ARIZONA: Temperatures for the State were mostly above normal for the second week of April. Durum wheat 75% headed acreage, Barley 87% headed acreage. Cotton 27% planted acreage. Alfalfa, Range/Pasture feeds remain mostly good. Precipitation was reported at only 1 of the 17 reporting stations. Payson received 0.01 inches of precipitation.

ARIZONA: Data not available

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Topsoil 0% very short, 1% short, 50% adequate, 49% surplus. Com 44% planted, 55% 2004, 51% avg. Winter wheat 8% headed, na 2004, 19% avg.; condition 0% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 69% good, 5% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 2% poor, 18% fair, 66% good, 13% excellent. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 9% fair, 50% good, 39% excellent. Farmers are waiting for fields to dry up enough to complete burndown sprays on cotton crops, winter weeds. Rainy weather hampered fieldwork. The lack of chill hours in the peach crop is more pronounced than indicated earlier.

ARKANSAS: Data not available

CALIFORNIA: Field work picked up in most corn, cotton fields. Many cotton growers resumed planting as soil continued to dry. Some earlier planted fields of corn were beginning to emerge, the stands looked excellent. Oat, wheat, winter forage harvests were underway. Sugar beets were making good growth progress, mature fields were harvested. Sunflower for seed was being planted, in some areas, emerging. Chopping, swathing of alfalfa fields continued, as well as baling of some fields. Grapes continued to develop small fruit clusters, the grape leaf harvest should begin soon. Applications of fungicides were ongoing for fungus, mildew control in grapes. Herbicide applications, plowing, irrigation continued in most vineyards. Tree fruit thinning, weed spraying continued in most tree fruit orchards. Early apricot varieties were developing good sized fruit. Growers applied fertilizer, irrigated in hopes of increasing fruit size in early varieties of tree fruit. Some strawberries were blooming, others were sold at roadside stands in the San Joaquin Valley. Citrus bloom continued with some early blocks starting to show petal fall. Citrus groves were sprayed for worms, pre-emergent applications were made for weeds. Growers also topped, hedged their groves. Navel oranges, tangelos, lemons continued to be harvested. The Valencia harvest gained momentum. MeloGold and OroBlanco variety grapefruit were harvested. Avocado, olive orchards were in the early bloom bud stage. Many almond growers began irrigating their orchards. Blight sprays were applied to almond, walnut orchards. Pistachio pollination continued. As fields dried out, planting and field preparations continued. Cultivation, pre-planting soil fumigation and herbicide applications, weeding, and thinning occurred across the State. Below normal temperatures slowed vegetable development. Strong winds blew off hot caps and plastic bedding materials in several fields in Fresno County. Fresh market, processed tomatoes, watermelon, honeydew, bell peppers were planted. Many Asian vegetables, including gailon, bok choy, and daikon, were planted in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvesting of asparagus, broccoli, spinach, head and romaine lettuce continued. Parsley, squash, zucchini were also reported harvested. Foothill pastures were in good to excellent condition. A few pastures in the central area were beginning to dry. In Central state, a few cattle were beginning to ship to market or to summer pastures, with excellent weight gains reported. Sheep, cattle were in very good condition. Spring lambs were beginning to ship out of-State for further feeding. Ewes with lambs were grazing on foothill pastures, a few older alfalfa fields, on retired farmland. Milk production has increased with the dry, mild weather. Bees have been moved to citrus groves in the central area, some in the northern area were moved into safflower, seed crop fields. Out-of-State beekeepers continued to move hives back to their original homes in other states.

CALIFORNIA: Data not available

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Top soil 1% very short, 19% short, 72% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 15% very short, 33% short, and 47% adequate 5% surplus. Measurable amounts of precipitation were received across the state in the beginning of the week. Denver, surrounding areas reported the most moisture with over an inch in some places. Temperatures were right at average for the week for all of the state. Spring barley 54% seeded, 43% 2004, 48% avg.; 27% emerged, 18% 2004, 15% avg.; condition 7% fair, 71% good, 22% excellent. Spring wheat 47% planted, 38% 2004, 32% avg.; 18% emerged, 11% 2004, 12% avg.; condition 25% fair, 71% good, 4% excellent. Dry onion 79% planted, 82% 2004, 71% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 7% fair, 79% good, 11% excellent. Summer potatoes 20% planted, 29% 2004, 38% avg. Sugarbeets 49% planted, 68% 2004, 46% avg. Cows 80% calved, 80%, 2004, 76% avg. Ewes 77% lambed, 80% 2004, 75% avg.

