ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 5% short, 69% adequate, and 26% surplus. Corn 68% planted, 85% 2008, 82% avg.; 47% emerged, 61% 2008, and 51% avg.; planted Condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 30% fair, 64% good, and 4% excellent. Cotton 3% Planted, 15% 2008, and 25% average. Peanuts 0% Planted, 3% 2008, 4% average. Percent of Feed Obtained from Pastures 73%, N/A for tub, and N/A average. Corn 26%. Wheat 49%. Headed, N/A 2008, and N/A avg.; condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 27% fair, 64% good, and 7% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 56% good, and 14% excellent. Pasture and rangeland condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 21% fair, 68% good, and 10% excellent. Hay and rangeland supplies 13% short, 82% adequate, and 12% surplus. Producers in Alabama experienced dryer weather last week compared to previous weeks. Farmers anticipate beginning field work over the weekend and into the beginning of this week. The US Drought Monitor from April 21, 2009 indicated that the state was once again 100 percent free from drought, compared to 12 percent a year ago. Temperatures for the past week reached as many as 5 degrees above normal. Daytime high temperatures ranged from 85 degrees in Cullman to a hot 91 degrees in Hamilton, Pinson, and Dothan. Overnight lows varied from 35 degrees in Cullman and Bridgeport to 52 degrees in Dothan. Precipitation totals decreased from 0 inches in Bay Minette and Geneva to 2.16 inches in Bridgeport. The amount of rainfall over weeks’ past has caused wheat to show signs of tinting and yellowing. Cotton planting began last week, along with corn finishing and early soybean planting. Producers have welcomed the dryer weather as pasture fertilizing operations are rising.

ARIZONA: Temperatures were above normal at all of the reporting stations across the State. Topsoil moisture was complete on 50 percent of the acreage across the State. Small grains are headed on at least 75 percent of the acreage. Alfalfa harvest remains active on over three-quarters of the State’s acreage. Alfalfa conditions are mostly good to excellent. Range and pasture conditions across the State are mostly fair.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil moisture 4% short, 75% adequate, 21% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% short, 79% adequate, 18% surplus. Corn 82% planted, 63% 2008, 87% avg.; 47% emerged, 38% 2008, 70% avg. Soybeans 3% emerged, 0% 2008, 2% avg. Sorghum 5% emerged, 0% 2008, 23% avg. Drier field conditions allowed producers to make significant progress in row crop plantings last week. Corn producers planted an additional 27% of the crop, 19% ahead of 2008 but still 5% behind the five-year average. Corn emergence was 9% ahead of last year but 23% behind the five-year average. Some producers were side-dressing nitrogen and applying herbicides to corn last week. Cotton planted was 1% ahead of last year but 6% behind the five-year average. Rice farmers planted 21% of the crop last week, 11% ahead of 2008 but still 15% behind the five-year average. Rice emergence was 6% ahead of last year but 14% behind the five-year average. Sorghum growers were able to plant 17% of the crop. Sorghum emerged was 5% ahead of last year but 18% behind the five-year average. An additional 6% of the soybean crop was planted last week as farmers continued to concentrate on getting their corn and rice crops planted. Soybean emergence was 3% ahead of 2008 and 1% ahead of the five-year average. Winter wheat headed was 23% ahead of last year but 3% behind the five-year average. Winter wheat remained in mostly fair to good condition. With the warmer temperatures, livestock remained in fair to good condition. Pasture and range and hay crops were also in fair to good condition as producers continued to fertilize pastures.

