ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork was 6.1. Topsoil 21% very short, 36% short, 42% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 85% planted, 65% 2005, 65% avg.; 52% emerged, 29% 2005, 28% avg. Soybeans 18% planted, 3% 2005, 2% avg. Winter wheat condition 4% very poor, 12% poor, 17% fair, 65% good, 2% excellent. Pasture condition 7% very poor, 23% poor, 39% fair, 28% good, 3% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 8% poor, 34% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Alabama was dry at the beginning of the week but some locations received rain showers mid week which has helped with soil moisture. Planting of crops have slowed due to the limited moisture supplies. Peach crop conditions in central Alabama are still being assessed from hail that occurred mid-week. Reports of damage range from none to heavy. Full extent and amount of acreage affected is not known at this time.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures for the State were mostly above normal for the week ending April 23. No precipitation was reported at any of the 22 reporting stations. All of the reporting stations are at below normal precipitation for the year to date. Alfalfa condition remains mostly fair to good. Range and pasture conditions are very poor to poor.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork was 6.0. Soil 6% very short, 39% short, 50% adequate, 5% surplus. Corn 96% planted, 91% previous week, 83% previous year, 86% 5-yr avg.; 84% emerged, 61% previous week, 54% previous year, 58% 5-year average. Soybeans 24% planted, 14% previous week, 15% previous year, 13% 5-year average. Sorghum 59% planted, 40% previous week, 46% previous year, 50% 5-yr avg.; 32% planted, n/a 5% previous year, 17% previous year, 10% 5-year average. Cotton 28% planted, 8% previous week, 6% previous year, 7% 5-year average. Rice: 78% planted, 46% previous week, 46% previous year, 56% 5-yr avg.; 29% emerged, 6% previous week, 10% previous year, 17% 5-year average. Winter wheat 81% headed, 43% previous week, 45% previous year, 45% 5-year average. Corn 0% very poor, 1% poor, 34% fair, 51% good, 14% excellent. Hay-alfalfa 0% very poor, 0% poor, 60% fair, 40% good, 0% excellent. Hay-other 0% very poor, 9% poor, 59% fair, 31% good, 1% excellent. Pasture, range 4% very poor, 21% poor, 45% fair, 28% good, 2% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Corn planting was nearly complete. There were reports of corn being replanted in Clay county. The crop was in fair to mostly good condition with 84% reported emerged. Soybean planting remained ahead of normal with almost one-forth of the crop planted. Sorghum planting was 59% complete with nearly one-third of the crop emerged. Cotton planting was 28% complete. Rice planting was 78% complete with crop emergence at 29%. Despite recent rains, rice farmers were still flushing rice fields. Winter wheat heading was still well ahead of the normal rate with 81% of the crop headed. Livestock were still in mostly good condition. Baling hay, fertilizing pastures, working cattle were some of the activities of cattlemen last week. Hay crops, pastures remained in mostly fair to good condition.

CALIFORNIA: Grain fields continued to head out. Some rust was reported in winter wheat and barley fields in the Central Valley. The first cutting of alfalfa hay was finally underway in the Central Valley, after a delay due to wet conditions. Cotton planting began, where field conditions allowed. Rice fields were being prepared for planting. Most corn growers were waiting for drier conditions to plant. Sugar beet fields were progressing well in the San Joaquin Valley, and new fields were being prepared and planted. Field work was underway as weather conditions allowed, including thinning of stone fruits, applying fungicides and herbicides in tree fruit orchards, and girdling plum trees to increase fruit size. The plum bloom for dried plums was winding down, apples were in full bloom, and pomegranates continued to leaf out. Some cherry orchards continued to bloom in the San Joaquin Valley, while other orchards were nearly ready for harvest. Many growers were expecting a light cherry crop this season due to rains and wind during the pollination period. Grape vines were also leafing out, with shoots reaching six inches in length. Some growers were mowing cover crops in vineyards since the wet weather continued to enhance growth. Sulfur was applied to the vines for mildew control. Strawberries were in full bloom in the San Joaquin Valley, and some growers were beginning to harvest. In some locations, strawberry fruit and bloom were seriously affected by the recent soaking rains. The harvesting of all citrus once again resumed after being slowed due to wet soil and rainy conditions. Navel and Valencia oranges and lemons were harvested. The quality of Navels and pack outs continued to decline as rain caused more wind damage. Valencia harvest was picking up as maturity increased. Lemon prices were strong, fueling increased harvesting. Citrus growers were applying nutrient foliar sprays as citrus trees began blooming.Nut formation in almond orchards continued. Field work included fungicide applications, mowing, and weed control. Walnut trees were pruned, brush was shredded, and herbicide applications were made for weed control. Many walnut blocks were leafing out and showing catkins. Pistachio trees were in the early bloom stage. Growers were several weeks behind schedule as a result of the inclement weather earlier this spring. The planting of fresh market and processing tomatoes continued. Field planting of mixed summer vegetables continued as weather permitted. The warmer weather caused onion transplants to grow rapidly and some fields were treated with fungicides. Cucumber and eggplant were growing slower than normal. Spring broccoli harvest was complete in some areas. Harvesting continued for asparagus, broccoli, spinach, spring lettuce, and zucchini squash. The harvest of cool season Asian vegetables such as Asian celery, basil, ok choy, curly mustard greens, daikon, gai choy, napa cabbage, sugar and snow pea leaf continued. Sunny and warmer temperatures most of the period boosted grass growth on foothills in central and northern California. Foothill pastures were in very good to excellent condition. Nutrient value of grass was improving which was positive for cattle weight gains. Supplemental feeding was unnecessary in most areas with the improved weather. Spring calving of beef cows was winding down. Mild temperatures and sunny weather were positive for milk production. Muddy conditions at dairies without free stall barns, however, were not favorable for milk production. In central California, ewes and lambs were grazing on foothill pastures. New crop lamb movement has been delayed in some areas due to ample grass and poor market conditions. More new crop lamb producers were considering retaining ownership of lambs to feedlots out-of-state rather than accept sharply lower bids. Beehives have been removed from orchards in central California. Bees were in dried plum orchards in the Sacramento Valley.