CORNADO: Data not available

DELWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 86% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil 93% adequate and 7% surplus. Corn 6% planted, 7% 2004, 7% avg. Barley condition 12% fair, 55% good, 33% excellent; 0% headed, 0% 2004, 11% avg. Winter wheat condition 10% fair, 59% good, 31% excellent; 0% headed, 0% 2004, 2% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 3% poor, 27% fair, 67% good, 2% excellent. Strawberries 5% bloomed, 15% 2004, 22% avg. Apples 7% bloomed, 22% 2004, 34% avg. Peaches 35% bloomed,36% 2004, 56% avg. Watermelons 0% planted, 0% 2004, 1% avg. Cucumbers 3% planted, 0% 2004, 1% avg. Snap beans 5% planted, 13% 2004, 10% avg. Sweet corn 15% planted, 7% 2004, 9% avg. Green peas 39% planted, 56% 2004, 57% avg. Potatoes 25% planted, 38% 2004, 42% avg. Tomatoes 2% planted, 0% 2004, 1% avg. Cantaloupes 0% planted, 0% 2004, 1% avg. Hay supplies...
Florida: Topsoil 1% very short, 19% short, 50% adequate, 30% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 19% short, 60% adequate, 26% surplus. Rainfall range: 0.00 in., many Peninsulas some eastern Panhandle localities, to around 4.00 in., far western Panhandle; some central, northern localities received about 1.00 in. Temperature average: normal to 4º below Daytime highs: 70s, 80s. Nighttime lows: most 50s, 60s. Tallahassees: lows in 40s, at least one in 30s. Dry conditions, most of Peninsula, decreased soil moisture supplies, allowed field work to stay on schedule, increased wild fire danger. Wet fields, Gadsden County delayed some corn planting, Washington County: soils dried enough, northern parts, for field preparation, planting to resume; southern areas along Homes Creek remain too wet for any field activities. Lafayette County reported some flooding, Madison County: very cool nights, recent excessive rains delayed some row crop planting, lime, fertilizer spreading. Wakulla County: recent cool temperatures slowed row crop growth; windy weather quickly dried out topsoil. Most Panhandle topsoil, subsoil moisture supplies adequate to surplus; Leon County reported short supplies; very short. Most Pennsyl vania counties reported surplus supplies. Hardee, Okeechobee counties reported surplus supplies. Dade County: soils reportedly very dry; moisture supplies rated very short to short. Broward County: very short to short soil moisture. Dry conditions kept vegetable harvesting on schedule; most southern Peninsula planting completed. Watermelon picking underway, southern Peninsula: very light amount available. Strawberry harvesting nearly done. Other vegetables, non citrus fruit: harvesting snap beans, carrots, cucumbers, peppers, potatoes, radishes, squash, sweet corn, tomatoes. Lighter amounts of eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce also available. Warm weather most of week, citrus areas, cooling towards end of week. Bloom, petal drop relatively complete; small pea size fruit on oranges, grapefruit. New growth showing where growers lost leaves, began fertilization. Cultural practices include fertilizations, herbiciding, applications of insecticides. Early fruits, orange harvesting over, transitioning to late oranges (Valencias), White, colored grapefruit. New growth showing where growers lost leaves, began transplanting gained momentum once the soil dried. Wheat was rated in good to fair condition. Producers sprayed fields to control diseases, insects, and weeds. Onions, peaches appeared in good shape. Snapbean planting neared completion. Watermelons planting continued to lag behind normal. Activities included: Cutting hay, fertilizing pasture, hay fields, the routine care of livestock and poultry.

Idaho: Days suitable for field work 4.7. Topsoil 21% short, 70% adequate, 9% surplus. Spring wheat 23% emerged, 22% 2004, 16% avg. Barley 16% emerged, 13% 2004, 12% avg. Sugarbeets 22% emerged, 23% 2004, 15% avg. Field corn 3% planted, 3% 2004, 1% avg. Oats 42% planted, 48% 2004, 30% avg.; 24% emerged 19% 2004, 8% avg. Onions 81% emerged, 45% 2004, 42% avg. Dry Peas 65% planted, 63% 2004, 26% avg.; 12% emerged, 15% 2004, 4% avg. Lentils 47% planted, 36% 2004, 11% avg. Potatoes 3% planted, 7% 2004, 8% avg. Irrigation water supply 2% very poor, 37% poor, 37% fair, 25% good. Hay, roughage supply 5% short, 95% adequate, 2% surplus. Range, pasture 31% fair, 61% good, 2% excellent. Lambing 95% 2005. Calving 95% 2005. The majority of the states’ winter wheat crop is in good to excellent condition. Spring grains are emerging with the aid of optimal growing conditions. Some areas of the state remain too wet to for any field work. Mormon crickets are beginning to be seen. Some frost damage was reported to the state’s cherry crop. Activities Included: Planting spring grains, potatoes, sugar beets, field corn, dry peas, lentils, spreading manure, heavy tillage.

Illinois: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil 1% very short, 17% short, 76% adequate, 6% surplus. Corn 3% emerged, 2% 2004, 1% avg. Soybeans 1% planted, 1% 2004. Oats 90% planted, 55% 2004, 76% avg. Alfalfas 1% poor, 21% fair, 67% good, 11% excellent. Pasture 2% poor, 25% fair, 64% good, 9% excellent. Above normal temperatures, much needed rainfall was received across the state early last week. Activities Included: Tilling, fertilizing, chemical applications, spring planting, tending livestock, and spring calving.

Indiana: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil 2% very short, 15% short, 69% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 8% short, 81% adequate, 9% surplus. Corn planting around the state gained momentum, especially during the weekend. Corn planting is 3 days ahead of the average pace and about 1 day behind last year’s record pace. Precipitation early in the week temporarily halted field activities in some areas. Warm summer-like temperatures, low humidity, wind were drying out topsoil in many areas. Soils remain wet in some southern regions. A lot of tillage took place during the week. Seeding of oats is virtually complete. Hauling corn, soybeans to market continued. Winter wheat 70% good to excellent compared with 84% 2004. Wheat is greening up, growing around the state. Winter wheat 41% jointed, 43% 2004, 46% avg. Hay supplies 5% short, 80% adequate, 15% surplus. Pastures 1% very poor, 4% poor, 37% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Temperatures averaged 4º above to 9º above normal. Precipitation average 0.00 to 1.16 inches. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Calving continued. Hauling is winding up. Activities: Preparing equipment, applying fertilizer, chemicals, purchasing supplies, FSA certification, hauling manure, applying anhydrous ammonia and taking care of livestock.