CALIFORNIA: The cutting of winter forage, other small grains for silage continued. Spring wheat seeding was underway. Winter wheat fields continued to be green chopped in preparation for corn planting. Corn fields continued to be planted; weed spraying was also underway. Early emerged corn plantings were showing excellent growth with the recent warm winter. Barley fields were starting to mature. Rice field planting began. Also rice fields were rolled, flooded, and a few fields were planted. The second cutting of alfalfa fields and bailing continued. Cotton planting was still in progress. Weather in recent weeks caused growers to stop and start planting. The cotton crop looks good. Potatoes continued to be harvested. The north coast experienced excellent potato bloom while vineyards experienced both bloom. Warm temperatures caused rapid shoot expansion in early grape varieties. Three days of record high temperatures caused increased growth, development rates of northern coastal olive trees. Olive trees in the San Joaquin Valley bloomed. Weed control continued in prune, peach, and nursery stock. Strawberry harvest picked up throughout the state, fruit quality remained good. Blueberries began to turn color. Cherries matured and were almost ready for harvest in some areas. Fungicides, insecticides were applied in orchards, vineyards. Fruit set was lighter than anticipated for some stone fruit varieties. Bee hives were moved into citrus locations to make orange honey. Navel orange harvest was mostly complete, however, navelos displayed soft fruit and drying as quality slowly declined. Valencia harvest ramped up while Minneola harvest was mostly finished. Lemon, grapefruit harvests continued as harvest was almost complete for W. Murcott and Honey mandarins. Harvest picked up for Pixie mandarins. Pistachio trees damaged from the April frost were replanted in the Sacramento Valley. Blight treatments continued in walnut orchards. High temperatures caused increased evapo-transpiration rates in orchards causing light stress to some orchards. Growers monitored soil moisture content throughout the state as well as ants, mites, and navel orangeworms in the San Joaquin Valley. Almonds were sizing normally. Water availability was becoming scarce in some areas of the Central Valley. Processing tomato planting continued in Sutter County. Broccoli, spinach were harvested in Stanislaus County while land was prepared for planting tomatoes, beans, cantaloupes. Lima, freezer bean plantings were expected to start in the upcoming weeks. Stockton area farmers were harvesting asparagus and planting tomatoes. Merced growers were reportedly planting tomatoes using drip irrigation techniques as high yields resulting from this practice last year. Early planted tomato fields in Fresno were showing their first blooms. Tulare County growers were planting and preparing vegetable beds. Harvests of squash, zucchini continued. Bitter melon, camote leaves grown in hot houses were being harvested for farmers markets. Pole cucumbers were making good growth gains. Bakersfield area onions were treated with mildew sprays and for thrips. Melons were growing nicely with some fields treated for aphids, mites. Sweet corn, onions, carrots were harvested in the Imperial Valley. The melon crop was progressing well. High temperatures resulted in rapid dry down on rangeland. Additional rainfall was needed to help growth. Supplemental feeding of hay, nutrients to livestock continued. Cattle weight gains were normal as rangeland conditions were average. Bees were moved to holding areas.

COLORADO: Days suitable for field work 4.7. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 15% short, 73% adequate 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 26% short, 56% adequate 7% surplus. Spring barley 40% planted, 61% 2008, 67% avg.; 21% emerged, 21% 2008, 28% avg. Dry onions 75% planted, 83% 2008, 86% avg. Sugar beets 38% planted, 52% 2008, 62% avg. Summer potatoes 18% planted, 29% 2008, 34% avg. Summer wheat 35% planted, 44% 2008, 51% avg.; 15%
emerged, 14% 2008, 18% avg. Winter Wheat 41% jointed, 48% 2008, 49% avg. Colorado did not receive any moisture last week and temperatures averaged about 7 degrees above normal. The above average precipitation received two weeks ago and the warm temperatures last week provided excellent conditions for spring growth.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.8. Topsoil moisture 2% short, 85% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture 28% short, 68% adequate, 4% surplus. Hay supplies 10% very short, 31% short, 59% adequate. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 70% good, 3% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 16% fair, 67% good, 13% excellent. Barley condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 14% fair, 66% good, 1% excellent. Peas 82% planted, 42% 2008, 25% avg.; 1% emerged. 