ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 16% short, 73% adequate, and 8% surplus. Corn 34% planted, 62% 2007, 39% avg.; 8% emerged, 35% 2007, 16% avg. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 15% fair, 64% good, and 20% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 7% poor, 27% fair, 64% good, and 2% excellent. Pasture and range condition 2% very poor, 14% poor, 33% fair, 44% good, and 7% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 63% short, 36% adequate, and 1% surplus. Alabama producers began the 2008 crop season faced with higher input costs for fertilizer and fuel combined with volatile feed prices and market conditions, all while trying to recover from devastating drought conditions that wreaked havoc on many farmers and ranchers last year. Temperatures for the state were abnormally warm for this time of year. Precipitation was abundant towards the end of the week, as a storm system dropped upwards of eight inches of rainfall in the Mobile area. Producers were busy with fertilizer applications, as well as fungicide applications to treat the powdery mildew contamination in some wheat stands due to the recent moisture received in many areas of the state. Burn-down herbicides were being applied to fields in preparation for cotton, corn, and soybean planting. Pasture conditions improved with the recent rainfall, but most producers continued to feed supplements to their herds.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.7. Topsoil moisture 21% adequate, 79% surplus. Subsoil moisture 38% adequate, 64% surplus. Corn 26% planted, 81% 2007, 63% avg.; 18% emerged, 33% 2007, 20% avg. The severe weather present during the month of March continued into the first week of April as storms again dumped large amounts of rainfall across most of Arkansas and produced tornadoes in the central part of the state. All reporting stations recorded rainfall, as amounts ranged from 1.08 inches in El Dorado to 7.89 inches in Hot Springs. Fourteen reporting stations received 10 inches or more of rain in the last four weeks. Seven out of the nine districts are well ahead of the year to date normal precipitation for the year to date. Cotton planting is 20 percent complete. The percentage points ahead of the five year average is small grain acreage is at least 35 percent headed in the state. Alfalfa harvest remains active on three-quarters of the State’s acreage. Range and pasture conditions across the State remain mostly good to poor, depending on location and elevation.

CALIFORNIA: Winter forage fields continued to be cut for silage in Modesto Tulare counties. The first cutting of alfalfa continued; alfalfa weevil spraying was complete. In Fresno County alfalfa growers began their summer-long cycle of cutting, winnowing, raking, baling for the production of alfalfa hay. Mustard seed was in full bloom. Early planted corn, cotton started to germinate, emerge. In Modesto County land preparation was being done for summer rice planting; oats were being harvested. Sugar beet fields continued to grow well; were being fertilized, irrigated, cultivated, treated to control weeds, diseases. Safflower fields were in various stages of growth. High prices for crops, fuel continued to cause consternation about the variety, volume of crops to be planted. High winds in the Imperial Valley the past two weeks caused irrigation schedules on some wheat fields to fail behind; hot spots have shown on some of the heavier soils. Early wheat started to fill and flag leaf. In Kern County potato crops were growing well. Fruit growers increased irrigation practices due to the continued dry spring. Grape growers were tying vines, applying treatments for insects, weeds. Grape vines continued to leaf out. Stone-fruit growers were also treating their vineyards for weeds, insects. Apple, cherry, pear, pomegranate, prune trees were still blooming in some areas. New orchards were still being planted. Suckering, thinning of early nectarines began in Tulare County. Spring strawberries, blueberries were blooming. New blueberry bush plantings continued. Some citrus growers were treating their groves for fungus, insects, weeds. Foliar nutrients were also being applied. The harvests of oranges, lemons, mandarins, minneolas, pummelos were ongoing. Valencia harvest was picking up speed. Navel harvest was estimated at 65 percent complete in Tulare County. Field juicing of Navels was underway for fruit not suitable for the fresh market. Olive trees were being trimmed. Bloom continued in walnut, pistachio groves. More trees were leafing out. Male pistachio trees were putting on pollen sacks in Kern County. Walnuts were sprayed for blight in some areas. Almonds were growing well in the warm, dry conditions with nutlets developing rapidly. Little evidence of fungal disease was seen in almond groves. Clean-up from damaging January winds that blew over trees was ongoing. Spring harvest of broccoli, carrots, cauliﬂower, spinach, Romaine lettuce crops continued. Asparagus, endive harvest continued. Herbicides were applied to onion, garlic ﬁelds with ongoing cultivation, irrigation. High winds caused some Imperial Valley melon vines to be damaged; pollination was impeded due to lack of bee activity. Emerged sweet corn was growing well. Transplanting of bell peppers, tomatoes for the fresh and processing markets was nearly complete. Farmers’ market vegetables such as amaranth, basil, bok choy, beets, head and napa cabbage, cilantro, choy sum, daikon, dandelion, dit, fennel, head and leaf lettuce, leeks, lemon grass, mint, mustard and collard greens, kale, ong choy, parsley, green onions, radishes, rutabagas, tatsoi, tong ho, yam leaf, yams, yu choy continued to be harvested. Vegetable ﬁelds were being weeded, irrigated, fertilized, treated to control weeds, insects, mildew. In Tulare County, early planted zucchini continued to bloom, set fruit; picking has started on a limited volume. Colder weather toward the week’s end slowed down growth, sizing of squash fruits. Planting of cucumbers was steady as was harvesting, first stringing. Planting of both indoor and outdoor varieties of peppers, gourds, string beans, bitter melons, assorted eggplants, tomatoes, shiokwa was in full swing. In Kern County, carrots, lettuce, onion, tomato crops were
Peaches: 0% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 73% good, 0% excellent. Onions: 0% very poor, 1% poor, 8% fair, 52% good, 40% excellent. Hay: 8% very poor, 12% poor, 44% fair, 32% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat: 0% very short, 16% short, 77% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn: 0% very short, 20% short, 77% adequate, 3% surplus. Sugar beets: 2% emerged, 9% 2007, 5% 2008, 4% avg.

