ALABAMA: The first few weeks of December 2009 brought about continuous heavy rain, causing row crops to experience additional damage for harvesting. Cotton harvest was severely hindered because of these conditions with producers in the southern region mentioning that harvesting progression was at a standstill. Precipitation slowly tapered off around the latter part of the month, but brought about cold, freezing weather across parts of the state. Darrell Rankins, Cattle Nutrientist at Auburn, stated in general cattle were in fair condition. Producers were feeding more because of the cold weather. Hay supplies were adequate, but overall there were no specific problems noticed. Most peach-growing areas received more chilling and growing degree hours than previous year. The US Drought Monitor from December 29, 2009 indicated the state to be 100 percent free from drought, compared to 70.0 at the start of the calendar year, and 70.0 percent a year ago.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures across the State were mostly below normal for the month of December. The temperature extremes were 19 below zero at Grand Canyon and 78 degrees in Marana. Precipitation in the form of rain or snow had fallen throughout the month in virtually every area of Arizona. All of the twenty-two reporting stations finished the year with less than 80 percent of normal precipitation. Nineteen of the reporting stations had less than 60 percent of normal precipitation. Cotton harvesting was at its final stages by the end of the month. Alfalfa harvesting slowed down and sheeping off activities on the alfalfa fields occurred in central and western areas of the State. Vegetable and citrus harvesting activities increased throughout the month.

ARKANSAS: Temperatures during the month of December varied and ranged from as low as 10 degrees below normal for the first two weeks of the month to as high as 5 degrees above normal by the end of the month. December was a very wet month with record rainfall as totals of over 12 inches were observed at three different reporting stations. Weekly rainfall amounts as high as 9.60 and 9.55 inches were recorded in some areas and caused localized flooding. Abundant rainfall throughout 2009 resulted in the wettest year on record in many locations. The 2010 winter wheat crop was reported in mostly fair to good condition. The cotton harvest was delayed due to wet weather and finished in mid-December. Wet and cooler weather limited field preparation for spring planting. Livestock were in mostly fair to good condition. Producers were feeding hay and grain to cattle due to the onset of colder temperatures. Throughout the month, Arkansas farmers attended meetings and planned for the 2010 crop year.

CALIFORNIA: Ground preparation, weed treatments, and fertilization continued for next year’s crop. Barley, wheat, and oats continued to be planted. Early in the month dryland winter forage crops were being stressed due to lack of water in Tulare County. Irrigated winter wheat and forage fields were developing well. Cotton harvest was mostly complete and fields were being shredded and disked. Corn silage and grain harvest were nearly completed. December rains delivered much needed moisture to grain fields already planted. Early planted seed continued to emerge. Frost marked the end to this year’s alfalfa season for most of the growing regions. By the end of the month most of the winter wheat crop had been planted and emerged. Satsuma, Clementine mandarins and grapefruit were being picked in the San Joaquin Valley as the pomegranate harvest was completed. The navel orange harvest continued in the Central Valley, with some Cara Cara varieties being picked as well. The lemon harvest continued normally in the desert region. Normal maintenance continued, which included pruning in orchards and vineyards, as well as fertilizer applications. During a cold weather spell, citrus orchards along the Coasts and in the Central Valley, helicopters and wind machines were deployed to increase air circulation to combat freezing temperatures. Growers also used orchard heaters and ran irrigation water to limit the drop in temperature. There was some minor freeze damage to young olive and citrus orchards. Lower temperatures helped fruit trees and vines enter a deeper dormancy for the winter. Almond hulling and stockpiling was completed. Post-harvest pruning and maintenance activities continued normally in nut orchards, as nut trees began entering dormancy for the winter. Ground preparation for vegetable planting continued in San Mateo County. Tulare County’s greenhouse cucumbers, spinach, broccoli and cauliflower for winter harvest were progressing normally. Dry weather played a positive role in allowing field preparation to take place. Carrots in Kern County were being harvested, processed and planted at the same time. Broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage and chard were progressing well. Some winter crops, such as broccoli and cauliflower, began to be harvested on the Westside of Stanislaus County. The harvest of chili peppers for processing was completed in Merced County, but the radicchio harvest continued. Sweet potato fields received fumigations. In Fresno County, the fall green bean harvest started to slow down. Lettuce was being harvested. Squash, zucchini, eggplant, long beans, tomatoes and peppers were almost completely harvested. Broccoli, herbs, greenhouse cucumbers, bitter melon, radishes and the last of the cherry tomatoes continued to be picked. Winter vegetables such as beets, turnips, daikon, bok choy, Swiss chard and kale were improving in yield and quality. Previously harvested fields were being disked, cultivated and fumigated in preparation of fall planting. Growers continued to plant their winter rotational vegetable crops. Dehydrator and fresh market onion, as well as some garlic, was planted. Processing and fresh tomato beds were prepared. Range and pasture in many central and southern areas continued to improve with recent rains and favorable temperatures. More precipitation was needed to support new growth on the relatively poor grazing lands; however further greening was reportedly visible in the Sutter Buttes and throughout the valley and foothill regions. Supplemental feeding of cattle on low elevation range and dry pasture continued to be a necessity. Stocker demand remained somewhat low. Northern-area pasture and range was reportedly in good condition. Some beef cow calving continued. Cooler temperatures and rising prices contributed to increased milk production. Sheep and feeder lambs were in the Imperial Valley for winter pasturing, mostly on alfalfa fields. Some sheep were grazing on old alfalfa and idle land in central areas. Fall lambing nearing completion.

