Precipitation was reported at 18 of the 22 reporting stations. Marana is the State and above normal in the northern part of the State for the week.

ARIZONA: Temperatures were below normal in the southern part of the State and above normal in the northern part of the State for the week. Precipitation was reported at 18 of the 22 reporting stations. Marana is the only reporting station with above normal precipitation for the year to date. Small grain planting continues throughout Arizona. Cotton harvesting is virtually done.

ARKANSAS: Winter in Arkansas had a warm and wet start. The majority of December 2006 was unseasonably warm with a few cooler days scattered throughout. Rain, clouds, and overcast days were the norm during the month. In spite of the rain, the southwest, south central, and southeast parts of the state were still below the normal rainfall averages. The northern third of the state received regular rainfall amounts throughout the month. A number of Arkansas winter wheat producers experienced standing water in their fields, with some reporting slight damage to their young winter wheat crop as a result of the wet conditions. However, most of the winter wheat crop was reported to be in good to excellent condition by the end of 2006.

CALIFORNIA: With the rice harvest complete, fields were prepared for next year’s crop. Cotton harvest was also complete, and the shredding of stalks for plowdown compliance was in full swing. Wheat, oats, winter forage, barley crops were emerging, weed control was taking place in some fields. Sweet potato hotbed fumigations were ongoing in Merced County, sugar beet fields were cultivated, side-dressed and sprayed. Grape growers tended their vineyards with pruning, trellis repair and the application of fertilizers. A few grapes remained on schedule as growers satisfied the holiday demand. Grape growers tended their orchards, as well as irrigating, applying herbicides, shredding brush. Winter vegetables were growing well. A number of fields were being prepared for spring vegetable planting. Transplanting of some crops for spring was already underway. Some late fall crops such as tomatoes and squash were harvested. At times harvest was interrupted by rains. The radicchio harvest was in full swing. Asian vegetables continued to be harvested along with broccoli, cauliflower, various greens, garlic, carrots, various types of peppers, amaranth, basil, cilantro, and dill. Rainfall was below normal in many parts of the State, the condition of pastures was mixed. Northern California pastures were faring better than those in the central area. Milk production was high due to the lower temperatures. Cattle were still being fed nutrient supplements and hay where grasses remained dry. Fall calving of beef cows came to an end. Sheep grazed in alfalfa fields and retired farmland. Fall lambing was complete on commercial operations. Bees arrived from other states for over-wintering and for the upcoming almond pollination season.

COLORADO: Colorado experienced record high snowfall in December with much of the Eastern Plains, Front Range buried from two late December blizzards. Snow accumulation totaled 2-4 feet with snow drifts 6 feet and higher. Many livestock producers in southeastern Colorado are missing livestock or have found dead animals due to the blizzard conditions and the inability to get hay and water to animals stranded in the snow. Winter wheat is currently in good condition under snow cover. Mountain snowpack remains close to normal at this time.

DELAWARE: Soil moisture was rated adequate to surplus. Livestock appears to be in fair condition in December with mild period toward the end. Small grains are in good condition. Winter activities included: Working on farm equipment, going to agricultural conferences, and finishing winter planting.

GEORGIA: Georgia experienced a rollercoaster of temperature fluctuations during the month of December. It began with unseasonably warm weather. A mid month cold front brought cold days and freezing nights. Towards the end of the month, another warm spell replaced the cold. Very little rainfall was reported this month and soil moisture conditions shifted from mostly adequate to mostly short as the month progressed. Pond and stream levels remained low. Producers spent time planting small grains and winter grazing, completing the cotton harvest, and clearing cotton fields. Quality of cotton that was harvested this month was better than expected. Many farmers hoped the early warm spell would rejuvenate fescue pastures and help winter rye, wheat, oats.
However, the bitter cold mid month took its toll on pastures, ending the fall vegetable harvest. Hay supplies were short and winter grazing growth was slow due to the lack of rainfall. Producers continued supplemental feeding of hay, cotton seed, and gin trash to cattle. Most of the Vidalia onion crop was planted successfully.