Iowa: Days suitable for field work 3.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 6% short, 84% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 13% short, 78% adequate, 8% 2004. New RAINS SLOWED SPRING PLANTING. Agricultural Summary: Rainfall last week hampered spring planting with some areas reporting in excess of 3 inches of rain for the week ending April 18. Corn planted showed only minimal gains over the previous week. The state’s adequate, surplus ratings for top soil moisture showed gains over a week ago to 93%, while very short and short ratings declined to 7% of the state total. Field Crops Report: Oat seedings 87% complete which was slightly ahead of 2004 progress of 86% but above the 5-year average of 66%; 31% emergence, well above 2004 11% and the 5-year average of 15%. Corn 10% planted behind 2004 progress of 16% but slightly ahead of the 5-year average of 5%. Primary seedbed preparations were 65% complete, while fertilizer applications were 82% complete. Both ratings are nearly identical to a year ago. Livestock, Pasture, Range Report: Favorable weather conditions during calving made for a smooth calving season. Pasture, range feeds showed improvement from a week ago with 1% very poor, 4% poor, 19% fair, 62% good, 14% excellent.

Kansas: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 1% very short, 6% short, 88% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 17% short, harvesting remained active. Most leafy crops continued to make good progress.

Georgia: Days suitable for field 4.3. Soil 2% short, 65% adequate, 33% surplus. Corn 5% very poor, 11% poor, 40% fair, 41% good, 3% excellent. Hay 4% poor, 34% fair, 60% good, 2% excellent. Sorghum 14% poor, 26% fair, 57% good, 3% excellent; 11% planted, 6% 2004, 8% avg. Tobacco 1% very poor, 4% poor, 58% fair, 36% good, 1% excellent; 26% transplanted, 66% 2004, 67% avg. Wheat 4% poor, 27% fair, 62% good, 7% excellent; 93% jointing, 97% 2004, 96% avg. 75% boot, 83% 2004, 84% avg. Onions 8% very poor, 8% poor, 28% fair, 34% good, 22% excellent; 0% harvested, 12% 2004, 6% avg. Watermelons 3% very poor, 16% poor, 61% fair, 19% good, 1% excellent; 58% planted, 75% 2004, 73% avg. Apples 75% good, 25% excellent; 52% blooming, 68% 2004, 66% avg. Peaches 15% poor, 2% fair, 80% good, 3% excellent; 90% blooming, 100% 2004, 99% avg. Producers made good process with most fieldwork activities, despite additional rainfall in most areas, according State Agricultural Statistics Service. Temperatures were cooler than normal during the latter part of the week. Some counties reported saturated soils limited planting of spring crops. Field preparations began for cotton, peanuts in south state. Tobacco transplanting gained momentum once the soil dried. Wheat was rated in good to fair condition. Producers sprayed fields to control diseases, insects, and weeds. Onions, peaches appeared in good shape. Snapbean planting neared completion. Watermelons planting continued to lag behind normal. Activities included: Cutting hay, fertilizing pasture, hay fields, the routine care of livestock and poultry.

Hawaii: Favorable weather conditions. Moderate trade winds. Showers occurred mainly over windward, mountain areas. Most crops made fair to good progress with active harvesting. Banana, papaya
80% adequate, 2% surplus. Wheat condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 20% fair, 59% good, 17% excellent; wind damage is 86% none, 11% light, 3% moderate, freeze damage is 89% none, 10% light, 1% moderate. Hay, forage supplies 1% very short, 5% short, 78% adequate, 16% surplus. Feed grain supplies 2% very short, 4% short, 88% adequate, 6% surplus.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 1% short, 72% adequate, 27% surplus. Subsoil 1% short, 75% adequate, 24% surplus. For the week, temperatures averaged 60°, 4° above normal. Rainfall statewide was 0.83 inches, 0.15 inches below normal. Corn acres 20% planted, 55% 2004, 35% avg. Tobacco 85% seeded, 91% 2004, 91% avg. Tobacco 65% emerged, 64% 2004, 65% avg. Average height of alfalfa 8 inches. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 60% good, 23% excellent. Barley condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 5% fair, 79% good, 14% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 30% fair, 47% good, 17% excellent. Tobacco transplants 1% poor, 16% fair, 59% good, 24% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Soil 7% short, 83% adequate, 10% surplus. Corn 1% poor, 25% fair, 74% good; 98% planted, 93% last week, 99% 2004, 94% avg.; 67% emerged, 41% last week, 91% 2004, 76% avg. Hay 1st cutting 2%, 0% last week, 4% 2004, 4% avg. Sorghum 11% emerged, 0% last week, 15% 2004, 5% avg. Soybeans 7% planted, 0% last week, 9% 2004, 5% avg. Spinners 72% plowed, 56% last week, 72% 2004, 78% avg. Sugarcane 1% very poor, 14% poor, 39% fair, 35% good, 11% excellent. Wheat 9% poor, 45% fair, 42% good, 4% excellent; 64% headed, 39% last week, 84% 2004, 76% avg. Livestock 7% poor, 35% fair, 54% good, 4% excellent. Vegetable 12% poor, 57% fair, 28% good, 3% excellent. Range, pasture 2% very poor, 13% poor, 38% fair, 44% good, 3% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil 3% short, 76% adequate, 21% surplus. Subsoil 76% adequate, 24% surplus. Corn 7% planted, 3% 2004, 6% avg. Barley condition 4% poor, 17% fair, 59% good, 20% excellent; 0% headed, 2% 2004, 9% avg. Winter wheat condition 4% poor, 17% fair, 61% good, 18% excellent; 0% headed, 0% 2004, 1% avg. Pasture feed 15% poor, 24% fair, 42% good, 19% excellent. Strawberries 24% bloomed, 20% 2004, 35% avg. Apples 5% bloomed, 10% 2004, 23% avg. Peaches 15% bloomed, 24% 2004, 47% avg. Watermelons 7% planted, 2% 2004, 3% avg. Tomatoes 1% planted, 3% 2004, 3% avg. Snap beans planted, 2% 2004, 3% avg. Sweet corn 9% planted, 10% 2004, 13% avg. Green peas 0% planted, 45% 2004. Potatoes 47% planted, 4% 2004, 39% 2004. Tomatoes 20% planted, 21% 2004, 13% avg. Cantaloupes 5% planted, 8% 2004, 5% avg. Hay supplies 6% very short, 27% short, 65% adequate, 2% surplus. Dry week allowed growers to complete a lot of field work. Soil temperatures still cool. Farmers catching up from wet spring.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 19% very short, 38% short, 40% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 24% short, 61% adequate, 11% surplus. Barley 25% planted, 19% 2004. Oats 53% planted, 52% 2004, 26% avg. Potatoes 10% planted, 9% 2004. Range, Pasture 2% very poor, 16% poor, 36% fair, 38% good, 8% excellent. Farmers across the State received another week of warm, sunny weather, which led to continued drying of fields. Several areas reported needing a bit of moisture. Accumulated precipitation since April 1 was well below average for all districts. For the week, temperatures ranged from 1 to 8° above normal. The dry conditions were conducive to fieldwork, and much tillage was underway across the State. Planting of a variety of crops began or continued in several districts. Sugarbeet planting progressed rapidly with several localities nearing completion. Producers began planting corn in several southern districts. The favorable field conditions pushed oat planting to well above the 5-year average. Growers continued spreading fertilizer on wheat. The warm weather pushed fruit trees along. Budding of trees progressed rapidly, with several species near bloom or blooming across the State. Potato planting began in several areas. Dry, windy conditions delayed planting of some vegetable crops in the west central. Dry conditions also delayed the start of asparagus harvest. Some early cabbage and sweet corn was planted in the southeast.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.7. Topsoil 2% very short, 3% short, 71% adequate, 24% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 9% short, 71% adequate, 19% surplus. Corn 3% ground prepared, 18% 2004. Topsoil 7% short, 82% adequate, 10% surplus. Soybeans 1% ground prepared, 7% 2004, 3% avg. Approximate date full-scale fieldwork expected to begin is April 23, 2005. Recent rains across most areas of the state have delayed the beginning of fieldwork. Some producers were able to beat the rain, start small grain seeding, fertilizer applications. In the Red River Valley, the major wheat, barley production region of the state, planting has yet to begin. Producers in the far northern counties are still waiting for frost to leave the ground, with the start of major field work a week or more away. Compared with the dry start of the 2004 crop season, soil moisture supplies this spring are more favorable.
NEW ENGLAND:  Warm temperatures, sun prevailed throughout the week in the state. The warm temperatures, sun, helped dry the soil in the fields, allowing some farmers to work the fields in southern state. In Northern Aroostook County, a flood watch for ice jamming remained in effect. Majority of maple sugar producers have completed tapping, since temperatures were above normal. Activities included: Nursery/greenhouse work, tending livestock, spring calving, lambing, performing general maintenance, continuing to make preparations for the spring planting season.