COLORADO: Temperatures were well-above average across Colorado throughout the month of March. Some areas in the State reported temperatures 7 degrees above normal for this time of year. Precipitation levels fluctuated from week to week and were slightly below-average for the month. Statewide, the mountain snowpack is 122% of the average for this time of year, which is down 4% from February’s 126%. Currently, the northern regions have mountain snowpack slightly above average amounts (105%-122%), while the southern regions are in the 75%-88% range. The Southern Plains experienced dry conditions with limited or no snow cover throughout most of the month. Winter wheat broke dormancy in fair to good condition. Producers are planting spring crops on schedule under good conditions.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 91% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 20% short, 77% adequate, 3% surplus. Hay supplies 45% very short, 51% short, 3% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture condition 4% very poor, 8% poor, 54% fair, 33% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 4% fair, 69% good, 26% excellent. Barley condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 1% fair, 63% good, 12% excellent. Green peas 58% planted, 33% 2007, 34% avg. Potatoes 55% planted, 32% 2007, 23% avg. Hay supplies are short throughout Maryland and Delaware.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 19% short, 74% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 18% short, 76% adequate, 2% surplus. Start of week, fields dry, dusty; end of week, rain. Jefferson County, much corn planted; Washington County, 85% corn up; rest expected planted following week. Suwannee County, planted corn. Growers St. Johns County, killed vines early planted potatoes in preparation for harvest. First hay of season baled. Suwannee County, Significant rains elevated soil moisture, especially central, southern areas. Some fields experienced 10-15% of fields not harvested due to the rain. Soil moisture, Panhandle, short, mostly adequate; Big Bend, adequate. Vegetable planting, harvesting continued. Most watermelons seeded or transplanted. Jefferson County; Immokalee, early harvesting. St. Augustine, sweet onions harvested. St. Johns County, wrapping up most cabbage harvest. Producers marketed snap beans, celery, cabbage, sweet potatoes, cucumbers, eggplant, cantaloupe, escarole, okra, peas, peppers, radishes, squash, tomatoes. Citrus grove maintenance spraying, mowing, hedging, topping, fertilizing. Growers, caretakers, field personnel reported new growth flush, about three quarters patio plant drop on late oranges, full patio plant other varieties. Valencia harvest, over six million boxcars per week, close to 30% for the season. Majority of remaining grapefruit will be processed; sizes relatively small; pack-out amounts declining. Fresh export sales grapefruit, tangerines diminishing. Varieties harvested early, midseason, Temple, Valencia oranges; grapefruit; Honey tangerines Pasture feed 10% very poor, 20% poor, 35% fair, 30% good, 5% excellent. Cattle condition 5% very poor, 15% poor, 40% fair, 40% good. Panhandle, north pasture condition poor to good, most fair. Most permanent pasture had good growth, Jefferson County. Santa Rosa County, small grain forage improved with continued cool, dry weather. Washington County, perennial grasses slow recovering from late freeze, since surface moisture was marginal. Cattle condition mostly fair to good. Central pasture condition poor to good, most fair to good. Marion County, pasture growth showing improvement due to warmer temperatures, rain. Cattle, very poor to good condition, most fair. Southwest pasture very poor to excellent, most good. Due to increased rains, pasture condition improved, also body condition scores of cattle. Statewide cattle condition very poor to good, most fair.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 16% short, 67% adequate, 16% surplus. Corn 0% very poor, 1% poor, 24% fair, 73% good, 2% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 52% good, 24% excellent. Range and pasture 5% very poor, 12% poor; 39% fair, 42% good, 2% excellent. Hay 8% very poor, 14% poor, 50% fair, 27% good, 4% excellent. Onions 0% very poor, 0% poor, 8% fair, 52% good, 40% excellent. Peaches 0% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 73% good, 0% excellent.