**HAWAII: DATA NOT AVAILABLE**

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Topsoil 0% very short, 11% short, 78% adequate, 11% surplus. Irrigation water supply 0% very poor, 0% poor, 11% fair, 45% good, 44% excellent. Hay, roughage supply 0% very short, 6% short, 93% adequate, 1% surplus. Cattle are in winter quarters.

**ILLINOIS:** Topsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 66% adequate, 25% surplus. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 7% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 7% excellent. Temperatures were generally mild for the month of December, averaging more than five degrees above normal across the state. Statewide precipitation averaged 3.67 inches during the month, almost a full inch above normal, with the Northwest and West districts receiving less than half an inch above normal precipitation. With the above normal temperatures, the precipitation was able to soak into the ground and help recharge soil moisture levels.

**INDIANA:** December weather was very warm and wet. The average state temperature was 37.1° which was 5.9° above normal. Total precipitation averaged 5.12 inches which was 2.06 inches above normal. The winter wheat crop is reported to be in generally good condition. However, there are some spots that have drowned out because of standing water. Some of the winter wheat is very short due to late plantings and is vulnerable to winter kill. A few scattered corn fields remain to be harvested. Very little field work was accomplished during the month due to wet soil conditions. A considerable amount of grain was hauled to market as many elevators allowed early delivery of January contracts. Livestock are reported to be in mostly good condition. Pastures and feedlots are very muddy making it difficult to feed hay and haul manure. Hay supplies are adequate. Farmers have been visiting their local FSA offices to request commodity loans and sign up for the 2007 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment (DCP) Program. Activities during the month included: Financial planning, reviewing leases with landlords, pricing inputs, preliminary tax preparations, cleaning and repairing equipment, ditch and fence row cleaning, and taking care of livestock.

**IOWA:** Summary for December 2006 Above normal temperatures, wet conditions have caused feedlots to become very muddy. Soil very short 2%, short 13%, 77% adequate, 8% surplus. Average depth of snow cover was 0 inches, compared to 2 inches last year. Average depth of frost penetration was 2 inches, below the previous year's 4 inches. Grain movement: none 20%, light 39%, moderate 38%, heavy 3%. Availability of hay, roughage supplies for livestock feed 6% short, 83% adequate, 11% surplus. Quality of hay, roughage supplies 4% poor, 34% fair, 62% good. Utilization of stubble fields for grazing: none 17%, light 23%, moderate 41%, extensive 19%. Hog and pig losses: below average 30%, average 67%, above average 3%. Cattle and calf losses: below average 36%, average 62%, above average 2%

**KANSAS:** Topsoil 3% very short, 18% short, 76% adequate, 3% surplus. Wheat condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 35% fair, 48% good, 9% excellent. Wheat wind damage 89% none, 11% light, 1% moderate. Hay, forage supplies 12% very short, 35% short, 51% adequate, 2% surplus. Feed grain supplies 2% very short, 14% short, 80% adequate, 4% surplus. The State experienced normal soil to above normal temperatures throughout most of the month. Much of the state received moisture in the form of snow or rain, with western counties experiencing heavy snow fall, blizzard conditions. Precipitation amounts during the last week of December ranged from a high of over 6 inches in Stevens county to less than a quarter of an inch in Chase county.