NEW JERSEY:  Days suitable for field work 6.6. Topsoil 20% very short, 65% adequate, 15% surplus. Irrigation water supply 85% adequate, 15% surplus. There was no measurable amount of rainfall during the week across most of the state. Temperatures were below normal in most areas of the state for much of the week. Agricultural producers continued field preparation for spring crops as fields dried out, along with some irrigation in localities where the surface soil had dried out. Activities Included: Equipment repair, fertilizing, tending greenhouses, laying plastic mulch, transplanting greenhouse crops. Vegetable, potato planting continued, there was some harvest of cilantro, parsley. Pruning, spraying of fruit trees continued, growers thinned blossoms. Small grains, hay crops were rated in mostly fair condition. Development of hay crop, pasture was running late due to recent wet, cool conditions. There was a report from the central district of some freeze injury, goose damage to small grain crops, but little winter damage of fruit buds or foliage. Peach trees started to bloom in southern localities, but apple trees were not quite in bloom. Strawberry plants began to display late bloom in the southern district. New activities included: Spring pruning of fruit trees, planting new trees, tending livestock, mending damaged fencing and machinery maintenance.

NEW MEXICO:  Days suitable for field work 6.5. Topsoil 2% very short, 30% short, 65% adequate, 3% surplus. Hit, miss showers and thunderstorms developed over the state, mainly toward the end of the week. Some of the storms produced weak tomsados, damaging winds, hail, especially Saturday and Sunday. Greatest precipitation amounts included .81 inches at Carrizozo, .76 inches at Roy and Las Vegas. Temperatures for the week were generally normal to slightly below normal in the east, a little above normal in the west. Wind damage 14% light, 15% moderate, 2% severe. Freeze damage 3% light, 9% moderate, 1% severe. Farmers were striving with land objects, cotton, irrigating. Alfalfa conditions 1% poor, 35% fair, 43% good, 21% excellent with the first cutting at 51%. Cotton progress 28% planted, Corn 12% planted. Wheat condition 22% fair, 77% good, 1% excellent with 13% being grazed. Lettuce condition 5% fair, 43% good, 52% excellent. Chile condition 51% fair, 41% good, 8% excellent; 77% planted. Onion condition 13% fair, 62% good, 25% excellent. Cattle conditions 1% very poor, 2% poor, 29% fair, 52% good, and 16% excellent. Sheep 3% very poor, 4% poor, 44% fair, 40% good, 9% excellent. Range, pasture feeds 2% very poor, 14% poor, 45% fair, 38% good, 1% excellent. Ranchers were busy maintaining herds and water.

NEW YORK:  Mild spring temperatures enabled many producers across the state to continue spring plowing, early vegetable planting. The low was 21° at Elmira and the high was 73° at Poughkeepsie. Temperatures for the week averaged near normal with large diurnal ranges most days. The week started mild on Sunday, ended mild on Saturday with cool days during the mid week period. For the first time in many weeks dry weather prevailed across the entire state with no rain reported. As a result of the dry weather, some windy days during the mid week period, soil moisture decreased rapidly especially in the top layers. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, apples were beginning to show a little bit of green. Maple producers across the state were cleaning, storing equipment. Activities Included: Spring pruning of fruit trees, planting new trees, tending livestock, mending damaged fencing and machinery maintenance.

