperatures, Wheat condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 56% good, 18% excellent; 1 wind damage is 81% moderate, 4% moderate, 4% light; 75% 2004, 45% avg. Hay, forages supplies 1% very short, 5% short, 81% adequate, 13% surplus. Feed grain supplies 2% very short, 4% short, 88% adequate, 6% surplus.
KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.9. Topsoil 40% adequate, 60% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% short, 61% adequate, 37% surplus. For the week temperatures averaged 54°F, 3° above normal. Rainfall statewide was 2.15 inches, 1.14 inches above normal. Land prepared for planting corn, soybeans, tobacco 33%. Nitrogen fertilizer supplies available to meet anticipated needs 96%. Tobacco seeding behind schedule at 50%. Roughage requirements livestock are getting from pastures 21%. Winter hay supply still on hand 35%. Winter damage to legume stand: Alfalfa 7%, Red Clover 5%. Barley 8%. Fall seeded acreage to 0. Wheat 6%. Winter wheat condition 4% poor, 17% fair, 65% good, 14% excellent. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 18% poor, 37% fair, 34% good, 7% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Soil 3% short, 69% adequate, 28% surplus. Favorable weather conditions during the first part of the week allowed producers to progress with field activities, but showers returned again slowing field activities later in the week. Corn 58% planted, 30% last week, 91% 2004, 63% avg.; 14% emerged, 3% last week, 56% 2004, 37% avg. Rice 6% emerged, 0% last week, 22% 2004, 19% avg. Spring plowing 35% boosted, 21% last week, 75% 2004, 58% avg. Sugarcane 2% very poor, 12% poor, 49% fair, 35% good, 2% excellent. Wheat 12% poor, 38% fair, 46% good, 4% excellent; 14% headed, 76% last week, 2004, 33% avg., 2% very poor, 37% poor, 39% good, 6% excellent. Vegetable 1% very poor, 17% poor, 57% fair, 24% good, 1% excellent. Range, pasture 4% very poor, 15% poor, 50% fair, 31% good.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.0. Topsoil 29% adequate, 71% surplus. Subsoil 48% adequate, 52% surplus. Corn 3% planted, 0% 2004, 1% avg. Barley condition 4% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent. Winter wheat condition 4% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 10% excellent. Pasture feed 7% very poor, 23% poor, 12% fair, 37% good, 21% excellent. Strawberries 13% bloomed, 9% 2003, 9% avg. Peaches 0% bloomed, 15% 2004, 21% avg. Sweet corn 4% planted, 3% 2004, 4% avg. Green peas planted 26%, 43% 2004, and 32% avg. Potatoes planted 21%, 21% 2004, 17% avg. Tomatoes 5% planted, 1% 2004, 2% avg. Hay supplies 10% very short, 24% short, 63% adequate, 3% surplus. Heavy rains have delayed field preparation, planting of some vegetable crops. Planting has begun for potatoes, green peas but has been halted due to the heavy rains. Small grains are green-uping and are in fair to good condition.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for field work 2.0. Topsoil 0% vert short, 2% short, 62% adequate, 36% surplus. Subsoil 0% very short, 4% short, 74% adequate, 22% surplus. Range, pasture 5% very poor, 23% poor, 34% fair, 32% good, 6% excellent. Most of the State’s farmers were eagerly anticipating the arrival of spring weather and the beginning of the growing season. Warm, sunny weather during the last week of March melted most of the remaining snow, chased much of the frost from the soil. The mild weather had many operators thinking about tillage, planting. A few growers in the southeast planted some oats, cabbage and early potatoes. Sugar beet growers were gearing up to begin planting just as soon as the weather, soil conditions allowed. Wheat was still in the process of emerging from dormancy. Growers continued applying fertilizer to the crop as field conditions permitted. Fruit producers were trimming apple, cherry, peach trees. Some early disease control sprays had been applied in peaches. Maple syrup production neared completion in some areas. Farmers continued spreading manure, spring clean-up and repair, and getting machinery ready for spring.