**KENTUCKY:** Mild temperatures held snowfall at bay for most of the month and provided below normal rainfall. Louisville, Paducah and many locations set new record high temperatures on December 17th with 70 and 77 degrees respectively. The month came in like a lion as a strong cold front rushed across the region on the morning of the 1st. Wind gusts over 50 mph were commonplace, and some locations had their highest wind gust of the year, including 51 mph at Lexington. Temperatures for December averaged 41 degrees which was 4 degrees above normal. Precipitation (liq. equ.) totaled 2.99 in. statewide which was - 1.29 in. below normal temperatures were below normal during the early portion of the first full week of the month as Canadian high pressure was dominant over the Ohio River Valley. A cold front moved across the region and brought snow flurries and a few snow showers to the Commonwealth. After the cold front passage, a massive rush of arctic air pushed into the already cold Ohio Valley. Temperatures began to moderate towards the weekend; however, no other measurable precipitation occurred. Temperatures averaged 31 degrees, 8 degrees below normal. Extreme temperatures ranged from a maximum in the mid 50s to a minimum in the upper single digits. Precipitation (liq. equ.) totaled 0.00 in. statewide which was 0.95 in. below normal. Precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.00 in. at Bardstown to a high of 0.02 in. at Jackson. Below normal precipitation fell across the Bluegrass the second full week of December, which was the 3rd straight week for this trend. High pressure was dominant over the Ohio River Valley during the early portion of the work week, with temperatures close to normal. Then a warm front swept through the region, which turned the winds in a southerly direction and brought in warmer air from the gulf coast. Mid-week saw the passage of a cold front, which brought some scattered showers to the State. High pressure remained dominant over the region from the end of the work week through the weekend with much above normal temperatures. Temperatures averaged 52 degrees, 15 degrees above normal. Extreme temperatures ranged from a maximum in the low 70s to a minimum in the low 20s. Precipitation (liq. equ.) totaled 0.43 in. statewide which was 0.52 in. below normal. Precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.06 in. at Bristol to a high of 1.50 in. at Evansville. For the fourth straight week below normal precipitation fell across the Bluegrass State. It was the second week straight for experiencing mild temperatures. Temperatures averaged 47, 13 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged 55 and lows averaged 40 degrees. Precipitation (liq. equ.) totaled 0.92 in. which was 0.03 below normal. Precipitation ranged from a low of 0.12 at Cumberland Gap to a high of 1.81 in. at Paducah. Temperatures for the final full week of December averaged 42 degrees which was 9 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged from 49 in the West to 50 in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 35 degrees in the West to 34 degrees in the East. Precipitation (liq. equ.) totaled 0.82 in. statewide which was 0.13 in. below normal. Precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.00 in. at Mayfield to a high of 2.18 in. at Hardinsburg. Fieldwork continued to be active in early December as farmers tried to complete the previously delayed corn and soybean harvest. Marketing of both crops remained very active as producers enjoyed good prices for their harvest. Tobacco producers continued to strip tobacco when humidity levels were favorable. Most farmers delivered burley tobacco to fill contracts made directly with the tobacco companies. Only 4 auction markets remain in the State for farmers without contracts and those with production not accepted by the companies. The wild swings in temperature stressed livestock, but dryer weather was welcome after the very wet fall. Soil moisture going into winter was mostly adequate to surplus.

**LOUISIANA:** Harvesting of sugarcane was finished by the first of the year. Sugarcane producers were approximately two weeks behind schedule due to weather conditions. The state averaged 8.38 inches of rain over the last 4 weeks. Citrus producers were spraying to control diseases. Strawberries were being harvested. Livestock producers were fertilizing winter pastures, feeding hay. Crawfish producers were putting out traps. Reports have indicated that this will be a good year for crawfish producers. Activities Included: Repairing and cleaning equipment.

**MARYLAND:** Soil moisture was rated adequate to surplus. Livestock appears to be in good condition. Winter grains are in good condition. Livestock is in good condition. Farmers are feeding livestock, working on equipment and attending agricultural conferences.

**MICHIGAN:** Temperatures were generally mild for most areas during the month of December, although there was a short cold stretch at the beginning of the month. For the 4 week period ending January 2, 2007, precipitation ranged from 1.69 inches in the east central Lower Peninsula to 3.20 inches for the southwest Lower Peninsula. Fields have been too muddy for fieldwork, except on drier soils. Winter wheat and alfalfa...
seedlings have not been affected by the lack of snow cover. Warmer than normal temperatures have helped maintain winter wheat fields. There were sporadic reports of standing water in some fields. Rains during December prevented late corn harvest. Farmers with corn still in the fields were waiting for the ground to freeze. Livestock were in good condition with no major problems with feeding, disease, or health. Activities Included: Hauling manure on drier soils, hauling crops to market, purchasing seed, fertilizer, and preparing end-of-the-year books.