NORTH CAROLINA:  Days suitable for field work 3.6. Soil 1% short, 60% adequate, 39% surplus. Activities Included: Planting corn, cabbage, Irish potatoes, preparing for tobacco transplanting, spring soil preparation, general farm maintenance. Rainy conditions with below normal temperatures dominated the week along with scattered frost Saturday and Sunday morning. Temperatures ranged from 1 to 10° below normal. The rain once again delayed field work in some areas.

NORTH DAKOTA:  Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 7% very short, 21% short, 67% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 11% very short, 24% short, 60% adequate, 5% surplus. Welcomed rains came across most of the state last week. Producers in the north central, northeast districts continued to wait for soils to warm up, dry out before planting begins. Durum wheat 6% planted, 7% 2004, 2% average. Canola 4% planted, 4% 2004, 1% average. Hay, forage supplies 2% very short, 16% short, 77% adequate, 5% surplus. Grain, concentrate supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 85% adequate, 8% surplus. Calving 76% complete, lambing 86% complete, shearing 92% complete. Pastures, ranges 45% still dormant, 55% growing. Pasture, range feeds 9% very poor, 20% poor, 42% fair, 28% good, 1% excellent.

OHIO:  Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 0% very short, 5% short, 84% adequate, 11% surplus. Corn 9% planted, 3% 2004, 3% avg. Winter wheat 21% jointed, 20% 2004, 24% avg. Oats 48% planted, 28% 2004, 36% avg.; 3% emerged, 3% 2004, 13% avg. Potatoes 26% planted, 14% 2004, 10% avg. Apples in green tip, beyond 63%, 62% 2004, 65% avg.; 3% blooming, 3% 2004, 11% avg. Peaches in green tip, beyond 64%, 49% 2004, 62% avg.; 12% blooming, 5% 2004, 25% avg. Apple conditions 1% very poor, 1% poor, 20% fair, 66% good, 12% excellent. Hay conditions 1% very poor, 4% poor, 28% fair, 57% good, 10% excellent. Livestock conditions 1% very poor, 2% poor, 15% fair, 66% good, 16% excellent. Pasture feeds 2% very poor, 7% poor, 27% fair, 54% good, 10% excellent. Peach conditions 9% very poor, 3% short, 19% fair, 57% good, 12% excellent. Winter wheat conditions 1% very poor, 4% poor, 19% fair, 55% good, 21% excellent. Warmer temperatures, dry conditions followed by cool conditions. Spring field work activities: corn planting, tillage, spraying, fertilizer and manure spreading. Activities Included: Top-dressing winter wheat, sowings oats, cleaning up fields and roads.

OKLAHOMA:  Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil 16% very short, 41% short, 42% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 7% very short, 25% short, 66% adequate, 2% surplus. Wheat 92% jointing, 85% last week, 96% 2004, 85% average. Oats 1% very poor, 15% poor, 48% fair, 35% good, 1% excellent; 42% jointing, 29% last week, 61% 2004, 52% average. Rye 2% very poor, 12% poor, 32% fair, 50% good, 4% excellent; 94% jointing, 93% last week, 95% 2004, N/A average. Corn 87% seedbed prepared, 75% last week, 85% 2004, 80% avg.; 37% planted, 28% last week, 39% 2004, 35% average. Sorghum 41% seedbed prepared, 26% last week, 34% 2004, 38% average. Soybeans 47% seedbed prepared, 40% last week, 53% 2004, 52% average. Peanuts 61% seedbed prepared, 49% last week, 56% 2004, 58% average. Cotton 67% seedbed prepared, 57% last week, 79% 2004, 74% average. Alfalfa hay 1% very poor, 5% poor, 31% fair, 54% good, 9% excellent. Pasture, range 2% very poor, 10% poor, 34% fair, 46% good, 8% excellent. Livestock insect activities remained none to light although cattle in some areas were starting to appear to be heavily infested with external insects. Livestock markets continue to be average. Feeder steers under 800 pounds averaged $116.04 per cwt and feeder heifers less than 800 pounds averaged $107.79 per cwt.