MINNESOTA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Soil 1% short, 11% adequate, 88% surplus. Corn 48% planted, 71% 2004, 54% avg.; 19% emerged, 25% 2004, 24% avg. Soybeans 6% planted, 19% 2004, 7% avg. Wheat 88% jointing, 76% 2004, 69% avg.; 2% heading, 7% 2004, 8% avg.; 2% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 62% good. Watermelons 22% planted, 34% 2004, 31% avg. Hay supply 28% short, 58% adequate, 14% surplus. Feed grain 3% short, 97% adequate. Cattle 2% very poor, 6% poor, 37% fair, 51% good, 4% excellent. Pasture 9% poor, 25% fair, 56% good, 10% excellent. Frequent rains, soggy fields have caused problems for state farmers trying to plant their spring crops. Ryegrass has flourished, cattle producers have been pleased with plentiful pastures. Although corn planting is slightly behind schedule, it has progressed well so far. Farmers across the state are ready for drier weather so they can continue with field activities.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for field work 5.3. Topsoil 1% very short, 14% short, 82% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 6% short, 90% adequate, 2% surplus. State farmers are getting off to a good start with fieldwork, as most of the State was sunny, dry during the week. Good progress has been made with fertilizer application for spring crops, tillage is going well. Corn planting is most advanced in the southeast district but reporters in that area indicate progress has been slowed by wet weather of previous weeks, while the other major corn districts are ahead of normal. Winter wheat is making normal growth in most areas but some stands were hurt by the wet weather last fall, through the winter. Precipitation for the week averaged 0.11 inch, varying from virtually none in the northeast district, across the central third of the State, to 0.46 inch in the southeast district. Supplies of hay and water in stock ponds are mostly adequate in nearly all areas. Livestock condition 1% poor, 15% fair, 73% good, 11% excellent. Pastures 1% very poor, 3% poor, 34% fair, 57% good, 5% excellent.

MONTANA: Days suitable for field work 4.3. Soil 29% very short, 34% short, 32% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 53% very short, 30% short, 16% adequate, 1% surplus. During the first week of April, temperatures were near normal with limited precipitation. Winter wheat 4% very poor, 9% poor, 45% fair, 33% good, 9% excellent; spring stages 15% still dormant, 63% greening, 22% green and growing. Barley 9% planted, 11% 2004. Oats 3% planted, 3% 2004. Spring wheat 2% planted, 2% 2004. Most of the pastures are available for grazing. Livestock grazing 87% open, 5% difficult, 8% closed. Currently, 91% of the cattle, 85% of the sheep are receiving supplemental feed. Calving is 84% complete and lambing is 51% complete.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for field work 3.9. Topsoil 2% very short, 21% short, 76% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 15% very short, 36% short, 49% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures averaged from 3 to 8°F above normals for the week. Precipitation was statewide although light across the eastern third of the State Wheat jointed 1%, 7% 2004, 2% avg. Oats 43% planted, 37% 2004, 32% avg.; 6% emerged, 3% 2004, 3% avg. Sugar beets 8% planted, 4% 2004. Cattle, calves condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 12% fair, 59% good, 28% excellent; calving 72% complete; calf losses average to below average. Other producer activities included spring fieldwork.

NEVADA: A cold winter storm passed through the State early in the week, bolstering mountain snow packs, dropping additional rain on the lowlands. Snow pack in the Sierra remained well above normal. High pressure entered the State later in the week raising temperatures to above normal. Wet weather benefitted range lands but slowed field work. Onion planting was delayed, field preparations for spring grain planting were set back. Cool temperatures checked hay growth. Hay feeding continued. Calving was progressing. Sheep shearing and lambing were active. Activities: Calving, lambing, equipment maintenance, preparations for irrigation season.

NEW ENGLAND: Heavy rain fell during the week throughout the state, which caused rivers, tributaries to flood. Above normal temperatures prevailed during the week contributing to unfavorable tapping conditions for maple syrup producers. Other farmers stayed busy tending livestock, nursery/greenhouse work and preparing for spring planting season.