HAWAII: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Soil moisture was adequate. Barley condition is fair to good condition. Barley temperatures and a mixture of sunshine and showers aided crop progress. Papaya fields were in fair to good condition. Most vegetables were in fair to good condition. Irrigation was moderate to heavy and steady in most areas. Insects and diseases were being controlled by regular spraying. Weather conditions were generally favorable for spring tiglium and the winter small grains, cotton, onions and sugar beets.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 2.9. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 3% short, 88% adequate, 9% surplus. Sugar beets 2% emerged, 9% 2007, 5% avg. Spring wheat 1% emerged, 6% 2007, 4% avg. Barley 1% emerged, 3% 2007, 4% avg. Onions 53% planted, 89% 2007, 1% avg. Potatoes 2% planted, 2007, 1% avg. Oats 21% planted, 30% 2007, 25% avg.; 3% emerged, 4% 2007, 4% avg. Dry peas 4% planted, 17% 2007, 17% avg. Calving complete 86%, 89% 2007, 88% avg. Lambing complete 82%, 89% 2007, 88% avg. Hay and roughage supply 20% very short, 43% short, 37% adequate, 0% surplus. Irrigation water supply 3% very poor, 0% poor, 36% fair, 60% good, 4% excellent. Winter wheat is in fair to good condition. Most permanent pasture had good growth. Feedlots and pastures remain very muddy making feeding difficult. Farming has begun in some lower elevation areas of Idaho, but many fields in Eastern Idaho and Northern Idaho remain snow covered. Because of the low elevation snowpack, flooding and muddy conditions are a concern, especially in the unregulated drainages such as the Weiser River. Major agricultural activities included feeding livestock, spring tiglium and planting spring crops on schedule. Producers are planting spring fields on schedule under good conditions. Producers are reporting wet fields across the state which is preventing much progress, and the forecast is calling for more rain. Wheat is beginning to green up, with some winter kill being reported. Temperatures thus far are 1.1 degree below normal and precipitation is 0.83 inch above normal.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1. Topsoil moisture 17% adequate, 83% surplus. Subsoil moisture 30% adequate, 70% surplus. Wheat condition is in fair to good condition. Most permanent pasture had good growth. Jefferson County, much corn planted; Washington County, 85% corn up; rest expected planted following week. Jefferson County, planted corn. Growers St. Johns County, killed vines early planted potatoes in preparation for harvest. First hay of season baled. Suwannee County, Significant rains elevated soil moisture, especially central, southern areas. Some fields experienced 10-15% of fields not harvested due to the rain. Majority of remaining grapefruit will be processed; sizes relatively small; pack-out amounts declining. Fresh export sales grapefruit, tangerines diminishing. Varieties harvested early, midseason, Temple, Valencia oranges; grapefruit; Honey tangerines Pasture feed 10% very poor, 20% poor, 35% fair, 30% good, 5% excellent. Cattle condition 5% very poor, 15% poor, 40% fair, 40% good. Panhandle, north pasture condition poor to good, most fair. Most permanent pasture had good growth, Jefferson County. Santa Rosa County, small grain forage improved with continued cool, dry weather. Washington County, perennial grasses slow recovering from late freeze, since surface moisture was marginal. Cattle condition mostly fair to good. Central pasture condition poor to good, most fair to good. Marion County, pasture grass growing improvement due to warmer temperatures, rain. Cattle, very poor to good condition, most fair. Southwest pasture very poor to excellent, most good. Due to increased rains, pasture condition improved, also body condition scores of cattle. Statewide cattle condition very poor to good, most fair.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.3. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 1% short, 61% adequate, 38% surplus. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 1% short, 71% adequate, 28% surplus. Oats 2% planted. Fertilizer application 53% complete; Cold, wet weather limits early field work as Spring continued its slow emergence in Iowa. Gravel roads have yet to firm up, making grain and livestock hauling
KANSAS: Days suitable for field work 4.8. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 20% short, 64% adequate, and 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 18% short, 68% adequate, and 7% surplus. Wheat 18% jointed, 60% 2007, 38% avg.; condition 6% very poor, 16% poor, 34% fair, 36% good, and 8% excellent. Wind damage to wheat crop 68% none, 9% light, 2% moderate, and 1% severe. Frost freeze damages, wheat 90% none, 8% light, and 2% moderate. Insect infestation of wheat 90% none, 9% light, and 1% moderate. Disease infestation 83% none, 16% light, and 1% moderate. Corn 3% planted, 1% 2007, 5% avg. Oats 89% planted, 75% 2007, 76% avg. Range and pasture condition 9% very poor, 17% poor, 36% fair, 35% good, 3% excellent. Feed grain supplies 3% very short, 11% short, 84% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 3% very short, 18% short, 76% adequate, 3% surplus. Stock water 4% very short, 11% short, 80% adequate, and 5% surplus. Livestock activities primarily involved calving and lambing around the State. Cattle are being placed on pasture in areas. Primary farm activity involved, top dressing wheat, weed control, seeding corn and oats, and burning pastures.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.5. Topsoil moisture 1% short, 25% adequate, 74% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% short, 39% adequate, 59% surplus. Corn acres 1% planted. Tobacco 73% transplants seeded. Tobacco transplants 38% emerged. Average height of wheat 10 inches, 30% budding, and 50% blooming. Wheat condition 3% poor, 17% fair, 57% good, 23% excellent. Barley condition 3% poor, 8% fair, 53% good, 36% excellent. Pasture condition 11% very poor, 29% poor, 35% fair, 22% good, 3% excellent. Heavy rainfall hampered plant growth.