OREGON:  Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil 8% very short, 23% short, 66% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 18% very short, 32% short, 49% adequate, 1% surplus. Spring wheat 85% planted, 83% previous week, 84% 2004; 58% avg.; 53% emerged, 35% previous week, 54% 2004, 54% avg.; condition 17% poor, 51% fair, 28% good, 4% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 67% good, 4% excellent. Barley 81% planted, 80% previous week, 74% 2004, 77% avg.; 53% emerged, 44% previous week, 44% 2004, 45% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 48% fair, 42% good, 6% excellent. Range, pasture 4% very poor, 10% poor, 37% fair, 46% good, 3% excellent. Nearly all weather stations reported temperatures below normal, precipitation above
normal. Parkdale showed largest departure with 8° below normal, followed by Christmas Valley. Northeast State stayed closest to average temperatures. Ontario recorded highest temperature last week at 77 °. Christmas Valley recorded lowest temperature at 16 °. All weather stations reported precipitation last week ranging from trace amounts in Rome to 5.45 inches in Astoria. Seven stations located along coast, Willamette Valley reported precipitation all seven days last week. Burns was only station to report 100% of normal precipitation, all other stations remain below normal. Spring field work continuing as wind was present during the midweek. Western state fields remained too wet. Wind delayed eastern state spraying. Recent rains improved topsoil moisture, greatly benefited winter wheat, hay. Cool temperatures continued to slow crop growth, development. Producers planted corn, potatoes. Most spring grains planted. Alfalfa started showing more growth with irrigation starting. Clackamas County early vegetables struggling to grow. Jackson County early varieties off pace due to cool, rainy weather. Only orchard spraying done in Josephine County last week was Thursday. Growers continue to struggle to find weather suitable for applying fungicides. Cool weather continued to slow plant development back to historical averages. Some Jackson County apples still in bloom, but just about done. Pears finished with bloom. Some orchard spraying done, with frequent showers. Vineyards starting to show growth. Josephine County orchards doing some frost protection as all trees in bloom. Fruit trees, blueberries continued to bloom. Bees worked over the flowers. Weather remained cool in Wasco County. little pollination took place. Late cherry varieties near full bloom. Bee activity for pollinating later cherry areas slow due to cool, windy weather. Bing, other mid-flowering varieties at petal-fall. Weather was cool, or windy during entire bloom period of these mid-flowering varieties. Still too early to assess fruit set. New plantings of planted cherry varieties continued. Nurseries continued to ship new nurseries out of shipment. Containers being rotated, new plants going into ground. Greenhouses busy supplying retail outlets with spring plants. Cooler weather, rain slowed down home gardeners; retail sales slow. Christmas tree growers finishing up planting new Christmas trees. Some pastures started to provide adequate forage; supplemental feed provided where necessary. Western State pastures continued soggy in low-land areas. Cool temperatures, very dry fall, winter slowed pasture, rangeland growth across entire state, except east area prone to fire danger. Spring weather is short spring growing period, poor pasture conditions into summer. Livestock water supplies also continued to run low in many areas. Livestock in good condition with calving, lambing winding down.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 4.8. Soil 3% short, 71% adequate, 26% surplus. Corn 69% percent, 80% 2004, 77% avg.; 47% emerged, 53% 2004, 47% avg.; 1% poor, 28% very fair, 69% good, 2% excellent. Sorghum 17% percent, 19% 2004, 17% avg. Cotton 3% planted. 5% 2004, 5% avg. Tobacco 40% planted, 44% 2004, 41% avg.; 8% poor, 22% very fair, 69% good, 1% excellent. Soybeans 3% percent, 5% 2004, 4% avg. 4% premium, 48% 2004, 48% avg.; 1% turning color, 3% 2004, 2% avg.; 3% poor, 19% fair, 67% good, 11% excellent. Barley 30% percent, 26% 2004, 33% avg.; 1% turning color, 1% 2004, 4% avg.; 31% fair, 41% good, 28% excellent. Pastures 1% poor, 25% fair, 62% good, 12% excellent. Rye 55% percent, 56% 2004, 59% avg., 4% turning color, 4% 2004, 5% avg.; 19% fair, 78% good, 3% excellent. Oats 39% percent, 47% 2004, 53% avg.; 3% turning color, 4% 2004, 5% avg.; 2% poor, 22% fair, 70% good, 6% excellent. Peaches 7% fair, 71% good, 22% excellent. Snap beans 53% percent, 62% 2004, 60% avg.; 22% fair, 69% good, 9% excellent. Cucumbers 66% percent, 74% 2004, 77% avg.; 25% fair, 75% good. Watermelons 62% percent, 73% 2004, 76% avg.; 6% poor, 73% fair, 21% good. Tomatoes 68% percent, 88% 2004, 83% avg.; 57% fair, 43% good. Cantaloupes 53% percent, 68% 2004, 65% avg.; 10% poor, 88% fair, 2% good. Livestock 20% fair, 69% good, 11% excellent. Peanuts 2% percent, 3% 2004, 4% avg.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 7% very short, 17% short, 73% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 12% very short, 22% short, 84% adequate, 2% surplus. Feed supplies 10% very short, 17% short, 68% adequate, 5% surplus. Stock water supplies 22% very short, 21% short, 56% adequate, 1% surplus. Barley 7% emerged, 9% 2004, 3% avg.; Oats 11% emerged, 14% 2004, 6% avg. Spring wheat 16% emerged, 15% 2004, 7% avg. Cattle condition 1% poor, 17% fair, 66% good, 16% excellent. Sheep condition 4% poor, 15% fair, 62% good, 19% excellent. Range, Pasture 19% very poor, 14% poor, 32% fair, 32% good, 3% excellent. Calving 68% complete, 69% 2004. Lambing 73% complete, 70% 2004. Cattle moved to pasture 14% complete. Calf deaths 39% below avg.; 59% avg.; 2% above avg. Sheep, lamb deaths 41% below avg.; 58% avg.; 1% above avg. Rainy weather was welcomed by producers across the state, boosting soil moisture levels and also improving range, pasture feeds. Activities Included: Machinery repair, maintenance, spring tilling, seeding small grains, hauling grain, fertilizing, fixing fence, hauling manure, tending to livestock, and preparing for planting of row crops.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 3. Topsoil 1% short, 68% adequate, 31% surplus. Subsoil 76% adequate, 24% surplus. Wheat 84% jointed, 82% 2004, 85% avg.; 5% headed, 11% 2004, 9% avg.; 95% top dressed, 100% 2004, 100% avg.; 1% very poor, 11% poor, 26% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Apples 87% budding, beyond, 86% 2004, 91% avg.; 58% blooming, beyond, 68% 2004, 71% avg. Peaches 95% budding, beyond, 96% 2004, 99% avg.; 81% blooming, beyond, 88% 2004, 87% avg. Pastures 4% poor, 26% fair, 57% good, 13% excellent. Some winter wheat producers are applying fungicide applications, as flag leaf is emerging. As of this time, there have been no serious insect or disease problems. Strawberries are beginning to bloom. Some livestock producers are beginning to greatly reduce hay feeding, as pastures are now providing adequate forage. Pastures, winter wheat conditions continue to improve with sunshine, warmer temperatures. Activities Included: Fertilizing hay fields, repairing equipment, cotton, soybean land preparation. Temperatures averaged 1 to 4° above normal across the State last week, while rainfall averaged well above normal in the west and below normal across the rest of the State.