NEW JERSEY: Rainfall ranged from a trace to 2.51 inches across the state. The heaviest total reported was over 2.50 inches on April 2, 2005 in the state. Temperatures for the week were near normal across most of the state. Planting, plowing activities were limited due to wet weather conditions. Spring season vegetables, potatoes were planted in some southern localities where conditions allowed. Activities Included: Maintaining farm structures, caring for livestock.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 2% very short, 19% short, 74% adequate, 5% surplus. Relatively cool weather continued over the state for much of the week, with the statewide temperature averaging between 5 and 6°F below normal. Warmer weather developed
late in the week, afternoon readings hit 80° at Tucumcari and Tatum on the 3rd. Precipitation was spotty, light over most of the state, but a winter storm brought heavier precipitation to the northeast quarter of the state around mid-week. Raton (66°) and Red River (52°) were the only locations that measured over a quarter of an inch of moisture. Freeze damage was 7% light, 17% moderate, 1% severe. Wind damage was 16% light, 27% moderate, 3% severe. Farmers were busy with land preparation, planting chile, working on ditches, irrigating alfalfa. Alfalfa was in fair to excellent condition, the first cutting was 23% complete. Lettuce 5% fair, 65% good, 30% excellent. Onions 64% good, 35% excellent, 100% planted. Chile70% planted, was listed in mostly fair to excellent condition. Wheat was in mostly good condition, 35% was being grazed. Ranchers were busy watering branding, maintaining herds. Supplemental feeding is decreasing. Cattle 1% very poor, 1% poor, 30% fair, 58% good, 10% excellent. Sheep 2% very poor, 4% poor, 33% fair, 51% good, 10% excellent. Range, pasture 3% very poor, 12% poor, 37% fair, 45% good, and 3% excellent.

NEW YORK: Warmer temperatures, rain showers increased flood potential. Many fields were still too wet to support machinery. Due to adverse weather conditions, many producers across the state experienced a delay in spring planting activities at the beginning of the week. While near record flooding occurred near the Catskills with significant flooding predicted near the Schoharie Creek. The high temperature was 68° at Buffalo International Airport. The low temperature was 68° at Glens Falls. Rainfall totals reached 4.67 inches in Cobleskill. Some areas of southwestern state received 20 inches of snow.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 2.3. Soil 1% short, 47% adequate, 52% surplus. Activities included: Planting cabbage, Irish potatoes, soil preparation, top-dressing small grains, corn planting preparations, general winter farm maintenance. Early in the week brought heavy showers across the State followed by a couple of warm, sunny days with the weekend bringing another round of thunderstorms. The rainfall is limiting field work in most areas and dealying corn planting in the eastern part of the State. Some areas have reported soil erosion problems on land prepared for spring planting.

NORTH DAKOTA: Topsoil 6% very short, 22% short, 65% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 12% very short, 21% short, 61% adequate, 8% surplus. Mild weather this past week improved conditions as spring fieldwork starts. Producers continue to prepare machinery, line up inputs for spring fieldwork. Starting date for fieldwork is expected to be April 14. Hay, forage supplies 2% very short, 17% short, 75% adequate, 6% surplus. Grain, concentrate supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 84% adequate, 9% surplus. Cattle conditions 0% very poor, 2% poor, 13% fair, 68% good, 17% excellent. Calf conditions 0% very poor, 1% poor, 12% fair, 88% good, 19% excellent. Sheep conditions 1% very poor, 2% poor, 15% fair, 65% good, 17% excellent. Lamb conditions 0% very poor, 2% poor, 15% fair, 67% good, 16% excellent. Calving was 53% complete, lambing 72% complete, shearing 83% complete. Pastures, ranges 94% still dormant, 6% growing.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.5. Topsoil 0% very short, 0% short, 48% adequate, 52% surplus. Winter wheat 2% jointed, 3% 2004, 5% avg. Oats 2% planted, 2% 2004, 11% avg. Pasture feeds 3% very poor, 17% poor, 32% fair, 43% good, 5% excellent. Winter wheat conditions 1% very poor, 5% poor, 28% fair, 52% good, 14% excellent. Livestock conditions 1% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 11% excellent. Wet soil conditions kept most producers out of their fields this past week but some locations reported a limited amount of tillage, fertilizer applications in well drained fields. Activities Included: Cleaning up debris left over from the winter ice storms, obtaining seed, other inputs for the upcoming season, spreading manure, hauling grain, working on machinery, and completing FSA paperwork. The State’s maple syrup producers continue to collect sap but the season is quickly coming to an end as night time temperatures rise. The State’s strawberry growers are busy cleaning up their fields in preparation for the upcoming season, some are starting to apply nitrogen through drip irrigation. Greenhouse growers are seeding vegetable and flower slips and some areas report a limited amount of early vegetables have been planted.