MINNESOTA: December 2006 precipitation totals were above historic averages in most locations of the state by one half inch to one inch. December snowfall totals throughout Minnesota were well below normal due to unseasonably warm temperatures that brought rain rather than snow. Temperatures during December averaged from 9.2 degrees above normal in the Northeast District to 11.1 degrees above normal in the Northwest District. Temperatures ranged from a low of -16 degrees in the Central District, to a high of 67 degrees in the West Central District. This was the third warmest December since 1981, in the Twin Cities. Precipitation averaged from 0.33 inches above normal in the West Central District to 1.19 inches above normal in the Southwest District. Snow cover was reported shallow to none prior to a slow moving storm system that moved across the state on New Years eve, increasing the snow cover. Depth of frost was generally less than 12 inches. Feed supplies were generally adequate and cattle are in good or excellent condition, although the rain and changing temperatures have caused some health problems in young calves.

MISSISSIPPI: Soil 2% very short, 6% short, 54% adequate, 38% surplus. Hay supply 52% short, 45% adequate, 3% surplus. Feed Grain 21% short, 74% adequate, 5% surplus. On average, December temperatures were about two degrees above normal. Mississippi received adequate rainfall which has improved cool-season crop growth, pasture conditions. Rainfall has also begun to replenish the water table. Many cattlemen are concerned about the possibility of not having enough forage to feed their cattle through the winter months.

MISSOURI: December weather in the state was most notable for a snow storm that hit the northern two-thirds of the state the night of November 30 and into December 1. Snowfall of 12-16 inches was common in many locations. It made care of livestock difficult and left much of the St. Louis area without power for several days. Precipitation for the month averaged 2.53 inches, slightly below the 30-year average. The winter wheat crop is in mostly good condition, as moisture has been adequate statewide to maintain healthy stands, although a few places in the Bootheel have received too much rain that washed out spots in fields. Cattle producers in much of the state are still concerned about hay shortages over the winter. Crop producers are mulling spring planting decisions, as the harvest rally in corn prices has extended to the present time and pulled soybean prices up as well.

MONTANA: Topsoil 6% very short, 4% last year, 27% short, 24% last year, 66% adequate, 62% last year, 1% surplus, 10% last year. Subsoil 12% very short, 12% last year, 47% short, 41% last year, 40% adequate, 45% last year, 1% surplus, 2% last year. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 1% last year, 5% poor, 2% last year, 36% fair, 36% last year, 47% good, 44% last year, 11% excellent, 17% last year. Winter wheat wind damage is 48% none, 6% last year, 45% light, 22% last year, 7% moderate, 9% last year, 0% heavy, 1% last year. Winter wheat freeze and drought damage is 54% none, 74% last year, 41% light, 23% last year, 5% moderate, 17% last year, 1% very poor. Range and pasture feed conditions are rated 19% very poor, 8% last year, 22% poor, 16% last year, 43% fair, 40% last year, 12% good, 30% last year, 4% excellent, 6% last year. Ranchers are providing supplemental feed to 79% of cattle and calves, 92% last year, and 83% of sheep and lambs. Livestock disease conditions were mostly normal with the exception of respiratory and diarrhea in young calves. Compared to last year, more range and pasture land has been open for livestock grazing.

NEBRASKA: Wheat conditions 1% very poor, 4%, 34% fair, 55% good, 6% excellent. Hay, forage 3% very short, 23% short, 72% adequate, 2% excellent. Cattle and Calves condition 0% very poor, 2%, 20% fair, 62% good, 16% excellent. For the month of December 2006, mild conditions at the beginning of the month proved to be good for livestock producers with no extra forage for the year. Stalks were being grazed with little to no supplemental feeding and producers were able to bale a large amount of bean and corn stubble. However, crop producers were required to account for additional bales of hay due to the lack of moisture. The end of the month saw completely different conditions with two large snowstorms that brought blizzard conditions across most of the state causing power outages and putting stress on livestock. The western half of the state received the brunt of the storm with reports of up to 26 inches of snow. The severe conditions were making it hard for producers to care for livestock. Even though the moisture came rather harshly, it was sure to help crop conditions which had been abnormally dry to this point. The entire state was at the average precipitation levels for December, with a large portion being at least two times the average. The Southwest part of the state was as high as seven times the average. Depth of snow at the end of December averaged two and a half inches across the state, with the Northwest District reporting nearly eight inches. The entire state received at least a half inch of precipitation, with the South Central District receiving up to three and a half inches. The temperature stayed above normal the first two full weeks and closer to average for the last two weeks. During the last week of the month, soil temperatures ranged from 29 in the Northwest District to 37 in the Southeast District.