0% 2008, 1% avg. Soybeans 0% planted, 1% 2008, 0% avg. Barley 100% emerged, 74% 2008, 57% avg.; 21% headed, 0% 2008, 0% avg. Winter wheat 100% emerged, 100% 2008, 100% avg.; 0% headed, 12% 2008, 7% avg. Cantaloupe 2%, planted 1% 2008, 2% avg. Cucumbers 1% planted, 3% 2008, 3% avg. Green Peas 84% planted, 90% 2008, 78% avg. Potatoes 83% planted, 82% 2008, 75% avg. Snap Beans 4% planted, 5% 2008, 15% avg. Sweet Corn 7% planted, 2020, 18% avg. Tomatoes 3% planted, 2% 2008, 3% avg. Watermelons 1% planted, 1% 2008, 4% avg. Apples bloomed 48%, 54% 2008, 59% avg. Peaches bloomed 87%, 100% 2008, 87% avg. Summer squash bloomed 88%, 88% 2008. Other farmers were making use of the clear weather to get their corn in. Some complaints of flooded/sloppy field conditions now – with farmers worried about their corn crops being planted timely.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture 36% very short, 45% short, 17% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 29% very short, 39% short, 30% adequate, 2% surplus. Peanut planting began, Panhandle with 9% completed. Field work continued, preparing land for cotton, peanuts. Washington County planted most corn crop, some peanuts. Onions, ryegrass, clover hay were harvested. Columbia County millet, sorghum planted to help forage shortage. Corn, tobacco planting virtually complete. Peanut planting 2% for now. Union County harvested oats, rye for hay. Hay supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 25% adequate, 56% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 8% short, 68% adequate, 4% surplus. Hay supplies 10% very short, 31% short, 59% adequate. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 70% good, 3% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 16% fair, 67% good, 13% excellent. Barley condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 14% fair, 66% good, 1% excellent. Peas 82% planted, 42% 2008, 25% avg.; 1% emerged. 0% 2008, 1% avg. Soybeans 0% planted, 1% 2008, 0% avg. Barley 100% emerged, 74% 2008, 57% avg.; 21% headed, 0% 2008, 0% avg. Winter wheat 100% emerged, 100% 2008, 100% avg.; 0% headed, 12% 2008, 7% avg. Cantaloupe 2%, planted 1% 2008, 2% avg. Cucumbers 1% planted, 3% 2008, 3% avg. Green Peas 84% planted, 90% 2008, 78% avg. Potatoes 83% planted, 82% 2008, 75% avg. Snap Beans 4% planted, 5% 2008, 15% avg. Sweet Corn 7% planted, 2020, 18% avg. Tomatoes 3% planted, 2% 2008, 3% avg. Watermelons 1% planted, 1% 2008, 4% avg. Apples bloomed 48%, 54% 2008, 59% avg. Peaches bloomed 87%, 100% 2008, 87% avg. Summer squash bloomed 88%, 88% 2008. Other farmers were making use of the clear weather to get their corn in. Some complaints of flooded/sloppy field conditions now – with farmers worried about their corn crops being planted timely.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 5.8. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 4% short, 5% adequate, 2% surplus. Peanuts 95% planted, 8% 2008, 14% avg. Winter wheat jointed 5% 2008, 3% 2008, 16%; avg. onion 1% 2008, 0% 2008, 1% avg. Onions 78% emerged, 46% 2008, 63% avg. Potatoes 16% planted, 24% 2008, 20% avg. Oats 41% planted, 49% 2008, 50% avg.; 20% emerged, 32% 2008, 28% avg. Dry peas 13% planted, 11% 2008, 46%; 6% emerged, 3% 2008, 20% avg. Lentils 5% planted, 3% 2008, 28% avg. Lambing complete 96%, 96% 2008, 98% avg. Hay and roughage supply 0% very short, 34% short, 61% adequate, 5% surplus. Irrigation water supply 0% very poor, 0% poor, 9% fair, 81% good, 10% excellent. Sugar beets 87% planted, 88% 2008, 90% avg.; 11% emerged, 14% 2008, 32% avg. Range and pasture 0% very poor, 0% poor, 25% fair, 45% good, 30% excellent. Crops progressed as expected, except sugarbeet planting is well underway but cool soil temperature has made farmers cautious of planting corn. Power County reported some irrigation of sugar beets and winter wheat. Blaine County reported high winds and blowing snow. In the Panhandle, the County reported heavy frost may have harmed emerged crops.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.9. Topsoil moisture 42% adequate and 58% surplus. Corn 4% planted, compared to 5% in 2008 and 43% for the five-year average. Oats 72% planted, compared to 52% in 2008 and 81% for the five-year average. Winter wheat conditions stood at 1% very poor, 7% poor, 11% fair, 59% good, and 17% excellent. Oat conditions stood at 2% very poor, 5% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, and 6% excellent. Alfalfa conditions stood at 2% very poor, 4% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, and 8% excellent. Pasture conditions 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 60% good, and 12% excellent. Red clover conditions 1% very poor, 1% poor, 25% fair, 61% good, and 12% excellent. Wet conditions continued to slow the progress of planting throughout the state. Warm temperatures over the weekend helped in the drying process but were followed by more rain. Producers are ready to plant but are forced to wait for dry conditions. Temperatures averaged 58.9 degrees, 3.3 degrees above normal across the state. Statewide precipitation averaged 1.22 inches, 0.32 inch above normal.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Topsoil moisture 1% short, 56% adequate, 43% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 2% short, 67% adequate, 30% surplus. Corn 2% planted, 9% 2008, 25% avg. Winter wheat jointed 45%, 49% 2008, 61% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 58% good, 20% excellent. Pasture condition 4% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 54% good, 11% excellent. Temperatures ranged from normal to 5o above normal with a low of 27o and a high of 87o. Precipitation averaged from 0.20 inches to 1.78 inches. Planting season has finally begun. Cool, wet conditions hindered field work early in the week. However, a strong breeze and temperatures over 80 degrees late in the week allowed soils to dry enough to support equipment in many areas. Many farmers were able to do some tillage work, spread dry fertilizer and knife-in anhydrous