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Soil moisture 0% very short, 10% short, 61% adequate and 29% surplus. Corn 94% planted, 91% 2007, 82% avg.; 53% emerged, 71% 2007, 48% avg. Hay 1% first cutting, 2% 2007, 1% avg. Rice 23% emerged, 19% 2007, 21% avg. Wheat 52% headed, 66% 2007, 49% avg.; 4% poor, 24% fair, 56% good, 16% excellent. Spring plowing 71% plowed, 78% 2007, 64% avg. Sugarcane 1% very poor, 4% poor, 47% fair, 46% good, 3% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 17% poor, 38% fair, 53% good, 2% excellent. Vegetable 1% very poor, 12% poor, 46% fair, 36% good, 5% excellent. Range and pasture 3% very poor, 13% poor, 36% fair, 44% good, 4% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 6% short, 88% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 32% short, 66% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay supplies 41% very short, 49% short, 9% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture condition 9% very poor, 8% poor, 44% fair, 31% good, 8% excellent. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 8% fair, 54% good, 38% excellent. Barley condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 9% fair, 48% good, 43% excellent. Green pea 21% planted, 30% 2007, 40% avg. Oats 21% planted, 43% 2007, 29% avg. Sweet com 13% planted, 4% 2007, 6% avg. Tomatoes 9% planted, 3% 2007, 6% avg. Hay supplies are short throughout Maryland and Delaware.

MICHIGAN: Day suitable for fieldwork 1. Topsoil 0% very short, 0% short, 41% adequate, 58% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 2% short, 54% adequate, 43% surplus. Hail damage to wheat 2% very poor, 21% poor, 24% fair, 29% good, 4% excellent. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.84 inches in the western Upper Peninsula to 1.56 inches in the southeast Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 2 degrees above normal in the central Lower Peninsula to 5 degrees above normal in the northwest Lower Peninsula. Snow cover exists in some areas, and is beginning to melt due to warmer temperatures. This, along with rain has caused wet soil conditions. Given the current soil conditions and weather forecast, corn and soybean planting will be behind normal. Farm activities include lambing, calving, hauling and spreading manure, repairing machinery, pruning fruit trees and clearing brush.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.0. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 6% short, 68% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 15% short, 73% adequate, 9% surplus. Corn 0% ground prepared, 0% 2007, 0% avg. Soybeans 0% ground prepared, 0% 2007, 0% avg. Much of Minnesota received snowfall last week. Precipitation amounts based on snow-water equivalent ranged from 1.42 inches in southeastern Minnesota to zero inches in western Minnesota. As of April 6, 2008 snow cover in southern Minnesota was melted whereas northern Minnesota has 1 – 20+ inches of remaining snow depth. Overall, temperatures are slightly higher than normal, ranging from 1.2 degrees below normal in southeastern Minnesota to 1.4 degrees above normal in north central Minnesota.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.7. Soil moisture 1% very short, 17% short, 41% adequate, and 41% surplus. Corn 58% planted, 92% 2007, 72% avg.; 42% emerged, 79% 2007, 41% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 61% fair, 30% good, 6% excellent. Rice 1% planted, 12% 2007, 7% avg. Sorghum 3% planted, 7% 2007, 7% avg. Soybeans 3% planted, 21% 2007, 18% avg.; 1% emerged, 11% 2007, 5% avg. Winter wheat 85% jointing, 86% 2007, 83% avg.; 4% heading, 34% 2007, 16% avg.; 1% fair, 3% good, 3% excellent, 72% good, 27% excellent. Hay 2% (harvested-cool), 5% 2007, 2% avg. Blueberries 0% very poor, 1% poor, 17% fair, 79% good, 3% excellent. Watermelons 50% planted, 47% 2007, 40% avg. Cattle 5% very poor, 14% poor, 32% fair, 35% good, 14% excellent. Pasture 2% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 45% good, 14% excellent. Inclement weather blunted the start last week of producing tomatoes in some areas. The Delta area is experiencing flood-like conditions, with over one thousand acres being under water. Flood stages are at alarming levels, and a considerable amount of wheat acreage has been impacted due to the rain. The wet weather has halted most fieldwork. Corn planting is underway and limited and a large portion of soybean has been planted. Increasing fuel, fertilizer, and feed prices are continuing to concern producers.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.1. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 1% short, 57% adequate, 42% surplus. Spring tillage 14% complete, 44% 2007, 44% avg. Pasture condition 7% very poor, 21% poor, 4% fair, 28% good, 28% excellent. Barley condition 7% very poor, 1% poor, 5% fair, 71% good, 15% excellent. Wheat conditions were normal in north central Minnesota. Overall, temperatures are slightly higher than normal, ranging from 1.2 degrees below normal in southeastern Missouri to 1.4 degrees above normal in north central Missouri.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.8. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 21% short, 70% adequate, and 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 23% short, 65% adequate, and 5% surplus. Oats 24% planted, 27% 2007, 36% avg.; 2% emerged, 5% 2007, 5% avg. Cattle and calves condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 17% fair, 71% good and 10% excellent; calving 73% complete; calf losses rated 10% below average, 89% average, and 1% above average. Precipitation fell throughout most of the state accumulating almost 2 inches in the eastern part of the state. Cool temperatures and wet conditions limited the days suitable for field work to less than 3 days which was slightly better than last year but below the five year average of 4.1 days.