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Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin
State Stories

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COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Top soil 15% very short, 38% short, 47% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil 16% very short, 49% short, 35% adequate, 0% surplus. Temperatures in Colorado remained well above average across the state last week with some areas 2 to 7° above normal. Moisture was scarce across the State with most areas receiving little, if any, measurable precipitation. Spring wheat 32% seeded, 55% 2005, 45% avg.; 15% emerged, 21% 2005, 15% avg. Spring barley 56% seeded, 64% 2005, 62% avg.; 22% emerged, 51% 2005, 21% avg. Many districts in the northern High Plains reported as dry. Dry onions 84% planted, 85% 2005, 81% avg. Winter wheat 44% jointed, 43% 2005, 32% avg.; condition 6% very poor, 16% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, 6% excellent. Summer potato 34% planted, 23% 2005, 43% avg. Sugar beets 49% planted, 60% 2005, 59% avg. Cows calved 82% 2006, 83% 2005, 80% avg. Ewes lambed 85% 2006, 85% 2005, 82% avg.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 41% short, 55% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 17% very short, 27% short, 53% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn 21% planted, 10% 2005, 13% avg. Barley condition 12% very poor, 11% poor, 36% fair, 34% good, 7% excellent; 35% headed, 26% 2005, 24% avg. Winter wheat condition 11% very poor, 10% poor, 30% fair, 43% good, 6% excellent; 15% headed, 3% 2005, 3% avg. Pasture condition 12% very poor, 10% poor, 43% fair, 32% good, 3% excellent. Strawberries 39 bloom%ed, 10% 2005, 24% avg. Apples 67% bloomed, 33% 2005, 50% avg. Peaches 93% bloomed, 85% 2005, 70% avg. Watermelons 5% planted, 1% 2005, 3% avg. Snap beans 11% planted, 12% 2005, 13% avg. Sweet corn 18% planted, 20% 2005, 16% avg. Green peas 82% planted, 61% 2005, 69% avg. Potatoes 94% planted, 47% 2005, 54% avg. Hay supplies 18% very short, 32% short, 50% adequate. Much needed rains helped improve topsoil moisture and planting conditions.

FLORIDA: Topsoil 51% very short, 26% short, 23% adequate. Subsoil 37% very short, 40% short, 5% adequate, 18% surplus. Temperature average: 4 to 10 deg. above normal. Daytime highs: 80s, 90s. Nighttime lows: 50s, 60s. Rainfall: none Hillsborough to nearly 2.50 in. West Palm Beach. Jackson, Jefferson, Santa Rosa over 1.00 in. Several areas, northern, central, southern Peninsula received over 1.00 to 2.00 in. Dry conditions halted many planting, fieldwork, Panhandle, northern Peninsula. Landscape preparation underway, Jackson County. Rains over weekend, allowed peanut, cotton growers to begin planting this week, Santa Rosa. Tobacco transplanting completed, northern Peninsula. Growers plan to begin planting peanuts next week, Hamilton County. Warm temperatures throughout week helped harvesting progress on schedule. Rains, end of week, central, southern Peninsula areas slowed some fieldwork. Potato growers are preparing to begin digging next week. Hastings area, Soman watermelons started setting fruit, Jefferson County. Producers marketed snap beans, blueberries, cabbage, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce, okra, peppers, potatoes, radishes, squash, tomatoes. Isolated showers brought just over 1.50 in. rain to northern citrus areas, just over 1.00 in. eastern citrus region. Other totals between no rain, 0.5 in. Temperatures in all citrus areas, except Ft. Pierce, at least 90 degrees; highest in Sebring at 95 degrees. Continued dry weather, warm temperatures forcing growers to continue irrigation. Trees in good condition; many showing new growth, varying amounts of new fruit making good progress. Caretakers are hedging, discing, chopping, mowing cover crops, applying post bloom, nutritional sprays. Valencia harvest in full motion. Grapefruit slowing activity was high as farmers continue to catch up on planting, maintenance chores delayed by the recent prolonged period of wet weather. Production of most vegetables was lower than normal as weather-related losses are beginning to appear. Banana and papaya fields were in poor to fair condition. Pastures were in good condition as grass has made good growth.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 1% short, 56% adequate, 43% surplus. Winter wheat 8% jointed, 11% 2005, 12% average. Oats 25% planted, 46% 2005, 42% average. Onions 55% planted, 100% 2005, 99% average. Potatoes 15% planted, 6% 2005, 12% average. Dry peas 14% planted, 69% 2005, 41% average. Hay, roughage supply 21% very short, 19% short, 59% adequate, 1% surplus. Irrigation water supply 2% fair, 33% good, 65% excellent. Late planting is underway throughout Idaho.