ammonia. Strong winds made it difficult to spray herbicides. Fruit crops are reported to be in good condition at this time. Other activities included hauling grain to market, tilling soils, spreading fertilizer, harvesting, and taking care of livestock.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil moisture 3% very short, 4% short, 76% adequate, 14% surplus. Corn 100% planted, 100% 2008, 100% avg.; 98% emerged, 99% 2008, 98% avg.; 4% poor, 39% fair, 55% good, and 2% excellent. Sorghum 28% planted, 17% 2008, and 67% avg. Soybeans 34% planted, 17% 2008, and 34% avg. Wheat 100% headed, 99% 2008, 97% avg.; 13% turning color, 40% 2008, 28% avg.; 2% poor, and 1% fair, 8% good, 7% excellent. Peaches bloomed 3% very poor, 15% 2008, and 32% avg. Disease setting in was expected. Expect good yields of first alfalfa cutting May 8. Winter wheat 4% headed, condition 2% poor, 20% fair, 55% good, and 23% excellent. Strawberry condition 3% poor, 23% fair, 60% good, 14% excellent. Weather improved by mid week allowing fieldwork progress to resume.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Top soil moisture 2% short, 2% short, 46% adequate, 52% surplus. Soil moisture 1% very short, 3% short, 60% adequate, 36% surplus. Pasture 3% very poor, 8% poor, 40% fair, 39% good, 10% excellent. Barley planted 16%, 9% 2008, 31% avg. Oats 49% planted, 46% 2008, 59% avg.; 10% emerged, 4% 2008, 16% avg. Potatoes 11% planted, 20% 2008, 19% avg. Precipitation varied from 0.89 inches southeast Lower Peninsula to 2.83 inches central Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normal western Upper Peninsula to 4 degrees above normal southern Lower Peninsula. Meteorological conditions halted field activities. Although additional rainfall is expected to benefit crops that have already been planted, farmers may not be able to return to fields for several days. Rainy weather has hindered planting majority of state, but much needed. Corn and soybeans have not been planted most areas of state, but will begin as weather permits. Wheat progressing despite some damage from winter and animals. Some alfalfa fields had significant amounts of standing water. However, crop making progress. Oat planting underway. Sugar beet planting nearing completion many areas. Overnight temperatures have been low, but not enough to cause damage to swollen fruit buds. Temperatures below 25 degrees Fahrenheit cause freeze injury to buds of most fruit crops. Apples ranged from silver tip to half-inch green west central. Apples northwest at green tip and at bud swell southeast. Peaches at early bud swell. Grapes at scale crack southeast. Fertilizer applications, pruning, and brush clean-up continued as weather permitted. Growers across State continued to prepare equipment for planting season and work soil as weather allowed. Precipitation during week and wind over weekend hindered field activities and delayed application of pesticides. West central area, asparagus crown planting full swing as carrot planting. Early planted cabbage and potatoes just beginning to show new growth and early sweet corn began to germinate southeast.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Soil moisture 6% very short, 78% adequate and 16% surplus. Corn 88% planted, 95% 2008, 95% avg.; 75% emerged, 83% 2008, 86% avg.; 0% very poor, 3% poor, 28% fair, 60% good, 7% excellent. Cotton 13% planted, 6% 2008, 23% avg. Peanuts 0% planted, 5% 2008, NA avg. Rice 98% planted, 54% 2008, 62% avg.; 14% emerged, 26% 2008, 31% avg. Sorghum 31% planted, 37% 2008, 50% avg.; 10% emerged, 17% 2008, 27% avg. Soybeans 33% planted, 43% 2008, 57% avg.; 16% emerged, 20% 2008, 35% avg. Winter Wheat 99% jointing, 100% 2008, 99% avg.; 88% heading, 84% 2008, 87% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 21% fair, 51% good, 23% excellent. Hay (harvested-cool) 27%., 21% 2008, 22% avg. Watermelons 77% planted, 82% 2008, 74% avg. Blueberries 0% very poor, 0% poor, 43% fair, 51% good, 6% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 55% good, 17% excellent. Pasture 0% very poor, 3% poor, 13% fair, 70% good, 14% excellent. Warm and sunny weather conditions allowed row crop planting progress to be made in various areas across the state. Several producers believe the favorable weather conditions will allow them to catch up on some of their planting intentions. Pastures and vegetables are in good condition, and hay harvesting is underway in parts of the state.

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3. Top soil moisture 0% very short, 2% short, 48% adequate, 52% surplus. Soil moisture 1% very short, 3% short, 60% adequate, 36% surplus. Pasture 3% very poor, 8% poor, 40% fair, 39% good, 10% excellent. Barley planted 16%, 9% 2008, 31% avg.
Averaged 0.54 inches across the state.