NEVADA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

NEW ENGLAND: December 2006 will be remembered as one of the warmest, driest on record in most of New England. Average high temperatures for the month exceeded 40 degrees in all but northermost areas, while overnight lows averaged in the 20s to mid-30s in all six states. Total precipitation for the month was also well below average in all areas except Vermont and New Hampshire which saw over three inches of rain during December. On December 1, temperatures exceeded 60 degrees in most areas, and rain fell in all but northern Maine, ranging from less than a quarter inch in Eastern Massachusetts to over two inches in Central Vermont. Temperatures began to cool down during the following week. Southern and Central Maine received nearly two inches of snow on December 8 while several locations in the other five New England states received less than a quarter inch of snow. Warmer temperatures returned by mid-month with daytime highs ranging from the 40s in the north to the 50s in the south; eliminating all traces of snow cover. Across the region, snow did not return until December 15. In Northern Maine, snow flurries could be seen daily as temperatures remained cool throughout the latter parts of the month. However, no accumulating snow arrived until December 26, when nearly 4 inches of snow fell in Aroostook County. Across the rest of New England, the most significant precipitation event of the month came between the 22nd and 23rd when most areas received between 0.75 and 1.25 inches of rain. Rain and fog were also prevalent in all but northermost areas on December 25 and 26. Farmers kept busy throughout the month tending livestock, pruning trees, and marketing crops from storage.

NEW JERSEY: Some farmers finished their 2006 season harvesting their remaining corn, soybean fields during the first few days of December. Where field conditions permitted, farmers continued to plant small grain crops. Temperatures were mostly below normal for the first week of December across most of the state. By the second week of December temperatures rose to above normal, and remained there till the end of the month, in most localities. There were only trace amounts of snow in a few areas of the state for the month of December. There was over 1.0 inch of rain in Atlantic City on December 25, 2006.

NEW MEXICO: The first week of December brought two storms, the first of which brought the coldest air of the season. Temperatures averaged a few degrees below normal with the first storm bringing snow for most of the state. The next few weeks were dryer and slightly warmer with high temperatures climbing to the 60’s and lower 70’s. The most
significant storm of the season so far passed through New Mexico around the 20th of December. This storm dropped snow at many locations and brought colder temperatures, about 4 to 5 degrees below normal. Some early morning temperatures below zero. Grants received 1 inch of water equivalent from the snow fall. Another storm system passed through the last week of the year keeping temperatures quite cold. Farmers have finished harvesting cotton, sorghum and chile. Pecan harvesting is near completion, should be completed by the end of January. Most farmers were busy leveling fields, trimming trees, general machinery maintenance, otherwise tending to their land. Ranchers were hauling feed and water, and preparing for the upcoming calving season.

NEW YORK: Snowfall during December was almost nonexistent while temperatures averaged well above normal, making outside activities less of a chore. The western part of the state received some lake effect snow during December. Major Activities: Tending livestock, spreading manure, machinery repair and maintenance, grading and packing onions, apples, potatoes, and cabbage, orchard clean up, and preparing facilities for winter.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 4.9. Soil 3% very short, 3% short, 62% adequate, 32% surplus. Activities Included: Harvesting soybeans, feeding livestock, and general farm maintenance. Above normal temperatures dominated the month throughout most of the State. Soybean harvest is finishing up slightly behind previous year and the 5-year average.