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 5% very short, 21% short, 63% adequate and 11% surplus. Corn 5% emerged, 14% 2005, 7% average. Soybeans 1% planted, 2% 2005, 1% average. Oats 86% planted, 95% 2005, 89% average. Alfalfa condition 2% poor, 16% fair, 66% good, 16% excellent. Red clover condition 2% poor, 14% fair, 63% good, 21% excellent. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 62% good, 14% excellent. Warm, sunny weather during the week allowed farmers across much of the state to make good corn planting progress. Many farmers in the eastern district received heavy rains early in the week though and fieldwork there was limited to about two days. In contrast and fieldwork there was limited to about two days. Isolated showers brought much as 1.5 inches on Saturday. Temperatures were well above normal during the beginning of the week, but returned to near normal with rain. The state experienced highs in the low 80’s and lows near 60. While the weekend rain alleviated drought stress in some fields, lack of rain continued to be a concern for growers. Some cotton growers were waiting for more rain to begin planting, while others began the process despite dry soil. Still, the percentage of cotton planted is ahead of the five year average for this week. Corn growers have begun early irrigation and reported skips in emerging plants. The unseasonably warm temperatures have become a problem for peach growers. The warm weather has caused extended bloom, creating many sizes on trees and a problem for harvest activities. Many hayfields were fertilized as they continue to green-up. Hay feeding continued for livestock and corn planting will wrap up soon. Hail damage was reported for cucumbers, watermelons, and cabbage after last week’s storms. The bell pepper crop was reported to look good while the recently transplanted tobacco needs rain. Other activities included spraying pecans with fungicide, pasture weed control, and routine care of poultry and livestock.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Topsoil 0% very short, 3% short, 66% adequate, 31% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 6% short, 71% adequate, 22% surplus. Planting of corn made good progress late in the week. Corn planting is 5 days behind the average pace, 8 days behind last year. Corn 9% planted, 33% 2005, 20% avg. Some of the early planted fields have now emerged. Only a few fields of soybeans have been planted. Winter wheat 54% jointed, 60% 2005, 61% avg.; 80% good excellent; 57% blooming, 67% 2005, 76% avg. Hay 6% very poor, 16% poor, 43% fair, 33% good, 2% excellent. Onions 4% poor, 13% fair, 55% good, 28% excellent; 17% harvested, 2% 2005, 9% avg. Peaches 3% poor, 25% fair, 72% good. Peanuts 1% planted, 1% 2005, 2% avg. Tobacco 2% poor, 35% fair, 63% good; 79% transplanted, 54% 2005, 75% avg. Watermelons 3% poor, 41% fair, 52% good, 4% excellent; 79% planted, 75% 2005, 80% avg. During the past week, dry conditions were eased with weekend rain. The weekend front brought thunder, lightning, heavy downpours, and in some cases causing flooding in the northern counties. Seeing as the soil moisture is averaging much as 1.5 inches on Saturday. Temperatures were well above normal during the beginning of the week, but returned to near normal with rain. The state experienced highs in the low 80’s and lows near 60. While the weekend rain alleviated drought stress in some fields, lack of rain continued to be a concern for growers. Some cotton growers were waiting for more rain to begin planting, while others began the process despite dry soil. Still, the percentage of cotton planted is ahead of the five year average for this week. Corn growers have begun early irrigation and reported skips in emerging plants. The unseasonably warm temperatures have become a problem for peach growers. The warm weather has caused extended bloom, creating many sizes on trees and a problem for harvest activities. Many hayfields were fertilized as they continue to green-up. Hay feeding continued for livestock and corn planting will wrap up soon. Hail damage was reported for cucumbers, watermelons, and cabbage after last week’s storms. The bell pepper crop was reported to look good while the recently transplanted tobacco needs rain. Other activities included spraying pecans with fungicide, pasture weed control, and routine care of poultry and livestock.