MONTANA: Days suitable for field work 4.2 last week. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 29% last year, 8% short, 36% last year, 77% adequate, 34% last year, 15% surplus, 1% last year. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 39% last year, 20% short, 39% last year, 66% adequate, 21% last year, 5% surplus, 1% last year. Field tillage work in progress 42% none, 26% last year, 28% just started, 29% last year, 30% well underway, 45% last year. Winter wheat condition 2% very poor, 12% last year, 4% poor, 17% last year, 30% fair, 36% last year, 52% good, 30% last year, 12% excellent, 5% last year. Winter wheat spring stages 6% still dormant, 4% last year, 33% greening, 50% last year, 61% greening and bowing, 46% last year. Barley 21% planted, 46% last year. Camelina 46% planted, 83% last year, 8% emerged, 29% last year. Corn 12% planted, 8% last year. Dry Peas 17% planted, 62% last year. Durum Wheat 4% planted, 24% last year. Lentils 10% planted, 28% last year. Oats 8% planted, 43% last year. Spring Wheat 24% planted, 45% last year. Sugar beets 35% planted, 37% last year. Precipitation was light to heavy, 67% good, and 33% excellent. For the week, Bozeman and Ryegate shared the most weekly accumulated precipitation of 0.78 of an inch. Highs were mostly in the 70s and 80s, and lows were mostly in the teens and 20s. Rudyard had the weekly high temperature at 84 degrees. Cut Bank had the weekly low temperature at 5 degrees. Precipitation last week was just 0.29 inches, with most locations averaging 70s, but were still well above average. Total precipitation for the week ranged from 0.29 inches to 2.21 inches, with most locations averaging around 1.50 inches. The warm, dry weekend weather was ideal for fieldwork. Major farm activities included plowing and discing, spreading manure and fertilizer, transplanting started vegetables, pruning trees, fertilizing orchards, and working in the greenhouses.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 5.0. Topsoil moisture 2% short, 90% adequate, and 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 90% adequate, and 10% marginal for the week in all localities. Temperatures were variable across the Garden State. Producers continued planting when weather permitted. Tomatoes, potatoes, and cucumbers plantings continued. Asparagus and angula harvesting continued. Farmers continued spraying hay fields for cereal leaf mines. Blueberries and apples were blooming, while peach stages ranged from late petal falls to split-shuck. Other activities included tilling fields, fertilizing crops, and scouting for pests.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 6.9. Topsoil moisture 39% very short, 48% short, 13% adequate. Wind damage 25% light, 8% moderate, 4% severe. Freeze damage 8% light. Alfalfa 7% poor, 33% fair, 47% good, 10% excellent. Rice was 94% complete. Temperatures were cool and dry through the first half week, but ended the week well above normal. Precipitation was below normal for the week for most of the state despite heavy rainfall Monday night into Tuesday.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for field work 4.9. Soil moisture 2% very short, 18% short, 70% adequate, and 10% surplus. Pastures 9% very short, 16% short, 72% good, and 5% excellent. Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 10% short, 43% adequate, 46% normal, and 3% surplus. North Carolina received some precipitation last week ranging from no rain to 0.89 inches in Asheville. Average temperatures were above normal, ranging from 69 to 78 degrees. Topsoil moisture declined in some parts of the state due to high winds and warm temperatures. Activities during the week included field preparations and planting row crops.

NEW ENGLAND: The first half of the week was cool and wet, bringing much needed moisture to the area. Rain fell Monday through Wednesday in most locations, and snow just started falling in the Twin on Thursday as well. High temperatures were below average, ranging in the upper 40s to low 60s. Nighttime temperatures averaged in the mid-40s. Sunny weather arrived on Thursday and remained throughout the weekend. Temperatures rose considerably, and broke record highs in most areas on both Saturday and Sunday. Saturday high temperatures were in the mid 80s. Sunday's high temperature averaged in the 70s, but were still well above average. Total precipitation for the week ranged from 0.29 inches to 2.21 inches, with most locations averaging 70s, but were still above average. Total precipitation for the week was 0.54 inches across the state.
OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil moisture 8% very poor, 18% short, 66% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 17% very short, 35% short, 42% adequate, 6% surplus. Wheat jointed 98% this week, 97 last week, 94% last year, 97% average. Rye condition 38% very poor, 48% poor, 13% fair, 1% good; jointing 96% this week, 98% last week, 98% last year, 93% average; 80% headed this week, 54% last week, 70% last year, 78% average. Oats condition 28% very poor 33% poor, 32% fair, 7% good; jointing 66% this week, 52% last week, 65% last year, 67% average; 11% headed this week, N/A last week, 11% last year, 17% average. Corn seedbed prepared 93% this week, 90% last week, 90 last year, 95% average; 45% planted this week, 33% last week, 58% last year, 57% average; 19% emerged this week, N/A last week, 30% last year, 36% average. Sorghum seedbed prepared 53% this week, 45% last week, 50% last year, 49% average. Soybean seedbed prepared 49% this week, 45% last week, 47% last year, 58% average. Pea seedlings reported 72% this week, 64% last week, 76% last year, 74% average. Cotton seedbed prepared 75% this week, 73% last week, 87% last year, 79% average. Alfalfa hay 1st cutting 13% this week, N/A last week, 14% last year, 26% average. Watermelon planted 13% this week, N/A last week, 21% last year, 36% average. Livestock condition 4% very poor, 10% poor, 43% fair, 3% good. 3% very poor, 5% poor, 38% fair, 34% good, 1% excellent. Livestock Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged $104 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged $95 per cwt. Livestock conditions increased from the previous week and were rated mostly in the good to fair range. Average livestock marketings were reported last week.