NORTH DAKOTA: Above average temperatures during December caused it to be one of the warmest December on record. A late snow storm during the end of December brought most of the precipitation received across the state to what was a mostly dry month. Average snow cover was 5.4 inches on December 31. Hay and forage supplies 2% very short, 21% short, 71% adequate, 6% surplus. Snow cover protection for alfalfa was rated 41% poor, 33% adequate, 26% excellent. Cattle conditions 0% very poor, 1% poor, 19% fair, 67% good, 13% excellent. Sheep conditions 0% very poor, 1% poor, 26% fair, 62% good, 11% excellent. County and secondary roads were rated 83% open, 16% difficult, 1% closed. Eighteen percent of the roads were drifted, 30% icy, 3% muddy, 49% dry.

OHIO: The December 2006 average temperature for Ohio was 38.0 degrees, 6.4 degrees above normal. Precipitation for the state averaged 3.22 inches, 0.31 inches above normal. Wheat 3% very short, 61% short, 35% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 29% very short, 43% short, 26% adequate, 2% surplus. Wheat 3% very poor, 11% poor, 35% fair, 41% good, 10% excellent. Rye 2% very poor, 9% poor, 44% fair, 42% good, 3% excellent. Oats 10% very poor, 6% poor, 50% fair, 31% good, 3% excellent. Livestock marketings 0% very poor, 5% poor, 48% fair, 43% good, 1% excellent. Pasture & Range 34% very poor, 43% poor, 33% poor, 37% fair, 6% good. Livestock remained in mostly good to fair condition. Livestock conditions are excellent throughout the State, because of mild temperatures in December. Hay inventories are adequate for livestock.

OKLAHOMA: Topsoil 12% very short, 24% short, 61% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 29% very short, 43% short, 26% adequate, 2% surplus. Wheat 3% very poor, 11% poor, 35% fair, 41% good, 10% excellent. Rye 2% very poor, 9% poor, 44% fair, 42% good, 3% excellent. Oats 10% very poor, 6% poor, 50% fair, 31% good, 3% excellent. Livestock marketings 0% very poor, 5% poor, 48% fair, 43% good, 1% excellent. Pasture & Range 34% very poor, 43% poor, 33% poor, 37% fair, 6% good. Livestock remained in mostly good to fair condition. Livestock conditions are excellent throughout the State, because of mild temperatures in December. Hay inventories are adequate for livestock.

OREGON: High temperatures during the month of December ranged from 45 degrees in Lakeview up to 69 degrees in Bandon. Low temperatures ranged from -3° recorded in Burns, Christmas Valley, and Rome, up to 36° recorded in Bandon. Monthly average temperatures for the State varied mostly from the low 20’s to the high 50’s. Total precipitation, including rain or melted snow/ice, ranged from a high of 16.34 inches recorded in Detroit Lake to a low of 0.31 inches in Rome. The stations receiving the highest amount of total snowfall during December were Crater Lake with 41 inches and Howard Prairie with 20.7 inches. Besides these two stations, all of the others recorded only a couple of inches or none at all. According to the ODA Story of the Week, released in mid December, many individual basins are recording strong snowpack numbers for this time of year. The Coast Range reports a snowpack of 122 percent of average, Lower Columbia-Hood River Basin reports 115 percent of average, and the Willamette Basin reported a snowpack of 105 percent of average. It might be too early to tell, but the good buildup of snow in the mountains usually means sufficient water for those who are going to need it the following summer. Crop weather respondents confirmed that the month of December was unseasonably warm for both growing season activity and general maintenance. By the end of the month, a total amount of rain was received at intervals throughout the month. Nurseries were digging bare root plants such as fruit trees and were starting their shipping to the Southern states. Nurseries and Greenhouses were busy throughout the holiday season supplying Christmas trees, holly, Christmas greenery, and poinsettias. The orchard cleanup is complete and everything is pretty well done for the season for fruits and nuts. Many farmers continued to search for hay, which is still in high demand with very limited stocks on hand.