to excellent compared with 72% last year at this time. Pastures 1% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 64% good, 13% excellent. Temperatures ranged from 6° to 10° above normal with the high of 82°. Precipitation averaged from .36 inches to 5.36 inches. Livestock remain in mostly good condition. Feeding of hay has slowed down because of improving pasture conditions. Activities Included: Soil preparation, applying fertilizer, preparing planting equipment, hauling grain to market, hauling, applying manure, spraying, fixing tile, and taking care of livestock.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 5% very short, 14% short, 72% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 9% very short, 21% short, 62% adequate, 9% surplus. Soil moisture levels were nearly identical to this time last year. Agriculture Summary: The start of the week, fieldwork kicked into high gear. Some farmers have completed their corn planting already, while others have just gotten started. Scattered reports of soybean planting were received. Farmers are avoiding any unnecessary fieldwork due to high fuel and input costs. Field Crops Report: Oats 85% seedings, 30% emerged, behind last year’s progress of 91% seeded, 56% emerged, 34% 5-yr average emerged. Corn 26% planted, compared to 15% last year, 16% 5-yr average. Twenty-three percent of the state’s corn crop was planted during the week last week. Southwest, Southeast Iowa planted over one-third of their corn acreage. Primary seedbed preparations were 63% complete compared to 68% last year, 64% 5-yr average. Fertilizer applications 82%, matched last year, 6 percentage points ahead of the five-year average. Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture, range condition 3% very poor, 7% poor, 38% fair, 43% good, 9% excellent. Many livestock have turned out on pastures as they greened up rapidly. Some pasture condition concerns remain due to aftereffects of last year’s dry weather.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 27% very short, 43% short, 30% adequate. Subsoil 24% very short, 49% short, 27% adequate. Spring planting was the major activity. Corn 50% planted, 38% 2005, 35% avg.; 17% emerged, 9% 2005, 8% avg. Oats 91% planted, 86% 2005, 92% avg. Wheat 91% jointing, 86% 2005, 69% avg.; wind damage was 80% none, 13% light, 6% moderate, 1% severe, freeze damage was 89% none, 9% light, 2% moderate, insect infestation 70% none, 21% light, 7% moderate, 2% severe, disease infestation 77% none, 20% light, 3% moderate. Pasture Feed 10% very poor, 22% poor, 43% fair, and 25% good. Feed grain supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 91% adequate, 2% surplus. There were reports of feed grain supplies dwindling in the southern portions of the State. Hay, forage supplies 5% very short, 21% short, 72% adequate, 2% surplus. Stock water supplies were 16% very short, 25% short, and 56% adequate.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 1% very short, 9% short, 71% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 16% short, 70% adequate, 12% surplus. For the week temperatures averaged 65°, which was 6° above normal. Precipitation statewide was 1.47 in., 0.48 in. above normal. Corn acres 70% planted, 54% 2005, 52% avg.; 32% emerged. Soybeans 5% planted. Winter wheat 25% headed. Corn condition 1% poor, 11% fair, 59% good, 29% excellent. Winter wheat condition 2% poor, 16% fair, 52% good, 30% excellent. Strawberry condition 3% poor, 23% fair, 63% good, 11% excellent. Tobacco condition 3% very poor, 5% poor, 72% fair, 10% good. Tobacco height condition 2% poor, 16% fair, 76% good, 9% excellent. Wheat 99% jointing, 97% 2005, 96% avg.; 37% 2005 37% avg.; 37% emerged, 11% 2005, 16% avg. Potatoes 17% planted, 14% 2005. Barley 45% planted, 46% 2005, 23% avg. Asparagus 3% harvested. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.04 inches in the southwest Lower Peninsula to 0.53 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 3 degrees above normal in the east central, southwest south central Lower Peninsula to 6 degrees above normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Tillage was in full swing across the State. Operators in the southern, central parts were busy planting while operators in northern parts were waiting another week before planting. There were reports from the northwest Lower Peninsula that the apples were at tight cluster stage, sweet cherries were at early white tip stage, tart cherries at bud burst stage. In the southwest, peaches, plums, sweet cherries, tart cherries were in full bloom. Apple blooms began to open. Grapes, blueberry buds have burst. Asparagus harvest is underway. Corn, beans were early in schedule. Activities: Hauling manure, fieldwork, planting, lambing and calving.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Topsoil 2% very short, 6% short, 69% adequate, 23% surplus. Corn 23% land prepared, 10% 2005, 18% avg. Soybeans 7% land prepared, 3% 2005, 5% avg. Soybeans 0% planted, 0% 2005, 0% avg. Spring Wheat 2% emerged, 4% 2005, 3% avg. Barley 4% emerged, 3% 2005, 1% avg. Canola 0% planted, 0% 2005, 0% avg. Green Peas 19% planted, 0% 2005, 10% avg. Potatoes 23% planted, 19% 2005, 14% avg. Fieldwork, planting progress was ahead of the five year average, as warm temperatures dominated the week’s weather. Producers worked around wet areas to continue field preparation, fertilizer applications. Topsoil moisture supplies in the Northwest, Southwest, South Central areas of the state were still rated mostly surplus. The average temperature for the week was 51.9°, 6.5° above normal.