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 15% short, 74% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 14% short, 71% adequate, 9% surplus. Spring Wheat 81% planted, 73% 2008, 87% average. Spring Wheat 41% emerged, 65% 2008, 59% average. Winter Wheat 81% planted, 65% 2008, 81% average. 1% very poor, 52% 2008, 59% 2008, 52% average. 24% Winter Wheat Condition 1% very poor, 14% poor, 46% fair, 32% good, 7% excellent. Weather conditions were warmer, drier throughout the State. High temperatures ranged from 92 degrees in Medford, down to 57 degrees in North Bend. Low temperatures ranged from 39 degrees in Portland, down to 11 degrees in Christmas Valley. Sunny, warm weather was observed on Saturday and Sunday. The week started off rainy and cool. Later in the week, conditions ranged from frost in the morning to 80 degree temperatures in the afternoons. There was a total of 4 days suitable for field work last week. Principal farm activities included planting oats, corn, potatoes, mixed grasses, and tobacco in beds. Farmers also spent time with activities such as spreading manure, and spraying. The weather continued to promote favorable growing conditions, as growth is now 50 percent complete. Soil moisture conditions declined slightly last week.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Soil moisture 0% very poor, 20% short, 78% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 0% very poor, 0% poor, 36% fair, 63% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 2% poor, 25% fair, 68% good, 4% excellent. Peaches in pink 94% complete, 100% 2008, 95% average. Peaches in full bloom 92% complete, 71% 2008, 68% average. Cherries in pink 68% complete, 99% 2008, 94% average. Cherries in full bloom 44% complete, 87% 2008, 74% average. Apples in pink 62% complete, 59% 2008, 67% average. 61% emerged, 71% 2008, 42% average. Pasture conditions 4% very poor, 10% poor, 30% fair, 42% good, 14% excellent. Spring plowing is 50% complete, 65% 2008, 62% average. The weather throughout Pennsylvania was highly variable last week. The week started off rainy and cool. Later in the week, conditions ranged from frost in the morning to 80 degree temperatures in the afternoons. There was a total of 4 days suitable for field work last week. Principal farm activities included planting oats, corn, potatoes, mixed grasses, and tobacco in beds. Farmers also spent time with activities such as spreading manure, and spraying. The weather continued to promote favorable growing conditions, as growth is now 50 percent complete. Soil moisture conditions declined slightly last week.
short. 79% adequate, 15% surplus. Winter wheat breaking dormancy 93%, 96% 2008, 99% avg. Winter wheat boot 0%, 0% 2008, 3% avg. Barley seeded 15%, 32% 2008, 48% avg.; 1% emerged, 3% 2008, 12% avg. Feed supplies 4% very short, 15% short, 74% adequate, 7% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 3% short, 78% adequate, 18% surplus. Range and pasture condition 1% very poor, 12% short, 48% good, 8% excellent. Calf deaths 4% below average, 76% average, 20% above average. Cattle moved to pasture 21% complete. Calving 81% complete. Cattle condition 2% very poor, 6% poor, 25% fair, 58% good, 9% excellent. Sheep, lamb deaths 3% below average, 85% average, 12% above average. Lambing 90% complete. Sheep condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 12% excellent.

Warmer weather helped advance spring fieldwork, but wet soil conditions continue to delay spring planting progress and create some difficult conditions for South Dakota livestock producers.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil moisture 4% short, 79% adequate, and 17% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% short, 75% adequate, and 14% surplus. Wheat 90% jointed, 93% 2008, 96% avg.; 27% headed, 22% 2008, 43% avg.; 1% poor, 11% fair, 60% good, 28% excellent. Apples 83% blooming or beyond, 83% 2008, 88% avg.; 1% poor, 18% fair, 72% good, 9% excellent. Pastures 1% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 55% good, 15% excellent. After three consecutive weeks of very short, the range and pasture condition finally moved to short this week. Short pastures and range are showing some significant progress with their field activities last week. Ninety percent of the winter wheat crop has reached the jointing stage, in line with last year but slightly behind the five-year average. The crop was rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition with no noteworthy reports of insect or disease pressure. Other agricultural field activities last week included applying fertilizers and fungicides. Temperatures averaged several degrees above normal across the State last week while precipitation was well below normal.