NEVADA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Cold, windy conditions prevailed throughout the week. Very little precipitation was received as storm systems generally blew through the State. Snow pack in eastern Nevada was above normal while the west was near normal. Grain planting was underway, as was onion seeding. Soda harvest was active. Seasonal greening spread and stock were being moved to Spring range and pasture in areas. Primary farm activity involved, top dressing wheat, weed control, seeding corn and oats, and burning pastures.

NEW ENGLAND: The first week of April began with rain and above average temperatures, followed by a cold front on the 2nd. Days suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 8% short, 82% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 19% short, 25% adequate, 56% surplus. Snow cover 50% none, 11% light, and 39% moderate. Average precipitation was 0.54 inches in the southeast Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 2 degrees below normal in the northwest Lower Peninsula to 5 degrees below normal in the northeast Lower Peninsula. Snow cover exists in some areas, and is beginning to melt due to warmer temperatures. This, along with rain has caused wet soil conditions. Given the current soil conditions and weather forecast, corn and soybean planting will be behind normal. Farm activities include lambing, calving, hauling and spreading manure, repairing machinery, pruning fruit trees and clearing brush.
average temperatures across the region. High temperatures were in the mid 50s to low 60s and low temperatures were in the low 30s in northern states to the upper 40s in southern areas. Rain on Tuesday brought 0.15 and 1.07 inches of moisture to the area and cooled temperatures. Mid-week boasted average to slightly below-average temperatures and showers. Cloudy skies continued the remainder of the week. Rain returned again on Friday and lasted throughout Saturday afternoon. Some areas saw a mix of snow and rain throughout the storms. However, snow accumulation was minimal. Total rainfall for the week ranged between 0.86 inches to over three inches, averaging around two inches. Weekend high temperatures were below average to average while low temperatures were average. Maple sugar activities continued in northern states. General farm activities included working in nurseries and greenhouses, tending livestock, performing general maintenance, and continuing to make preparations for the spring planting season.

**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for field work 5.0. Topsoil moisture 65% adequate and 35% surplus. Subsoil moisture 80% adequate, 20% surplus. There were measurable amounts of rainfall for the week in most localities. Temperatures were variable during the week in most areas of the Garden State. Peaches are in full bloom in the southern district. Blueberries are being sprayed for mummy fungus, while grapes have finished pruning in parts of the south. Other activities included greenhouse work, spraying, fertilizing and ground preparation.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for field work 7.0. Topsoil moisture 45% very short, 41% short, 14% adequate. Wind damage 30% light, 6% moderate, 3% severe. Freeze damage 4% light, 1% moderate. Alfalfa 9% poor, 13% fair, 78% good. Irrigated winter wheat 26% poor, 25% fair, 33% good, 16% excellent, with 1% headed, 47% grazed. Dry winter wheat 42% very poor, 46% poor, 3% fair, 1% good, 2% excellent. Winter wheat 25% very poor, 38% poor, 17% fair, 14% good, 6% excellent, 25% grazed. Lettuce 5% fair, 85% good, 10% excellent. Chile 5% poor, 85% fair, 10% good, 75% planted. Onions 5% fair, 90% good, 5% excellent. Cattle conditions 1% very poor, 12% poor, 43% fair, 42% good, 2% excellent. Sheep conditions 5% very poor, 14% poor, 42% fair, 35% good. Range and pasture conditions 26% very poor, 37% poor, 29% fair, 8% good. Farmers spent the week planting and irrigating crops, as well as preparing fields for other spring planting. Livestock producers have been busy supplemental feeding, hauling water and shearing sheep. Temperatures for the week remained near to slightly above normal. Some areas across northern and southeastern New Mexico saw minor amounts of precipitation.