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil 10% very short, 36% short, 50% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 98% planted, 84% 2005, 90% avg.; 87% emerged, 68% 2005, 74% avg.; 1% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 20% excellent. Cotton 36% planted, 15% 2005, 14% avg.; 16% emerged. NA 2005, 3% avg. Rice 7% planted, 3% 2005, 2% avg.; 38% emerged, 15% 2005, 16% avg. Sorghum 60% planted, 47% 2005, 36% avg.; 37% emerged, 8% 2005, 14% avg. Soybeans 77% planted, 37% 2005 38% avg.; 58% emerged, 15% 2005, 21% avg.; 1% poor, 16% fair, 58% good, 25% excellent. Wheat 99% jointing, 97% 2005, 96% avg.; 88% heading, 62% 2005, 63% avg.; 3% poor, 27% fair, 54% good, 16% excellent. Hay 13% (Harvested Cool) 15% 2005, 21% avg. Watermelons 50% planted, 71% 2005, 71% avg. Blueberries 1% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, 12% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 9% poor, 34% fair, 42% good, 14% excellent. Pasture 5% very poor, 9% poor, 39% fair, 43% good, 4% excellent.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 21% very short, 44% short, 34% adequate, 1% surplus. Farmers made considerable progress in field work, with planting, emergence of spring crops several
NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 6.0. Topsoil 5% very short, 65% short, 30% adequate. Temperatures were variable for the week across the state. There were measurable amounts of precipitation in most localities for the week. Saturday, April 22, 2006, many localities received one to two inches of rain. Agricultural producers continued field preparation for spring crops as weather permitted. Activities included: Planting, greenhouse work, transplanting vegetable crops, topdressing fertilizer, spraying herbicide. Asparagus harvest began in the south. Conditions of small grains, hay crops were fair to good. There was a report of spraying for weeds in some southern alfalfa fields. Apple trees were in full bloom, peach trees were in petal fall, in the south. Blueberry bushes were sprayed for mummy berry.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 6.7. Topsoil 63% very short, 25% short, 12% adequate. The week was relatively warm, dry. A few thunderstorms produced some rainfall at isolated locations over the far eastern counties, along with gusty wind, hail. Tatum (.50") measured the greatest rainfall total. Temperatures for the week averaged about 6° above normal for the state, with afternoon readings hitting 90° at many of the lower elevation stations in the south, east. Wind damage 33% light, 13% moderate, 2% severe, damaging crops, buildings, equipment, causing some chile farmers to have to re-seed two or three times. Wildfires are still a major concern across the state. Freeze damage was 10% light and was concentrated in the northern counties. Farmers were busy preparing fields, planting crops, baling alfalfa. Producers were irrigating their crops, but with increasing concerns about their water supply. Alfalfa 43% excellent, 22% fair. The 1st cutting was 46% harvested. Irrigated winter wheat 6% poor, 77% good, 16% good, 1% excellent, with 29% being grazed. Dryland winter wheat 89% very poor, 6% poor, 5% fair, with 10% being grazed. Some wheat was being cut for silage. Lettuce, onions, chile were all in fair to excellent condition. Chile 94% planted. Cotton 39% planted. Corn 15% planted. Ranchers were supplementing feed, hauling water, finishing up branding. Many are looking at culling their herds. Cattle 3% very poor, 36% poor, 34% fair, 27% good. Sheep 12% very poor, 23% poor, 48% fair, 17% good. Range, pasture conditions 32% very poor, 37% poor, 25% fair, and 6% good.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Soil 6% very short, 20% short, 64% adequate, 10% surplus. Pasture conditions 12% poor, 36% fair, 50% good, 2% excellent. Dry conditions allowed farmers to get on fields and begin work. Across the State, growers were finishing fertilizer applications and pruning apple trees. Vegetable crops were being planted, but heavy rainfall over the weekend halted field activities. Orange County onion planting reached about 85% complete.

NEVADA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE
20% excellent. Hay condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 17% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 68% good, 16% excellent. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 26% fair, 53% good, 16% excellent. Peach condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 13% fair, 67% good, 19% excellent. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 3% poor, 15% fair, 59% good, 23% excellent. Operators have taken advantage of the warm, dry field conditions to plant field crops: corn, soybeans and oats. Vegetable farmers have started to put out tomatoes and plant cabbage, and sweetcorn. Livestock operators have moved livestock on to pastures fields. Activities: Besides planting, for last week were farm equipment maintenance, repair, spreading fertilizer, lime, kneeling in manure, hauling grain, cleaning out bins, repayment of commodity loans, tillage to plant corn, beans, and other crops including ridging for vegetable crops.