**TEXAS:** Top soil moisture was mostly very short to adequate across the state. Wheat condition was mostly very poor to poor. Oat condition was mostly very poor to very poor. Corn condition was mostly fair to good state-wide. Sorghum condition was 15% very poor, 15% short, 27% fair, 57% poor to fair state-wide. Range and Pasture condition was mostly very poor to fair statewide. The eastern part of the state received up to 6 inches of rainfall while the rest of the state received trace amounts of moisture. The freeze and drought damage to the wheat crop across the state was becoming more evident as the crop matures. Cotton field preparation took place in parts of the Plains and Cross Timbers. Wheat in Southern Texas has prompted producers to begin planting. Corn planting neared completion in the Blacklands. Corn was processing well in South Texas. Sorghum producers were planting in the Northern High Plains and the Cross Timbers. Pecan trees suffered from the recent freeze in the Cross Timbers. Cabbage, potato, and green bean crops continued to thrive. Producers choosing to harvest their small grains for silage are taking advantage of the dry weather to do so.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for field work 5. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 21% short, 67% adequate, 12% surplus. Irrigation Water Supplies 0% very short, 12% short, 85% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter Wheat 98% emerged, 100% 2008, 100% avg.; 2% headed, Condition 1% very poor, 10% poor, 34% fair, 40% good, 15% excellent; freeze damage 80% none, 16% light, 4% moderate, 0% severe. Spring Wheat 71% planted, 80% 2008, 76% avg. Barley 60% planted, 73% 2008, 66% avg. Fall barley freeze damage 7% none, 15% light, 6% moderate, 0% severe. Oats 49% planted, 51% 2008, 56% avg.; 10% emerged, 14% 2008, 18% avg. Corn 3% planted, 6% 2008, 10% avg. Cows Calved 86%, 86% 2008, 89% avg. Cattle and calving condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 18% fair, 72% good, 9% excellent. Sheep Condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 18% fair, 76% good, 2% excellent. Range and Pasture 0% very poor, 10% poor, 43% fair, 44% good, 3% excellent. Stock Water Supplies 1% very short, 5% short, 91% adequate, 3% surplus. Sheared On Farm 72%. Sheep Sheared On Range 49%. Ewes Lamb On Farm 88%, 87% 2008, 90% avg. Ewes Lamb On Range 37%, 37% 2008, 40% avg. Apples Full Bloom Or Past 86%, 70% 2008, 92% avg. Sweet Cherries full Bloom Or Past 30%, 74% 2008, 86% avg. Tart Cherries full Bloom Or Past 14%, 80% 2008, 87% avg. Peaches, Full Bloom Or Past 48%, 11% 2008, 78% avg. Pears, Full Bloom Or Past 65%, 74% 2008, 88% avg. Utah experienced very nice weather this past week with sunny days and warm temperatures.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil moisture 6% short, 86% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 18% short, 78% adequate, 3% surplus. Pasture 2% very poor, 6% poor, 31% fair, 58% good, 3% excellent. Livestock: 2% very poor, 6% poor, 29% fair, 56% good, 7% excellent. Hay Other 1% very poor, 3% poor, 34% fair, 58% good, 4% excellent. Hay Alfalfa 1% very poor, 4% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, 9% excellent. Corn 29% planted; 44% 2008; 45% 5-yr avg.; 4% emerged; 14% 2008; 15% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat 7% headed; 34% 2008; 10% 5-yr avg.; condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 13% excellent. Barley 2% poor, 23% fair, 68% good, 7% excellent. Greenhouse tomato 4% fair, 68% good, 22% excellent. Tobacco 98% transplanted; 54% good, 46% fair, 0% poor. Tobacco transplanted 1%; 6% 5-yr avg. Summer Potatoes 100% planted; 100% 2008; 97% 5-yr avg.; 40% condition fair, 40% good, 20% excellent. All Apples 2% very poor, 3% poor, 61% fair, 34% good. Peaches 4% poor, 61% fair, 35% good. Grapes 21% fair, 79% good. Oats 1% fair, 98% good, 1% excellent. Although rain showers continued into the early week throughout much of the state, by mid-week, unseasonably warm temperatures and dry weather allowed for producers to catch up on previously delayed planting and field operations. Corn planting is well underway and producers anticipate the start of soybean and cotton planting shortly. Also, with the continued warm weather, tobacco growers are getting discouraged with their inability to plant. Some hay producers are getting discouraged with their inability to plant. Some farmers are looking to plant shorter season corn varieties for silage.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 15% short, 70% adequate, 1% surplus. Cool weather settled in over the eastern portion of the state but generally, conditions remained dry. Whitman County reported spring seeding activities were being conducted county wide. Counties reported weed spraying activities were ongoing. Asotin County was the only county to report some soils still too wet to work. FSA committee reports indicate hay producers in Franklin County may be a week behind first cutting. Christmas tree growers were setting out midget traps in Douglas fir plantations. In the Yakima Valley, the week of April 20 started off warm with day time highs reaching the mid to upper 80s.
cooled off during the week when nighttime lows dropped to near or just below freezing towards the end of the week, necessitating frost protection for soft and some fruit growers. Peaches and nectarines were past petal fall stage, but aggressive flower thinning was observed last week. Cherry were at petal fall stage in the lower Yakima Valley but in full bloom in the upper Valley. Tomatoes and early varieties of apple were in bloom. Hand and chemical thinning of apples was taking place. There was no precipitation noted last week. In addition to Yakima County, multiple other counties noted fruit blossoms.