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 5% very short, 28% short, 64% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 11% short, 82% adequate, 3% surplus. Wheat 73% jointing, 57% last week, 79% 2004, 62% average. Oats 1% very poor, 4% poor, 43% fair, 50% good, 2% excellent; 96% planted, 95% last week, 98% 2004, 93% avg.; 18% jointing, 9% last week, 31% 2004, 25% avg.; Rye 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 64% good, 5% excellent; 85% jointing, 83% last week, 89% 2004, N/A% average. Corn 57% seedbed prepared, 52% last week, 63% 2004, 58% avg.; 22% planted, 19% last week. 21% 2004, 16% avg. Sorghum 24% seedbed prepared, 23% last week, 22% 2004, 24% average. Soybeans 29% seedbed prepared, 27% last week, 35% 2004, 34% average. Peanuts 35% seedbed prepared, 24% last week, 31% last year, 32% average; Cotton 51% seedbed prepared, 49% last week, 57% 2004 average. Livestock 4% poor, 20% fair, 64% good, 12% excellent. Pasture conditions 1% very poor, 11% poor, 35% fair, 47% good, 6% excellent. Livestock: Spring calving was underway, livestock conditions were mostly good to excellent last week. Windy days caused small grain fields to become dry on top, especially fields being grazed out. The death loss of cattle continues to be light. Livestock insect activities increased slightly, but were still mostly light by week’s end. Feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged $116.12 per cwt and feeder heifers less than 800 pounds averaged $107.98 per cwt.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil 13% very short, 23% short, 58% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 20% very short, 29% short, 51% adequate. Spring wheat 64% planted, 61% 2004, 60% avg.; 28% emerged, 24% 2004. Winter wheat condition 2% very poor, 11% poor, 25% fair, 56% good, 6% excellent. Barley 48% planted, 59% 2004, 56% avg.; 34% emerged, 31% 2004; 1% very poor, 8% poor, 72% fair, 11% good, 8% excellent. Range, pasture 5% very poor, 11% poor, 30% good, 4% excellent. Last week brought much needed precipitation across the state. Rain, snow reported in every county. Despite recent wet weather, State is well behind its seasonal precipitation average. High temperature mostly in the upper 50’s & 60’s. Low temperatures ranged from teens & 20’s in eastern state to 30’s & 40’s in west. Fieldwork slowed last week by cool, wet conditions. Producers busy planting small grain crops as conditions allowed. Activities Included: Pesticide, fertilizer applications. Last week’s precipitation should have positive effect on most crop condition ratings. Onions, potatoes, shallots, radishes available for sale at Farmer’s Markets in Lane, Linn, Benton counties. Irrigation not required for spring vegetable seed germination in Polk County. Jackson County seedbeds prepared for sweet corn, other vegetables. Rhubarb emerged in Clackamas County & growing nicely in Washington County. Green peas were up. Umatilla County potato growers started planting. Clackamas County berry crops leafed out with no winter damage. Bartlett pear bloom nearly finished, set was not yet determined. Apples blooming. Pinot noir grapes at cherry, pinot noir. Weather was not favorable for good pollination. Yamhill County sweet cherries, prunes took a hit from heavy rains; winds; they had just gotten started with pollination. Pollen, blossoms now on the ground. Washington County prunes, Asian pears, Gravenstein apples, early cherries, some strawberries in bloom. Hazelnut catkins nearly gone. Caneberrries, blueberries leafing out. Grapevines emerging from dormancy. Cool, wet conditions prevailed during most of week in lower Hood River Valley slowing early tree fruit bloom development. Crop development was: d’Anjou pear 50% to 80% open blossoms; Red Delicious apple at tight cluster to first pink (WSU stages 4 & 5); Bing cherry at first bloom (WSU stage 7); Pinot noir grapes at budswwell to wool stage (Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 2 & 3). Sweet cherry trees full bloom in The Dalles area, several weeks earlier than normal. Last month, most orchardists put on first spring sprays before tree blooming or bee activity. Planting of new sweet