**NEW YORK:** Cold weather continued through the week ending April 6, with temperatures staying mostly in the 30’s. Maple syrup producers continued to boil and expected to be able to continue for another couple of weeks. Apple, onion, and potato growers continued moving their crops from storage for grading and packing. Other major activities included tending livestock, spreading manure, attending meetings and trade shows, preparing equipment for plantings, and finalizing plans for the upcoming season.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work 3.7. Soil moisture 1% very short, 7% short, 70% adequate and 20% surplus. Activities included the planting of Irish potatoes and cabbage, spreading of fertilizer, and all other spring planting activities. North Carolina welcomed the rain during the week with all stations reporting over one inch of rain and the most precipitation recorded in Jacksonville. Most stations reported temperatures below normal for the week with average temperatures ranging from 45 to 65 degrees.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Topsoil moisture supplies 31% very short, 31% short, 35% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 26% very short, 37% short, 36% adequate, 1% surplus. The statewide average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be April 14. Dry edible peas 1% planted. Hay and forage supplies 1% very short 7% short, 84% adequate, 6% surplus. Pastures and ranges 1% growing, 99% dormant. Four percent of cattle and calves contained their feed from pastures and ranges. Grain and concentrate supplies 2% very short, 10% short, 83% adequate, 5% surplus. Cow conditions 1% poor, 14% fair, 71% good, 14% excellent. Calving was 58% complete. Calf conditions 1% poor, 14% fair, 68% good, 17% excellent. Sheep conditions 2% poor, 19% fair, 65% good, 14% excellent. Five percent of sheep and lambs grazed their feed from pastures and ranges. Lambing was 70% percent complete. Lambing conditions 2% poor, 18% fair, 66% good, 14% excellent. Shearing was 78% complete. Recent precipitation has delayed fieldwork for the storm affected areas of the state, however, western areas have begun planting small grains and dry edible peas. Producers in western areas are concerned for potential fires due to dry soil conditions while in eastern areas, many producers were preparing machinery as they wait for warm, dry conditions to arrive.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for field work 0.8. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 0% short, 22% adequate, 78% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 4%, 3% 2007, 5% avg. Oats 4% planted, 8% 2007, 7% avg. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 7% excellent. Pasture condition 7% very poor, 24% poor, 35% fair, 28% good, 5% excellent. Winter wheat condition 5% very poor, 9% poor, 34% fair, 47% good, 8% excellent. Farmers had less than a day suitable for field work which allowed limited field work during the first week of crop weather reporting for the 2008 growing season. The majority of reporters indicate very few field conditions. Farm activities for the first week of 2008 report weather reporting included greenhouse staging, manure hauling, soil planting, and prepping machinery for spring planting.

**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil moisture 14% very short, 15% short, 55% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture 13% very short, 15% short, 62% adequate, 10% surplus. Wheat condition 74% very poor, 12% poor, 30% fair, 43%7% good, 8% excellent; jointing 67% this week, 50% last week, 84% last year, 80% average. Rye condition 4% very poor, 9% poor, 22% fair, 58% good, 7% excellent; jointing 87% this week, 72% last week, 93% last year, 62% average. Oats condition 5% very poor, 10% poor, 42% fair, 35% good, 8% excellent; jointing 32% this week, 21% last week, 36% last year, 29% average. Corn 55% very poor, 45% last week, 82% last year, 70% average; planted 20% this week, 14% last week, 35% last year, 26% average. Sorghum seedbed prepared 25% this week, 23% last week, 30% last year, 29% average. Soybeans seedbed prepared 39% this week, 37% last week, 29% last year, 35% average. Pasture condition 5% very poor, 11% last week, 33% last year, 37% average. Cotton seedbed prepared 64% this week, 50% last week, 45% last year, 55% average. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 38% fair, 47% good, 7% excellent. Pasture and range condition 4% very poor, 12% poor, 36% fair, 39% good, 9% excellent. Livestock Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged $103 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged $93 per cwt. Livestock conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range. Light livestock insect activity was reported. Average livestock marketings were reported last week.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for field work 4.7. Top soil moisture 10% short, 55% adequate, 35% surplus. Sub soil moisture 16% short, 50% adequate, 34% surplus. Alfalfa 9% poor, 15% fair, 13% good, 5% excellent. Corn 44% very poor, 20% poor, 36% fair, 12% good, 4% excellent. Winter wheat 42% very poor, 46% poor, 3% fair, 1% good, 11% excellent. Potato 4% very poor, 4% poor, 4% fair, 2% good, 5% excellent. Spring wheat 70% very poor, 25% poor, 4% fair, 1% good. Alfalfa 9% poor, 13% fair, 78% good. Soybeans seedbed prepared 1% this week, 2% last week, 4% last year. Days suitable for field work 4.7. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 7% short, 5% adequate, 83% surplus. Grain and concentrate supply 2% very short, 7% short, 62% adequate, 2% surplus. No significant precipitation occurred last week.

**WASHINGTON:** Not available.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Not available.

**WISCONSIN:** Not available.