PENNSYLVANIA: Principal farm activities during the month of December included finishing off the corn, soybean harvests, attending organizational meetings, repairing barns, fences, spreading manure, and making final preparations for the winter weather. The Keystone state has experienced above normal temperatures during the month of December. Pennsylvania temperatures averaged 8 degrees above normal. The average high temperature for the month was 49.6 degrees and the average low was 30.7 degrees. December 1st was the warmest day of the month coming in at 74 degrees which is a new record high for the day. The lowest temperature of the month was 21 degrees on December 6th and the 9th. We have experienced very little precipitation across the state. The precipitation total for the month was 2.30 inches, which is .92 inches below normal. December 22nd was the highest daily total for measurable precipitation with 1.20 inches. Although many people across the state hoped for snow on Christmas, this year there was no snow is sight. In fact there was only a trace of snow across the state, which is 4.5 inches below normal.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Daily high temperatures climbed to near 80 degrees during the first week of December, while scattered, light showers were observed near coastal counties and near the mountains Tuesday morning. The Pee Dee experienced light showers Thursday afternoon. Dense fog was observed at mid-week. The state average temperature was seven degrees above normal for the first week. While the first week was unseasonably warm, the second week saw record cold temperatures with no measurable rainfall for many areas including Columbia, Charleston and Myrtle Beach. Friday mornings brought the first seasonal freeze along the southern beaches and Charleston City. High temperatures for the week could only reach the lower 40’s as the weeklong state average temperature was nine degrees below normal. Much like the beginning of December, the third week of the month saw sunny skies and temperatures that reached the 70’s. However, no rainfall was observed as the State experienced a fourth week of dry weather. State average temperatures were five degrees above normal. The fourth week began with sunny skies and 80 degree weather, but a cool front arrived at mid-week at provided wet weather that covered the State from Friday through Sunday. The statewide average rainfall was 1.9 inches as temperatures were ten degrees above the norm. By Christmas and the final week of 2006, temperatures were holding steady from a week ago while rainfall continued to persist throughout the State. Snow flurries were reported at Walhalla. The state average temperature was six degrees above the norm. The lowest temperature of the month was 21 degrees on December 6th and the 9th. We have experienced very little precipitation across the state. The precipitation total for the month was 2.30 inches, which is .92 inches below normal. December 22nd was the highest daily total for measurable precipitation with 1.20 inches. Although many people across the state hoped for snow on Christmas, this year there was no snow is sight. In fact there was only a trace of snow across the state, which is 4.5 inches below normal.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Average snow depth (inches) 1.6. Feed supplies 9% very short, 22% short, 66% adequate, 3% surplus. Stock water supplies 19% very short, 31% short, 49% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat 4% very poor, 7% poor, 41% fair, 39% good, 9% excellent. Cattle condition 21% fair, 59% good, 20% excellent. Sheep condition 20% fair, 65% good, 15% excellent. Road conditions—county 98% open, 2% difficult. Road conditions—township 94% open, 6% difficult. Alfalfa snow cover 72% poor, 22% adequate, 6% excellent. Winter wheat snow cover 69% poor, 23% adequate, 8% excellent. Calf deaths 30% below average, 69% average, 1% above average. Sheep, lamb deaths 43% below average, 56% average, 1% above average. December started out mild
and dry. By the end of the month, much of the state received snow and rain. The western part of the state continues to be short of moisture.

TENNESSEE: Temperatures across the State were generally below normal during the first two weeks of December. By mid-month, high pressure built back into the region causing temperatures to average above normal for the last several weeks. Precipitation amounts averaged below normal until the end of the month when a surface low pressure system moved into the area, bringing rain showers to much of the State. The winter wheat crop was rated in mostly good condition with some seeding delays caused by wet weather. Cattle were rated in mostly good condition. Overall, hay stocks appear mostly adequate; however, some localized areas are experiencing moderate to severe shortages.