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil 62% very short, 34% short, 4% adequate. Subsoil 59% very short, 34% short, 7% adequate. Wheat jointing 96% this week, 92% last week, 96% last year, 92% average; soft dough 10% this week, N/A last week, N/A last year, 2% average. Rye 31% very poor, 40% poor, 29% fair; jointing 60% this week. 48% last week, 97% last year, 38% average; headed 35% this week, N/A last week, N/A last year, 14% average; soft dough 17% this week, N/A last week, N/A last year, N/A average. Oats 57% very poor, 28% poor, 14% fair, 1% good; 95% planted this week, 92% last week, 100% last year, 97% average; jointing 40% this week, 32% last week, 62% last year, 61% average; headed 15% this week, N/A last week, N/A last year, N/A last year, N/A last year, N/A last year, N/A average. Corn seedbed prepared 89% this week, 84% last week, 95% last year, 90% average; planted 45% this week, 36% last week, 46% last year; 49% average; Emerged 29% this week, N/A last week, 24% last week, 22% average. Sorghum seedbed prepared 51% this week, 48% last week, 51% last year, 47% average; Soybeans seedbed prepared 64% this week, 59% last week, 51% last year, 58% average; planted 56% this week, 47% last week, 50% last year, 53% average; Peanuts seedbed prepared 52% this week, 43% last week, 76% last year, 72% average; planted 4% this week, 2% last week, 6% last year, 5% average; Cotton seedbed prepared 74% this week, 66% last week, 75% last year, 79% average. Alfalfa 11% very poor, 29% poor, 42% fair, 16% good, 2% excellent; 1st Cutting 16% this week, N/A last week, 23% last year, 18% average. Other Hay condition 0% very poor, 41% poor, 24% fair, 4% good; 1st Cutting 12% this week, N/A last week, 10% last year, 6% average. Watermelon planted 25% this week, N/A last week, N/A last year, 6% average. Livestock 2% very poor, 35% poor, 42% fair, 21% good; Pasture & Range 27% very poor, 33% poor, 32% fair, 8% good, 8% average. Livestock: Livestock conditions were mostly poor-to-fair. Markets were average. Livestock insect activities were mostly none-to-light. Death loss of cattle was mostly light. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds average $130 per cwt.; 800-1,200 pounds $125 per cwt.; over 1,200 pounds $120 per cwt. Prices for cattles average $118 per cwt. Barley 10% heading, 14% 2005, 47% avg.; 3% turned color, 6% 2005, 7% avg.; Winter wheat 4% heading, 5% 2005, 6% avg.; 3% poor, 4% fair, 47% good, 1% excellent. Tobacco 70% planted, 74% 2005, 46% avg.; 27% emerged, 18% 2005, 14% avg.; condition 1% poor, 28% fair, 60% good, 11% excellent. Potatoes 12% planted, 25% 2005, 10% avg. Tobacco beds 50% planted, 78% 2005, 85% avg. Pasture conditions 3% very poor, 24% poor, 37% fair, 30% good, 6% excellent. Activities Included: Plowing, hauling, spreading manure, lime, repairing fences, farm equipment, planting corn, sorghum, oats, and potatoes.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 0% short, 68% adequate, 29% surplus. Subsoil 5% short, 72% adequate, 23% surplus. Barley 52% planted, 84% 2005, 68% avg.; 39% emerged, 68% 2005, 55% avg. Spring wheat 66% planted, 87% 2005, 90% avg.; 31% emerged, 64% 2005, 66% avg. Winter wheat 30% fair, 66% good, 4% excellent. Range, pastured 12% poor, 27% fair, 41% good, 20% excellent. Conditions across the State were a bit drier, warmer last week. Most weather stations reported precipitation for only one day or less, totaling a monthly average of 102.36 per cwt. Ponds continued to dry up causing producers to move cattle to other areas or to sell them.

Pennslyvania: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Soil 16% very short, 21% short, 58% adequate, 5% surplus. Spring 75% plowing, 64% 2005, 46% avg. Barley 10% heading, 14% 2005, 47% avg.; 3% poor, 4% fair, 47% good, 1% excellent. Pasture conditions 3% very poor, 24% poor, 37% fair, 30% good, 6% excellent. Activities Included: Plowing, spreading manure, lime, repairing fences, farm equipment, planting corn, sorghum, oats, and potatoes.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 6.0. Soil 19% very short, 33% short, 48% adequate. Crop conditions were improved as the State received rainfall that ranged from as little as two tenths of an inch in Florence to as much as two inches in Greer. barley 48% headed, 45% 2005, 49% avg.; 2% turned color, 6% 2005, 6% avg.; 7% poor, 46% fair, 45% good, 2% excellent. Corn 90% planted, 85% 2005, 84% avg.; 68% emerged, 65% 2005, 64% avg.; 3% poor, 48% fair, 48% good, 1% excellent. Sorghum 2% planted, 49% 2005, 33% avg.; 65% 2005, 69% avg.; 3% turned color, 8% 2005, 8% avg.; 8% poor, 48% fair, 43% good, 1% excellent. Peanuts 5% planted, 6% 2005, 7% avg. Rye 73% headed, 76% 2005, 77% avg.; 4% turned color, 8% 2005, 8% avg.; 4% poor, 47% fair, 48% good, 1% excellent. Sorghum 20% planted, 23% 2005, 24% avg. Cotton 8% planted, 5% 2005, 6% avg. Winter wheat 68% headed, 62% 2005, 68% avg.; 2% turned color, 4% 2005, 5% avg.; 8% poor, 42% fair, 47% good, 3% excellent. Tobacco 70% transplanted, 61% 2005, 64% avg.; 6% poor, 41% fair, 52% good, 1% excellent. Grain Hay 20% harvested, 20% 2005, 21% avg. Peaches 1% very poor, 4% poor, 49% fair, 39% good, 7% excellent. Apples 30% fair,
70% good. Snap beans 70% planted, 72% 2005, 70% avg; 40% fair, 60% good. Cucumbers 77% planted, 86% 2005, 87% avg.; 45% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Watermelons 81% planted, 76% 2005, 81% avg.; 50% fair, 50% good. Tomatoes 90% planted, 89% 2005, 90% avg.; 22% fair, 58% good, 20% excellent. Cantaloupes 78% planted, 68% 2005, 72% avg.; 47% fair, 53% good. Livestock 2% poor, 33% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Pastures 1% very poor, 18% poor, 50% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3. Topsoil 2% very short, 9% short, 78% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil 6% very short, 20% short, 66% adequate, 8% surplus. Feed supplies 1% very short, 5% short, 89% adequate, 5% surplus. Stock water supplies 6% very short, 19% short, 68% adequate, 7% surplus. Winter wheat breaking dormancy 99%, 100% 2005, 90% avg.; boot 0%, 1% 2005, 0% avg. Cattle condition 1% poor, 9% fair, 70% good, 20% excellent. Sheep condition 11% fair, 70% good, 19% excellent. Range, pasture 1% very poor, 12% poor, 32% fair, 47% good, 8% excellent. Calving 81% complete. Lambing 78% complete. Cattle moved to pasture 19% complete. Calve deaths 19% below avg.; 76% avg.; 5% above average. Sheep, lamb deaths 19% below avg.; 78% avg.; 3% above average. With the western side of the state receiving a winter snowstorm early in the week, several other areas receiving scattered precipitation, many farmers, ranchers were kept out of fields, keeping small grain seeding progress behind that of last year. Many producers reported that last week’s cold snap may have caused some livestock losses, yet it has provided moisture to some areas that were experiencing shortages. Activities Included: Caring for livestock, calving, lambing, repairing fences, fertilizing, small grain seeding, and preparing for row crop planting.