**WYOMING:** Not available.
**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Soil moisture 1% very short, 72% short, 26% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn planting was delayed due to wet conditions in North East Texas. Pecan planting was delayed due to wet conditions in North East Texas. Vegetable planting continues, but like other crops was hindered by the week's wet weather. Pasture conditions 5 very poor, 11% poor, 65% fair, 16% good, 3% excellent. Principal farm activities included spreading manure and fertilizer, checking and servicing machinery, attending farm auctions, spring plowing, cleaning barnyards, constructing sod waterways and cropland terraces, and planting oats.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 2. Soil moisture 1% short, 50% adequate, 45% surplus. Crops are beginning to progress around the state. Livestock conditions 5 very poor, 11% poor, 15% fair, 55% good, 17% excellent. Cover crops 38% planted, 43% 2007, 20% avg.; 2% 2008, 29% 2007, 4% avg. Alfalfa condition 3% fair, 49% good, 46% excellent. Oats planted 13% 2007, 18% avg. Wheat crop condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 31% fair, 53% good, 14% excellent. Oats 12% planted, 8% 2007, 12% avg. Alfalfa crop conditions 43% fair, 45% good, 12% excellent. Timothy clover crop condition 35% fair, 52% good, 13% excellent. Pasture conditions 5 very poor, 11% poor, 65% fair, 16% good, 3% excellent. Principal farm activities include spring cleaning, crop updating and the Trans-Pecos. Pastures continued to green up in many areas of the state; however, supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Eastern half of Texas, while the rest of the state observed little to no rainfall. Small grains started to improve due to the recent rains in the Blackburns. Cotton will remain the dominant crop in the Trans-Pecos.

**TEXAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3. Soil moisture 1% very short, 3% short, 96% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn planting was delayed due to wet conditions in North East Texas. Pecan planting was delayed due to wet conditions in North East Texas. Wheat condition was mostly poor to fair statewide. Oat condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Scattered showers were prevalent in the Eastern half of Texas, while the rest of the state observed little to no rainfall. Small grains started to improve due to the recent rains in the Blackburns. Corn planting was delayed due to wet conditions in North East Texas. Pecan trees continue to grow. Pecans are in bloom and wheat continues to mature. Wheat condition was mostly poor to fair statewide. Oat condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Scattered showers were prevalent in the Eastern half of Texas, while the rest of the state observed little to no rainfall. Small grains started to improve due to the recent rains in the Blackburns. Cotton will remain the dominant crop in the Trans-Pecos.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for field work 5. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 3% short, 96% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 13% fair, 15% fair, 5% good, 7% excellent. Spring wheat 29% planted, 57% 2007, 44% avg. Barley 35% planted, 51% 2007, 42% avg. Oats 21% planted, 26% 2007, 26% avg. Cows calved 68%, 72% 2007, 70% avg. Range and pasture 6% very poor, 18% poor, 40% fair, 26% good, 10% excellent. Stock water supplies 0% very short, 1% short, 99% adequate, 0% surplus. Ewes lamb On Farm, Ewes lamb On Farm 68% 2008, 74% 2007, 72% avg. Lamb Range, Ewes Lamb on range 15%, 35% 2007, 31% avg. Apricots full bloom or past 47%, 39% 2007, 45% avg. Overall conditions for this week have been fair for field work. The days suitable for work was 4.0 days. Crops are beginning to progress around the state. Livestock conditions continue to do well. Box Elder reports farmers in Corinne have been able to get into the fields and begin spring planting. Farmers are planting more spring wheat this year mainly due to the higher wheat prices. The increase in input costs for onions have made it likely that some acreage intended for onions will be planted to spring wheat. Most of the onions that are going to be planted have been planted already. Producers have been able to apply sprays and fertilizers on some acreage in the Bear River Valley. Most of the dryland areas in Blue Creek, Hansel Valley, and Pocatello Valleys are just coming out from under the snow and there is some concern about the fall wheat in that area. Much of the wheat did not get up very good due to dry conditions. Fruit farmers in Box Elder have been pruning and putting on dormant sprays that will allow them to continue their spring activities. Beaver County reports that planting spring grains is going well. Concerns of irrigation water shortages and hay stock shortages are causing producers to worry about hay prices. Morgan and Weber county farmers are waiting for the fields to dry out so they can finish their spring fieldwork. Wheat prices are very high, but range grasses are beginning to grow. Summit County reports that it’s too wet to do any field work. Uintah County reports that the cold soil and air temperatures are keeping farmers from planting as of yet. Box Elder indicates that the calving has gone well overall. Sheep producers (range herds) will be starting to lamb in the next couple of weeks.