TEXAS: Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions were generally more stable most of the week. A few areas received additional moisture during early week, however these were mostly minimal amounts, farming operations were only on hold for a short time. Sunshine, warmer temperatures along with concentrated early spring fronts were present most of the week. Snowfall in the majority of the week. Late week saw a return to unstable conditions across most regions of the state. Most areas of the Plains experienced a round of severe weather with widespread hail, some localized flooding. During the majority of the week, land preparation moved ahead in all areas along with fertilization and pre-plant herbicide applications. Weed treatments were also active in various locations, depending on wind speeds in the area. Pre-watering was active in many locations as planting will begin soon. Pressure green-up, ongoing in all areas, however moisture is needed in most areas as sustained winds have dried out surface profiles, stress was apparent in many locations. Supplemental feeding remained necessary in a few areas, however decline continued as spring grasses continued to emerge. A few areas remained relatively dry, moisture stress was slowing development of pastures and earlier planted crops. Small Grains: Wheat, oats continued to show signs of growth, development, however moisture surface profiles have slowed flush progress. Weed control, fungicide, insect control treatments were active in many locations when conditions allowed. Rust, insect pressure was severe in some locations and many producers continued to bail instead of waiting for thrashing. Wheat condition 75% normal, compared with 65% 2004. Corn: Land preparation remained active in many areas, however some soils were in need of further drying while others were extremely dry due to high winds. Planting activity remained strong, mostly in most acceptable. Soil insect problems were noted in a few locations. Corn condition 86% normal, compared with 85% 2004. Cotton: Land preparation including herbicide
Applications remained active in many areas as weather permitted. Planting moved ahead in areas where soil temperatures were acceptable. Emergence of earlier planted cotton was mostly acceptable, although some hail, wind damage was reported. Peanuts: Land preparation was active in many locations across the state, with winds moving to some degree and drought in some areas around the state. Several producers have received contracts, planting will begin soon. Soybeans: Land preparation and planting was active in some locations during the week, however weather conditions caused minor delays from time to time in a few areas. Commercial Vegetables, Fruit, Pecans in the Rio Grande Valley, harvest of greens, cabbage, carrots, onions, some citrus continued. Rain was needed in some locations as later planted crops were showing signs of moisture stress. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden, land preparation was active in most areas. Rainfall was needed in some locations. Spinach, cabbage harvest was active throughout the week. In East State, land preparation was active, however heavy rainfall in a few areas slowed progress, drying out will be necessary before farming can continue. Planting moved ahead in dry areas, preparations for sweet potato planting remained active. In the High Plains, land preparation was active during the week as conditions allowed. High winds moved in some areas to peak in early to mid-week and delayed activities late in the week. In the Trans Pecos, land preparation remained active in most locations during the week. Growth, development of spring onions continued. Cotton planting continued, bailing alfalfa was active in a few locations. Pecans: Bud break continued as conditions improved across the state. Irrigation continued in a few orchards, zucchini applications were active in some locations. Pecan nut casebearer traps were placed for monitoring in some southern, central areas. Peaches: Most pruning has been completed, producers are waiting to see if lack of chill hours will impact their production later in the season. Livestock, Range, pasture report: Improvement in range, pastures continued, however soil surface moisture was short in many areas, continued improvement was slow. Sprigging, seeding of grasses remained active in many areas during the week. Fertilization was active in a few locations during the week as conditions allowed. Alfalfa development in some fields remained satisfactory, baling the first cutting was active. Planting of hay crops continued as conditions allowed, baling early planted fields occurred in a few locations. Supplemental feeding remained necessary in some areas.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for field work 6. Subsoil 0% very short, 2% short, 83% adequate, 15% surplus. Irrigation water supplies 0% very short, 15% short, 76% adequate, 9% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 54% good, 24% excellent. Spring wheat 50% planted, 78% 2004, 73% avg; 6% emerged, 35% 2004, 40% avg. Barley 42% planted, 78% 2004, 69% avg; 6% emerged, 28% 2004, 35% avg. Oats 38% planted, 48% 2004, 44% avg; 3% emerged, 12% 2004, 33% avg. Corn 0% planted, 2% 2004, 3% avg. Alfalfa height 3%, 6% 2004, 3% avg. Cows calved 86%, 82% 2004, 81% avg. Cattle, calves condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 12% fair, 68% good, 20% excellent. Sheep condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 13% fair, 78% good, 9% excellent. Range, pasture 1% very poor, 8% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, 8% excellent. Sheep sheared on farm 69%, 68% 2004, 75% avg. Sheep sheared on range 44%, 51% 2004, 58% avg. Ewes lamb on farm 85%, 90% 2004, 80% avg. Ewes lambed on range 43%, 46% 2004, 49% avg. Apples full bloom or past 57%, 82% 2004, 30% avg. Apricots full bloom or past 82%, 95% 2004, 98% avg. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 51%, 84% 2004, 68% avg. Tart cherries full bloom or past 56%, 88% 2004, 64% avg. Peaches full bloom or past 89%, 80% 2004, 73% avg. Pears full bloom or past 92%, 99% 2004, 58% avg. Farmers increased their field activities last week with an average time in the field to 6.1 hours. As the state began to dry out, most counties reported applying fertilizer, herbicide, as well as started spring tillage operations. Farmers reported optimism for the upcoming growing season as snow runoff began with warmer temperatures. Warmer and drier conditions allowed farmers increased time, activity in the field. Farmers prepared fields for corn planting, many counties reported alfalfa crops started to break dormancy. Alfalfa plantings were expected to be greatly increased due to water expectations this spring. Producers, statewide reported field operations that included preparing seed beds, planting, applying fertilizer and herbicides. There was some concern about damage to fruit crops as we moved from cold wet weather to warm dry weather so quickly. Livestock were in good condition, were reportedly enjoying the sunshine and drier weather. Warmer weather, wind pastures helped to dry out corrals, reduce stress on all livestock. No serious problems were reported as calving and lambing continued.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for field work was 4.1. Topsoil 2% very short, 22% short, 60% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil 22% very short, 39% short, 37% adequate, 2% surplus. Irrigation water supplies 11% very poor, 14% short, 74% adequate, 1% surplus. Highest temperature in the state was 71°F in Walla Walla County. The lowest temperature in the state was 20°F in Yakima. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 62% good, 13% excellent. Spring Wheat condition 22% fair, 78% good. Spring wheat 89% planted, 45% emerged. Barley condition 57% fair, 43% good, 58% planted, 27% emerged. Potatoes 63% planted, 9% emerged. Corn 9% planted. Dry peas e 29% planted. Dry edible beans 11% planted. Processing green peas 61% planted. Rain continued throughout most of the state. Unseasonably cool, wet weather limited agricultural activities in most areas. There were reports of wind, thunderstorms, hail, snow around the state. Winter wheat, bluegrass producers were spraying fields. Pulses were being seeded. Alfalfa growth was slowed due to cool weather conditions. Christmas tree growers continued fertilizing trees, applying herbicides. Range, pasture feeds 5% very poor, 22% poor, 26% fair, 46% good, 1% excellent. Soggy pastures caused livestock in Western State to remain confined. Producers also reported delayed forage harvest due to super saturated soils, standing water in fields. On the other end of the spectrum, some Eastern State cattle producers were very concerned about pasture loss due to drought conditions. Oyster harvesting, seed planting operations continued. Frost protection for tree fruit was needed on several days. Several counties reported some scattered frost damage, but most tree fruit continued with adequate to good flower growth. Asparagus was emerged and harvesting began.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for field work 6.0. Topsoil 1% very short, 17% short, 72% adequate, 10% surplus compared with 2004 3% short, 63% adequate, 34% surplus. Intended acreage prepared for spring 47% planting, 45% 2004, 48% 5-yr avg. Feed grain supplies 4% short, 95% adequate, 1% short compared to 2% very short, 5% short, 89% adequate and4% surplus 2004. Hay, roughage supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 78% adequate, 15% surplus compared with 2% very short, 11% short, 8% adequate, 6% surplus in 2004. Tobacco beds seeded 100%, 89% 2004, 93% 5-yr avg. Tobacco beds 24% emerged, 29% 2004, 47% 5-yr avg. Apples 56% fair, 37% good, 7% excellent. Peaches 60% fair, 33% good, 7% excellent. Hay 1% poor, 50% fair, 44% good, 5% excellent. Winter Wheat condition 31% fair, 69% good. Corn 8% planted, 4% 2004, 5% 5-yr avg. Oats 39% planted, 14% 2004, 41% 5-yr avg.; 6% emerged, 4% 2004, 14% 5-yr avg. Cattle, calves condition 1% poor, 17% fair, 75% good, 7% excellent. Calving 85% complete, 89% 2004, 87% 5-yr avg. Sheep, lambs 1% poor, 10% fair, 83% good, 6% excellent. Lambing 85% complete, 90% 2004, 89% 5-yr avg. Activities included: Preparing fields for planting, applying fertilizer, and planting.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil 2% very short, 18% short, 73% adequate, 7% surplus. Warm Weather Continues. Warm, mild weather continued throughout the week, creating good conditions for spring fieldwork. Temperatures were 4 to 11°F higher than normal for this time of year. Low temperatures were reported in the 30s, while high temperatures reached the 80s during the week. While much of the state
is experiencing adequate levels of soil moisture, precipitation is below normal for this time of year. Precipitation since March 1 is 0.79 to 2.98 inches below normal amounts. Rainfall during the past week ranged from 0.22 to 0.73 inches, with the southeast area receiving no rain. Producers have been busy with fieldwork during the week. Spring tillage 22% complete, behind 2004 average of 24%, but above the 5-year average of 17%. Oats 31% planted complete, below 2004 average of 37%, but above the 5-year average of 24%. Pasture feeds 4% very poor, 10% poor, 37% fair, 45% good, 4% excellent. Winter wheat conditions 5% very poor, 16% poor, 43% fair, 33% good, 3% excellent. Winterkill in alfalfa, winter wheat was reported in many areas of the state. Areas that had standing water, ice during the winter seem to be the hardest hit. Producers in the eastern, southern parts of the state are reporting more extensive damage to fields. There have been a few reports of corn being planted in the southern half of the state. The majority of the maple syrup has been harvested. Producers in the northern half of the state are reporting that the season was short with low yields. Good yields were reported in the southwest, eastern areas of the state. Potatoes are being planted in the central area of the state.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for field work 5.8. Barley 68% planted, 74% 2004, 62% 5-yr avg.; 15% emerged, 2004 31%, 19% 5-yr avg.Oats 34% planted, 44% 2004, 24% 5-yr avg.; 7% emerged, 6% 2004, 2% 5-yr avg. Spring wheat 21% planted, 51% 2004, 29% 5-yr avg.; 4% emerged, 7% 2004, 29% 5-yr avg Calves born 76%, 77% 2004, 78% 5-yr avg. Farm flock ewes lambed 83%, 80% 2004, 80% 5-yr avg. Farm flock sheep shorn 85%, 82% 2004, 80% 5-yr avg. For the week ending Friday, April 15, temperatures were averaged near normal. Temperatures ranged from 2.6° below normal in Afton to 3.6° above normal in Redbird. The low temperature for the week was recorded in Jackson at 14°, and the high temperature was 82 at Newcastle. Precipitation was below normal almost everywhere. The most precipitation fell in Worland with 0.56 inches, Wheatland with 0.52 inches, Sundance with 0.50 inches. Nearly all stations continue to be below normal for the year.