TEXAS: Monthly Agricultural Summary: The Eastern section of the state received the majority of the rainfall last month with mostly 2.0 to 8.0 inches. The Northern Plains received mostly 1.0 to 2.0 inches of rainfall, as isolated showers brought as much as 3.0 inches to some sections. The Southern Plains, Cross Timbers, and Edwards Plateau mostly received 0.5 to 1.5 inches of rainfall. Several sections of the Edwards Plateau were less fortunate as spotty showers only brought 0.25 inches of rainfall. South Texas received mostly 0.50 to 3.0 inches. The Trans-Pecos only received mostly 0.50 to 1.0 inches of rainfall. Despite cold temperatures limiting the growth, wheat remained in good condition in the Northern Low Plains. Statewide, wheat condition was mostly good to fair while oat condition was mostly fair to very poor. Cotton harvest was slowed due to unfavorable weather conditions. The harvest of peanuts was completed. Carrots continued to develop in South Texas. Also, pecans continued to be harvested in the Trans-Pecos. Range, pasture land was mostly poor to very poor statewide.

UTAH: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

VIRGINIA: Soil moisture conditions have been adequate throughout the month. The Commonwealth experienced a mild, relatively dry December. Wet field conditions at the beginning of December continued to hinder harvest progress for some corn, soybean producers. However, fields began to dry out as the month progressed. Unusually warm weather throughout the month extended grazing opportunities and delayed the need for supplemental feeding in many areas. The mild temperatures and some beneficial rains allowed small grains to develop nicely. Overall, winter grain crops are reported to be in good condition as well. Reporters say winter wheat acreage is expected to be up this year due to excellent prices. Activities: Fall calving, fencing, conditioning equipment, storing harvest equipment, applying lime, fertilizer, and scouting for aphids and weeds.

WASHINGTON: Storms took place across the state with above average moisture in most areas, freezing temperatures and windy conditions. High winds and power outages slowed down everything in western Washington. Producers reported structural damage to buildings and downed trees. Some counties reported flooding in the middle of the month. Ornamental nurseries reported devastating damage to plastic hoop houses. Initial Christmas tree reports indicated sales were average. Berry producers were busy canning and tying berries. Winter wheat was reported to be in good condition and growing with the crop at danger from freezing due to a lack of snow cover in Garfield, Asotin Counties. Cattle were unharmed by the storms and reported to be in good condition. Winter feeding continued and hay was available but somewhat difficult to find in northeastern Washington.

WEST VIRGINIA: Topsoil 1% short, 66% adequate, 33% surplus compared with 1% very short, 3% short, 72% adequate, 24% surplus last year. Hay, roughage 2% very short, 9% short, 80% adequate, 9% surplus. Feed grain supplies 6% short, 94% adequate. Winter wheat conditions 2% poor, 31% fair, 65% good; 2% excellent. Cattle, calves 1% very poor, 5% poor, 12% fair, 75% good; 7% excellent. Sheep, lambs 1% very poor, 3% poor, 16% fair, 72% good; 8% excellent. Activities Included: Feeding livestock, plowing fields, and fence repairs.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures averaged 7 to 10 degrees above normal during December. Low temperatures reached -1, while highs were reported in 50s. Precipitation ranged from 1.35 inches in Madison to 3.20 inches in Wausau. Most areas received above normal precipitation for the month. Scattered snow storms moved into northern portions of the state during December. Limited snow fell during the first half of the month in southern counties. Warm temperatures, rain melted snow cover in southern and central Wisconsin. Minimal snow cover was present in the northern half of the state at the end of December.

WYOMING: Topsoil 22% very short, 39% short, 39% adequate. Subsoil 39% very short, 46% short, 14% adequate, 1% surplus. Average depth of snowcover: 3.5 inches. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 65% fair, 32% good; wind damage 40% none, 53% light, 7% moderate; freeze damage 63% none, 36% light, 1% moderate. Hay and roughage supply 7% very short, 43% short, 50% adequate. Stock water supply 22% very short, 33% short, 43% adequate, 2% surplus. Livestock in fair to mostly good condition. A heavy storm system passed through the southeastern corner leaving record snowfall over the holidays. The most recent Snow Precipitation Update reported the SWE (snow water equivalent) below average across all basins in Wyoming. Averages ranged from 49% of normal in the Belle Fouche Basin to 87% of normal in the Upper N. Platte River Basin. Activities: Maintaining equipment; supplemental feeding.