cherry varieties active. Frost fans, heaters needed several days. Cold, wet weather slowed bee activity. Southern Willamette Valley prunes, peaches past bloom, cherries, pears in full bloom, early variety apples ripe. Recent wet weather had growers even more concerned about Eastern Filbert Blight. Jackson County pears in full bloom. Cover sprays were applied to pear trees. Nurseries in middle of very busy shipping season with most plants being shipped to east coast. Tractors are in short supply, diesel prices higher than normal with high fuel prices. Plant material in good supply, in good condition. Greenhouses delivering plants to retail nurseries, many spring plant sales just starting up. Heavy precipitation received in some areas of western state last week flooded low-lying pastures. Producers had to move livestock off bottom pastures back into holding areas or upland pastures. Producers continued to rotate livestock into spring pastures with
supplemental feeding in most areas. Eastern state precipitation received continued to green up pastures, rangeland. Additional spring rain necessary in many areas to continue adequate pasture growth. Producers busy with spring calving, lambing. Livestock reported in good condition as they continue turning out into spring grazing areas.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1. Soil 11% adequate, 89% surplus. Spring plowing 3% complete, 14% 2004, 15% avg. Oats 5% planted, 3% 2004, 7% avg. Pasture feeds 33% very poor, 11% poor, 41% fair, 14% good, 1% excellent. Activities Included: Feeding livestock; spreading lime; spreading manure; spring tillage; planting of oats; pruning fruit trees; repairing fences, machinery; and preparing for spring planting.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work 3.4. Soil 60% adequate, 40% surplus. Corn 33% planted, 31% 2004, 40% avg.; 1% poor, 37% fair, 62% good. Sorghum 1% planted, 3% 2003, 2% avg. Cotton 0% planted. 0% 2003, 1% avg. Winter wheat 4% headed, 4% 2003, 11% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 16% fair, 64% good, 1% excellent. Barley 1% headed, 1% 2003, 4% avg.; 28% fair, 62% good, 10% excellent. Pastures 3% poor, 30% fair, 57% good, 10% excellent. Rye 14% headed, 23% 2003, 23% avg.; 2% poor, 17% fair, 77% good, 4% excellent. Oats 12% headed, 7% 2003, 14% avg.; 9% poor, 28% fair, 61% good, 2% excellent. Peaches 42% fair, 25% good, 33% excellent. Snap beans 25% planted, 29% 2003, 31% avg. Cucumbers 30% planted, 37% 2003, 35% avg. Watermelons 35% planted, 17% 2003, 33% avg.; 100% fair. Tomatoes 30% planted, 43% 2003, 38% avg.; 71% fair, 29% good. Cantaloups 25% planted, 28% 2003, 24% avg.; 100% fair. Livestock 1% poor, 22% fair, 66% good, 11% excellent.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 8% very short, 31% short, 59% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 13% very short, 31% short, 55% adequate, 1% surplus. Feed supplies 12% very short, 16% short, 65% adequate, 7% surplus. Stock water supplies 19% very short, 28% short, 53% adequate. Winter wheat breaking dormancy 83%, 16% short, 65% adequate, 7% surplus. Stock water supplies 19% very short, 31% short, 59% adequate, 2% surplus. Wheat 45% jointed, 20% 2004, 46% avg.; 85% top dressed, 97% 2004, 92% avg.; 3% very poor, 7% poor, 28% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Apples 67% budding and beyond, 73% 2004, 70% avg.; 26% blooming, beyond, 41% 2004, 32% avg.; 1% poor, 20% fair, 73% good, 6% excellent. Peaches 84% budding, beyond, 86% 2004, 86% avg.; 61% blooming, beyond, 60% 2004, 58% avg. Pastures 1% very poor, 5% poor, 35% fair, 53% good, 6% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 5% poor, 28% fair, 58% good, 8% excellent. After last week’s wet weather, many farmers are hoping for drier conditions to catch-up on their field activities. Precipitation averaged above normal last week with the exception of the western third, which averaged below normal, while temperatures averaged near normal. Apples, peaches were generally unsathed by the winter weather with no major damage having been reported. Activities Included: Applying fertilizer, herbicides to pasture, hay fields, seed bed preparation. Hay stocks were reported adequate to surplus. Many cattle producers were selling calves to take advantage of favorable prices.