Vegetable growers were harvesting asparagus and green onions in Yakima and Franklin Counties. In Thurston County, blueberry growers were monitoring temperatures closely as early varieties were in bloom. Whatcom County reported raspberries and blueberries were several weeks behind. In Pacific County, cranberry growers completed bog renovation work. Range and pasture conditions 2% very poor, 13% poor, 47% fair, 36% good and 2% excellent. On the west side, livestock producers reported Tansy Ragwort plants in fields which had been flooded over the winter. On the eastern side, Stevens County reported conditions were quite wet with frequent small showers and cool winds. Grazing activities were being kept to a minimum and one ton lots of hay were moving quickly to get animals through to grazing season. Calving was wrapping up for most cattle operations. In Pacific County, shellfish growers were busy with late season harvest of oysters and clams while seeding operations continued.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for field work 4. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 6% short, 80% adequate and 13% surplus compared with 9% short, 87% adequate and 4% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring 64% planting, 64% 2008, 59% 5-yr avg. Hay and roughage supplies 1% very short, 14% short, 82% adequate and 3% surplus compared to 16% very short, 42% short and 42% adequate last year. Feed grain supplies 1% very short, 7% short and 92% adequate compared to 9% very short, 42% short and 49% adequate last year. Com 12% planted, 20% 2008, 12% 5-yr avg. Soybeans w 1% planted, 2008 and 5-yr avg not available. Winter Wheat conditions 3% poor, 32% fair, 55% good and 10% excellent. Oats 52% planted, 59% 2008, 44% 5-yr avg.; 24% emerged, 16% 2008, 15% 5-yr avg. Hay was reported 1% very poor, 9% poor, 48% fair, 39% good and 3% excellent. Apple conditions 4% fair, 55% good and 1% excellent. Peaches 47% fair and 53% good. Cattle and calves were 1% very poor, 4% poor, 25% fair, 66% good and 4% excellent. Calving was 94% complete, compared to 88% last year. Sheep and lambs were 3% poor, 39% fair, 56% good and 2% excellent. Lambing was 94% complete, compared to 89% last year. Farming activities included equipment maintenance, field preparation, plowing, planting, repairing fences and turning livestock out to pasture.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 17% short, 61% adequate, and 18% surplus. Temperatures were 1 degree below to 3 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 54 to 64 degrees across the state. Lows averaged from 35 to 42 degrees for the week. Precipitation ranged from 0.81 inches in Eau Claire to 3.14 inches in Madison. Corn 6% planted. Oats 58% planted, 7% emerged. Spring tillage was 35% complete. Warm temperatures during the week were followed by some much-needed rain during the weekend. Corn planting got underway, mainly in the southwest part of the state. Some growers were still finding frost while tilling in the Northwest and West Central districts. Early planted oats in the southern two-thirds of the state began to emerge.

WYOMING: Days suitable for field work 3.9. Topsoil moisture 5% short, 88% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 18% short, 77% adequate. Barley 66% planted, 57% previous week, 69% 2008, 73% avg.; 14% emerged, 7% previous week, 15% 2008, 32% avg. Oats 35% planted, 24% previous week, 41% 2008, 44% avg.; 12% emerged, 6% previous week, 7% 2008, 15% avg. Spring Wheat 19% planted, 17% previous week, 18% 2008, 38% avg.; 8% emerged, 6% previous week, 0% 2008, 9% avg. Winter Wheat 11% jointed, 5% previous week, 1% 2008, 4% avg. Corn 2% planted, 0% previous week, 3% 2008, 7% avg. Sugarbeets 35% planted, 0% previous week, 49% 2008, 65% avg. Winter wheat condition 1% poor, 12% fair, 78% good, 9% excellent. Spring calves born 76%, 71% previous week. Farm flock 81% ewes lambed, 74% previous week. Farm flock 79% sheep shorn, 72% previous week. Range flock 32% ewes lambed, 27% previous week. Range flock 56% sheep shorn, 48% previous week. Calf losses 22% light, 66% normal, 12% heavy. Lamb losses 26% light, 68% normal, 6% heavy. Cattle Condition 1% poor, 26% fair, 71% good, 2% excellent. Calves Condition 2% poor, 30% fair, 66% good, 2% excellent. Sheep Condition 1% poor, 26% fair, 72% good, 1% excellent. Lambs Condition 1% poor, 26% fair, 72% good, 1% excellent. Range and pasture conditions 11% poor, 28% fair, 52% good, 9% excellent. Stock water supplies 1% short, 93% adequate, 6% surplus. The ground in some areas was too wet to farm. Recent moisture has helped the topsoil moisture but a few windy days will dry it out. Pasture in some areas was starting to show a small amount of green. Activities preparing to plant small grain crop, calving and lambing, feeding livestock.