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 70% adequate, 21% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 15% short, 72% adequate, 9% surplus. Wheat 98% jointed, 94% 2005, 92% avg.; 47% headed, 24% 2005, 22% avg.; top dressed 100%, 99% 2005, 100% avg.; 2% very poor, 4% poor, 17% fair, 55% good, 22% excellent. Apples 90% blooming and beyond, 73% 2005, 80% avg. Peaches 99% blooming and beyond, 91% 2005, 90% avg. Pastures 5% poor, 32% fair, 53% good, 10% excellent. Nearly all of the State’s winter wheat acreage had reached the jointing stage while nearly half was headed, about five days ahead of the normal pace. Strawberries were making good progress, with 80 percent of the crop rated in good-to-excellent condition. Pastures improved from the week earlier, but most areas could use more rainfall. Apples, peaches were blooming ahead of schedule with no major problems reported. Temperatures averaged above normal across the entire State last week. Average highs ranged from the middle 70s to middle 80s, while average lows ranged from the low 50s to low 60s. Rainfall across the Middle, West portions of the State averaged slightly above normal to well above normal in the East.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 6. Subsoil 0% very short, 4% short, 87% adequate, 9% surplus. Irrigation water supplies 0% very short, 1% short, 94% adequate, 5% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 4% poor, 27% fair, 63% good, 6% excellent; freeze damage 80% none, 13% light, 5% moderate, 2% severe. Spring wheat 53% planted, 55% 2005, 78% avg.; 18% emerged, 11% 2005, 42% avg. Barley 45% planted, 71% 2005, 71% avg.; 7% emerged, 10% 2005, 37% avg. Oats 33% planted, 47% 2005, 56% avg.; 12% emerged, 6% 2005, 26% avg. Corn 1% planted, 1% 2005, 6% avg. Alfalfa height 5%, 4% 2005, 6% avg. Cows calved 86%, 89% 2005, 87% avg. Cattle, calves condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 8% fair, 68% good, 23% excellent. Sheep condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 13% fair, 79% good, 8% excellent. Range, pasture 0% very poor, 0% poor, 13% fair, 68% good, 19% excellent. Stock water supplies 0% very short, 0% short, 96% adequate, 4% surplus. Sheared on farm 83%, 72% 2005, 80% avg. Sheep sheared on range 73%, 50% 2005, 64% avg. Ewes lamb on farm 91%, 89% 2005, 86% avg. Ewes lamb on range 54%, 46% 2005, 57% avg. Apples full bloom or past 80%, 59% 2005, 50% avg. Apricots full bloom or past 56%, 97% 2005, 59% avg. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 84%, 91% 2005, 87% avg. Pears full bloom or past 85%, 93% 2005, 76% avg. Farm activity continued with a strong surge. Ranchers report that calving season has almost come to an end and sheep shearing is almost complete. The majority of producers around the state were thrilled with amount of field activity this week. Most activities this week consisted of planting, fertilizing, drilling grain fields, and planting spring crops. However, Box Elder still reports that onion growers were not able to plant and planting window for these crops has been delayed due to wet field conditions. Fruit trees around the state are in full bloom, and only a few problems have been identified due to last week’s freeze. Water supplies for this season are looking very good. The outlook as a whole looks good for livestock. Producers this week have begun branding and docking their livestock. All reports indicate that the pastures are greening up due to the warmer weather; no problems due to insects have been reported. Range sheep continue to be sheared as the weather permits.
VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Topsoil 22% very short, 37% short, 31% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 17% very short, 44% short, 38% adequate, 1% surplus. The Commonwealth welcomed some much needed rain this week. Average rainfall for the week was 1.4 inches, the average temperature was 60 degrees. Widespread planting was beneficial to pastures, hay fields, and emerging crops. Small grains, affected the most by March’s dry conditions, are short, heading early. Pasture growth is slow but improving with moisture. Livestock producers still face feeding concerns with little remaining stored hay, a grim outlook for this year’s crop. Corn is emerging nicely as planting continues. Tobacco producers have delayed planting due to dry soil, but should start planting this week ahead. Grain sorghum growers are getting good plant emergence from early bud development due to warm winter temperatures followed by freezing temperatures in March. Strawberry producers are getting ready for harvest. Activities Included: Shearing sheep, vaccinating cattle, fertilizing, seeding, and fencing.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for field work 6.0. Topsoil 84% adequate, 16% surplus. Winter wheat, spring wheat conditions were mostly fair to excellent. Douglas County reported that snow mold damage to winter wheat is becoming apparent as the weather warms up. Potato planting continued. Oyster harvesting was in full swing with lower production reported in certain areas of Willapa Bay. Fruit is in bloom, including apples, raspberries, strawberries, cherries, pears, and blueberries. Asparagus harvest was in full swing and Daffodil and Tulip harvest continued. Range, pasture conditions 1% poor, 60% fair, 36% good, 3% excellent. Pastures continued to green up but some were still too wet to use. Availability of hay is scarce causing some producers to release cattle to pastures before they are ready. Supplemental feeding continued as hay stocks declined.