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Subsoil 0% very short, 1% short, 86% adequate, 13% surplus. Irrigation water supplies 0% very short, 10% short, 84% adequate, 6% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 13% fair, 51% good, 34% excellent; freeze damage 53% none, 25% light, 18% moderate, 4% severe. Spring wheat 31% planted, 42% 2004, 41% avg.; 0% emerged, 9% 2004, 10% avg. Barley 19% planted, 40% 2004, 37% avg.; 0% emerged, 9% 2004, 9% avg. Oats 22% planted, 19% 2004, 18% avg. Cows calved 68%, 61% 2004, 62% avg. Cattle, calves condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 17% fair, 68% good, 13% reported varying amounts of snowfall resulting from another weather front crossing the state. windy conditions were present in late week, in some areas wind speeds were high enough to cause damage to fields that had been prepared for planting. In areas where conditions were favorable, producers were able to continue planting while other producers were concentrating on land preparation. Pre-plant herbicide applications, fertilization, some weed control measures were active in varied locations. In a few other locations, producers were busy applying insect control products or fungicides to their small grain fields. Pastures continued to improve as temperatures were generally warmer, moderate to high winds helped with the drying out. Supplemental feeding remained necessary, but many producers were feeding only minimal amounts. Moisture stress remained visible in pastures across a few areas and pre-watering, prior to planting was also necessary in a few other locations. Small Grains: Wheat, oats continued to show signs of good growth, development as generally moist soils and drenched areas were active in many locations as soils were finally dry enough to support equipment. Weed control applications, control measures for insect populations, treatment for plant diseases were active in varying locations around the state. Wheat 85% of normal, 65% 2004. Corn: Land preparation was active in a few areas during the week, however high winds in late week made some preparations difficult. Planting in central, southern locations continued. In some locations, wet conditions prevented earlier corn planting, producers are now planting alternate instead. Cotton: Ginning activities continued in a few remaining locations. Land preparation including herbicide applications were active in many areas as weather permitted, however high winds caused delays at varied times during the week. Emergence of earlier planted cotton was mostly acceptable in all reporting areas. Sorghum: Land preparation, planting remained active in southern, central locations, however was stalled at times due to rainy, wet conditions. Emergence of earlier planted sorghum was mostly acceptable. Peanuts: Land preparation was active in many locations across the state during the week. High winds caused field damage in some locations, also prevented applications of pre-plant herbicides. Planting should begin in late month in central, southern areas. Soybeans: Land preparation, planting was active in a few locations during the week as weather conditions permitted, however delays were common. Commercial Vegetables, Fruit, Pecans In the Rio Grande Valley, cabbages harvest remained active in many locations during the week. Harvest of carrots, greens, some onions was also active in a few locations. Growth, development of onions remained excellent. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden, land preparation was active in most areas, however rain showers caused some delays from time to time. Spinach, cabbages harvest was active as weather conditions permitted. Spinach harvest was winding down in some locations. In East State, land preparation was active, however some delays were necessary as some locations received additional rainfall. Planting moved ahead where soils were adequately dry. In the High Plains, land preparation was active during the week as conditions allowed. In the Trans Pecos, land preparation remained active in most locations during the week. Growth, development of spring onions continued. Pecans: Bud break continued to move northward as temperatures, day length improved. Irrigation continued in a few orchards, some producers were applying their first application of zinc. Peaches: Frost was again reported, however no damage was reported. Some orchards experienced light hail, but little damage was reported. Livestock, Range, Pasture Report: Improvement in range, pastures continued across the state. A few southern locations were experiencing relatively dry conditions, pasture improvement was slow. Additional moisture including snow was received in some locations during the week. Sprigging, seeding of grasses remained active in many areas during the week. Fertilization was active in a few locations during the week. Growth, development in alfalfa fields remained satisfactory; however frost damage was noticeable in some locations in the Trans Pecos region. Planting of hay crops was active in many central areas during the week. Supplemental feeding remained necessary across the state, however has been greatly reduced in many locations.