Irrigation supplies look good at this point. Summit and Beaver counties report that ranchers are still calving and lambing livestock, but unfortunately the cold wet weather has caused some pneumonia/scours in young calves and lambs.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 14% short, 67% adequate, 15% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 32% short, 58% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 5% planted; 21% last year; 10%5yr avg. Tobacco greenhouse 98% seeded; 98% last year; 98%5yr avg.; condition 64% good; 36% excellent. Tobacco plant beds seeded 93%; 78% last year; 93% 5yr avg.; condition 61% fair, 39% good. Summer potatoes 90% planted; 83% last year; na 5yr avg. Pasture 6% very poor, 19% poor, 45% fair, 24% good, 6% excellent. Livestock 3% very poor, 8% poor, 34% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Other hay 6% very poor, 14% poor, 51% fair, 28% good, 1% excellent. Alfalfa hay 4% very poor, 5% poor, 42% fair, 47% good, 2% excellent. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 24% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Barley 1% poor, 25% fair, 66% good, 8% excellent. All apples 1% poor, 39% fair, 60% good. Peaches 1% very poor, 5% poor, 37% fair, 36% good, 21% excellent. Grapes 1% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, 1% excellent. Oats 2% very poor, 13% poor, 41% fair, 42% good, 2% excellent. Rain showers throughout the Commonwealth welcomed. Rain improved winter wheat, barley, and pasture conditions in some parts of the State, corn planting was well underway, while other parts of the State had not yet started. Hay stocks ran short, cattle producers were anxious for pastures to green up. Grain producers reduced use of fertilizer, lime, and litter applications due to cost. Other farm activities this week included tending greenhouse vegetables, attending production meetings, top dressing wheat with nitrogen, and applying fungicides.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 14% short, 67% adequate, 15% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 32% short, 58% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 5% planted; 21% last year; 10%5yr avg. Tobacco greenhouse 98% seeded; 98% last year; 98%5yr avg.; condition 64% good; 36% excellent. Tobacco plant beds seeded 93%; 78% last year; 93% 5yr avg.; condition 61% fair, 39% good. Summer potatoes 90% planted; 83% last year; na 5yr avg. Pasture 6% very poor, 19% poor, 45% fair, 24% good, 6% excellent. Livestock 3% very poor, 8% poor, 34% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Other hay 6% very poor, 14% poor, 51% fair, 28% good, 1% excellent. Alfalfa hay 4% very poor, 5% poor, 42% fair, 47% good, 2% excellent. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 24% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Barley 1% poor, 25% fair, 66% good, 8% excellent. All apples 1% poor, 39% fair, 60% good. Peaches 1% very poor, 5% poor, 37% fair, 36% good, 21% excellent. Grapes 1% poor, 30% fair, 53% good, 1% excellent. Oats 2% very poor, 13% poor, 41% fair, 42% good, 2% excellent. Rain showers throughout the Commonwealth welcomed. Rain improved winter wheat, barley, and pasture conditions in some parts of the State, corn planting was well underway, while other parts of the State had not yet started. Hay stocks ran short, cattle producers were anxious for pastures to green up. Grain producers reduced use of fertilizer, lime, and litter applications due to cost. Other farm activities this week included tending greenhouse vegetables, attending production meetings, top dressing wheat with nitrogen, and applying fungicides.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for field work 3. Topsoil moisture 6% short, 66% adequate, 28% surplus compared with 3% short, 81% adequate, 16% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring 25% planting, 26% in 2007, 22% 5-yr avg. Hay and roughage 21% very short, 42% short, 37% adequate compared with 2% very short, 30% short, 65% adequate, 3% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies 7% very short, 31% short, 62% adequate compared with 1% very short, 5% short, 94% adequate this time last year. Winter wheat conditions 1% poor, 41% fair, 58% good. Oats 23% planted, 7% in 2007, 12% 5-yr avg. Hay 18% poor, 43% fair, 38% good, 1% excellent, Apple conditions 74% fair, 26% good. Peach conditions 79% fair, 21% good. Cattle and calves 2% very poor, 9% poor, 30% fair, 58% good, 1% excellent. Calving was 70% complete, compared to 75% last year, Sheep and lambs 1% very poor, 18% poor, 31% fair, 49% good, 1% excellent. Lambing was 75% complete, compared to 81% last year. Farming activities included plowing fields, planting oats, applying lime and fertilizer, pruning fruit trees, lambing, calving and repairing fence for cattle turn out.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.0. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 0% short, 60% adequate, and 40% surplus. Temperatures ranged from 0 to 3 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures were in the lower 50s across the state. Lows averaged in the upper 20s to mid 30s for the week. Precipitation ranged from 0.90 inches in Eau Claire to 1.47 inches in Milwaukee. The Northern third of the state received 5 to 12 inches of snow early in the week.

WYOMING: Topsoil moisture 11% very short, 31% short, 56% adequate, 2% surplus. Irrigation water supplies 3% very short, 19% short, 76% adequate, 2% surplus. Spring grazing prospects 10% poor, 40% fair, 46% good, 4% excellent. Barley 43% planted, 34% 2007, 48% avg.; 1% emerged, 1% 2007, 4% avg. Oats 3% planted, 8% 2007, 10% avg.; 0% emerged, 0% 2007, 0% avg. Sugar beets 2% planted, 1% 2007, 6% avg. Spring wheat 0% planted, 6% 2007, 9% avg.; 0% emerged, 0% 2007, 0% avg.Corn 0% planted, 0% 2007, 0% avg. Winter wheat condition 24% fair, 76% good. Calves born 62%, 69% 2007, 63% avg. Calf losses 15% light, 83% normal, 2% heavy. Farm flock lambed 61%, 71% 2007, 67% avg. Farm flock shorn 52%, 68% 2007, 66% avg. Lamb losses 11% light, 84% normal, 5% heavy. Range flock lambed 7%, 13% 2007, 12% avg. Range flock shorn 17%, 25% 2007, 29% avg. Pasture and range condition 2% very poor, 28% short, 3% fair, 35% good, 1% excellent.