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for field work 4.0. Topsoil 7% short, 86% adequate, 7% surplus compared with 9% short, 83% adequate, 8% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring 61% planting, 61% 2005, 54% 5-yr avg. Hay, roughage supplies 3% very short, 24% short, 70% adequate, 3% surplus compared with 1% very short, 4% short, 86% adequate, 9% surplus 2005. Feed grain supplies 2% very short, 5% short, 93% adequate compared to 2% short, 97% adequate,d 1% surplus this time last year. Apple conditions 10% poor, 40% fair, 40% good, 10% excellent. Peach conditions 10% poor, 40% fair, 40% good, 10% excellent. Apple conditions 10% poor, 40% fair, 40% good, 10% excellent. Hay 11% very poor, 12% poor, 34% fair, 42% good, 1% excellent. Winter Wheat conditions 2% poor, 26% fair, 72% good; 2% headed, 1% 2005, 1% 5-yr avg. Oats 41% planted, 54% 2005, 47% 5-yr avg.; 27% emerged, 19% 2005, 19% 5-yr avg. Corn 12% planted, 14% 2005, 9% 5-yr avg. Cattle, calves 1% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 79% good, 4% excellent. Calving 88% complete, compared to 89% last year, 89% 5-year average. Sheep, lambs 1% poor, 13% fair, 83% good, 3% excellent. Lambing 95% complete, compared to 87% last year, 90% 5-year average. Activities Included: Debris clean up, equipment repair, feeding livestock, planting, fertilizing, cultivating fields. Planting has slowed in some parts of the state due to wet field conditions.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil 4% very short, 25% short, 64% adequate, 7% surplus. Corn 5% planted, compared to last year’s 6%, 2% 5-year average. Mild weather continued during the week, creating good field conditions for oat planting, spring tillage. Average temperatures were 6 to 8° above normal. Temperatures reached the 70s during the week, while average high temperatures were in the 60s. Averagelow temperatures were in the 40s across the state. Rainfall totals last week ranged from 0.16 in Green Bay to 1.59 inches in Madison.Farmers across the state took advantage of the warm weather to get some corn in the ground. Rains in southwestern counties have slowed planting progress. Northern producers have been able to plant on lighter soils. Soil temperatures have been slow to warm, causing concern for some growers. Planting progress is expected to intensify this week. Oats 56% planted complete, above last year’s average of 48%, 36% 5-yr avg.; 3% emerged below last year’s 9% and the 5-year average of 5 percent. Assisted by mild weather, oat seeding progress advanced rapidly during the week. Early-planted oats are beginning to emerge in central, southern areas of the state. Spring tillage 27% complete, compared to last year’s 34% 23% 5-year average. Tillage progress increased 18 percent this week. Substantial progress was made in the northern districts during the week. Minimal rainfall in this area has allowed many farmers to get equipment into fields. Alfaalfa, winter wheat look good with no evidence of significant winterkill damage. Alfaalfa seeding has been completed in many parts of the state. Pasture feed conditions 2% very poor, 13% poor, 35% fair, 39% good, 11% excellent. As conditions improve, additional cattle are being pastured. Potatoes were being planted in central, west central counties. Planting progress has advanced rapidly, with many areas ahead of schedule. There were reports of some sweet corn being planted last week. Peas, carrots were planted in central, eastern areas. Cranberry producers had a frost watch during the week.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 5% very short, 42% short, 51% adequate, and 2% surplus. Temperatures during the week ending Friday, April 21st, were above normal across the State with exceptions in the Southwest. Averages ranged from 2.4 degrees below normal in Evanston to 6.9 degrees above normal in Wheatland. The high temperature was 80 in Newcastle, Redbird, and Wheatland while the low was 12 in Big Piney. Precipitation varied across the State with only scattered stations reporting above normal precipitation mostly in the Northeast which had heavy snow. The most precipitation was reported in Sundance with 2.65 inches, Newcastle with 1.70 inches, and Lander with 0.69 inches. Many stations in the southeast reported only a trace to no precipitation at all Irrigation water supplies 7% very short, 10% short, 76% adequate, and 7% surplus. Barley planted 69%, 2005 72%, 5-year average 72%. Barley emerged 30%, 2005 23%, 5-year average 27%. Oats planted 28%, 2005 44%, 5-year average 33%. Oats emerged 6%, 2005 11%, 5-year average 8%. Spring wheat planted 23%, 2005 39%, 5-year average 37%. Spring wheat emerged 2%, 2005 7%, 5-year average 8%. Winter wheat planted 3%, 2005 2%, 5-year average 2%. Corn planted 1%, 2005 0%, 5-year average 5%. Sugarbeets planted 67%, 2005 71%, 5-year average 51%. Sugarbeets emerged 2%, 2005 1%, 5-year average 2%. Winter wheat condition 2% poor, 27% fair, and 71% good. Spring calves born 83%, 2005 83%, 5-year average 83%. Farm flock ewes lamb 82%, 2005 87%, 5-year average 86%. Farm flock sheep shorn 84%, 2005 90%, 5-year average 86%. Range flock ewes lambed 25%, 2005 28%, 5-year average 28%. Range flock sheep shorn 50%, 2005 59%, 5-year average 56%. Calf and lamb losses light to mostly normal. Range and pasture conditions 2% very poor, 11% poor, 45% fair, and 42% good.