**TEXAS:** Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions were generally unsettled across the state during the week. Threats accompanied by hail, varied amounts of rainfall crossed portions of the state during early to mid week. In mid week some locations in north, north central state
excellent. Sheep condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 18% fair, 73% good, 9% excellent. Range, Pasture 6% very poor, 13% poor, 21% fair, 56% good, 4% excellent. Sheep sheared on farm 37%, 39% 2004, 47% avg.; on range 29%, 26% 2004, 28% avg. Ewes lamb on farm 71%, 64% 2004, 58% avg.; on range 25%, 19% 2004, 24% avg. Apricots full bloom or past 24%, 29% 2004, 63% avg. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 0%, 1% 2004, 1% avg. Tart cherries full bloom or past 0%, 0% 2004, 0% avg. Peaches full bloom or past 20%, 0% 2004, 8% avg. Pears full bloom or past 56%, 72% 2004, 75% avg. Wheat through the state, limited time in the field to an average of 4.2 days last week. Early emergence of onions, blossoming of apricots occurred last week, some with frost damage. Some counties reported weed spraying, early preparations for spring plantings. Irrigation, soil moisture looked good, but insects began to emerge. Statewide reports of wet and muddy conditions limited time, tasks in the field. Box Elder county reported early planted onions had slightly emerged, apricots began blossoming. Box Elder county also reported soil moisture and irrigation water supplies look better than they have in over 6 years. Many counties reported little or no field work due to standing water. Mormon Crickets, Stem Nematodes were reported in Millard county. The crickets were not yet a threat to agricultural land, while the nematodes caused damage to alfalfa fields in the Delta area. Emery, Carbon counties reported spring planting preparations were just getting under way. Livestock were in fair condition as they attempted to dry out amidst continued rain, snow. Producers reported calving, lambing were in full swing, but continued to struggle with wet conditions. Producers in Box Elder county reported shearing of flocks of range sheep.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil 6% very short, 28% short, 56% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 26% very short, 41% short, 32% adequate, 1% surplus. Irrigation water supplies 9% very short, 25% short, 65% adequate, 1% surplus. The highest temperature in the state was 73° in Deer Park, Republic. Winter wheat condition 2% very poor, 2% poor, 37% fair, 50% good, 9% excellent. Spring wheat 64% planted, 21% emerged. Barley 35% planted, 12% emerged. Potatoes 20% planted. Dry peas 17% planted. Processed green peas 15% planted. Rainy conditions prevailed in most areas of the state. More than 16 inches of snow fell on Snoqualmie Pass in the middle of the week. Subsoil moisture was still below the average for some areas. Persistent rainfall restricted field activities for producers, delayed herbicide applications on Christmas trees. However, rainfall significantly helped to improve moisture, precipitation levels; range, pasture, dryland winter wheat conditions. Potato planting continued. Range, pasture feeds 4% very poor, 20% poor, 42% fair, 34% good. Alfalfa ranged from 4 to 8 inches tall in Franklin County. Oyster growers continued harvest, seed setting operations. Livestock producers provided supplemental forage since fields were still too wet. Plums, Asian pears, cherries were blooming. Apple, pear trees were in pre-pink stage. Cranberry growers continued their maintenance work on bogs. Frost protection in tree fruit has been necessary. Cold temperatures during the night in some counties had the wind machines being utilized in orchards. Fields were prepared for fresh pea, vegetable seeding. Asparagus was beginning to emerge, bees were placed in orchards. Cut-flower tulip harvest continued in full swing.