COLORADO: Northern and central areas received above normal amounts of precipitation during December while southern areas received below average. Temperatures averaged below normal for most of the State. Currently, the mountain snowpack in the northern regions are 78% of average while the central and southern areas are 93% of average. Overall, mountain snowpack is currently 85% of average. The winter wheat growing areas experienced some winty conditions but the crop remains in mostly good to excellent condition in dormancy under very patchy snow cover.

DELWARE: Hay supplies were rated adequate. Livestock were in fair condition. Soil moisture was rated adequate to surplus. Winter storm on December 19 with snow totals reaching over 12 inches in many areas covered winter small grain fields like a blanket. Some soybeans field remained unharvested. Winter activities included working on farm equipment, going to agricultural conferences and getting ready for 2010 season.

FLORIDA: Panhandle heavy rainfall, cool conditions delayed harvest activities, hindered planting. Peanut harvest completed except for a few fields dug but not yet harvested. Many acres of soybeans cotton remained in fields at end of month due to wet ground unable to support heavy machinery. Much of cotton lint on ground, quality continued to decline. Some fields will be abandoned. Soybeans experienced some problems to a lesser extent. Wheat, forage planting behind schedule. Central Florida soil moisture mostly adequate. Cool season vegetables harvested, preparations for potato planting nearing...
temperatures and precipitation. The average state temperature was
INDIANA:
poor, 41% fair, 28% good, and 2% excellent. Statewide precipitation
preparing any livestock for the winter. Topsoil moisture 45% adequate
adequate, 5% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 0% poor,
3% surplus. Hay and roughage supply 0% very short, 3% short, 92%
by the National Weather Service.
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preted any livestock for the winter. Topsoil moisture 45% adequate
adequate, 5% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 0% poor,
3% surplus. Hay and roughage supply 0% very short, 3% short, 92%
Temperatures for the period averaged 35 degrees across the state, which was 3 degrees below normal and 1 degree cooler than the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 42 in the West to 43 in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 28 degrees in the West to 27 degrees in the East. Precipitation for the period totaled 1.95 inches statewide, which was above normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 1.29 inches, Central 2.08 inches, Bluegrass 2.09 inches and East 2.31 inches, which was 1.06, 1.24 and 1.39 inches respectively above normal. After two cold, wet weeks the third week of December brought the state some slightly warmer and drier conditions. This resulted in slightly above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. However, in the weekend eastern parts of the state received over a foot of snow in some locations. Central and western parts of the state received little to no snow accumulation. Temperatures for the period averaged 36 degrees across the state, which was 1 degree above normal and 1 degree warmer than the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 42 in the West to 43 in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 30 degrees in the West to 30 degrees in the East. Precipitation for the period totaled 0.61 inches statewide, which was 0.34 inches below normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 0.07 inches, Central 0.38 inches, Bluegrass 0.72 inches and East 1.28 inches, which was 0.94, -0.64, -0.14 and +0.36 inches respectively from normal. The final full week of December started and ended with cold temperatures. However, by mid-week a warming trend pushed temperatures into the mid and upper 50s for a couple of days. On average, rainfall was below normal for the state but western sections received considerable amounts. During the week, light snow and flurries were frequent. Temperatures for the period averaged 40 degrees across the state, which was 5 degrees above normal and 4 degrees warmer than the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 45 in the West to 47 in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 33 degrees in the West to 32 degrees in the East. Precipitation for the period totaled 0.66 inches statewide, which was 0.29 inches below normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 1.65 inches, Central 0.42 inches, Bluegrass 0.31 inches and East 0.28 inches, which was +0.64, -0.61, -0.55 and -0.64 inches respectively from normal.

LOUISIANA: Louisiana averaged 9.54 inches of rain in December of 2009, making it the 5th wettest December on record. Harvesting sugarcane was still ongoing as harvesting was delayed due to extreme wet conditions. Citrus producers were spraying to control diseases. Strawberries were being harvested. Livestock producers were fertilizing winter pastures and feeding hay. Crawfish producers were putting out traps. Other activities included repairing and cleaning equipment.

MARYLAND: Hay supplies were rated adequate. Livestock were in good condition. Soil moisture was rated adequate to surplus. Winter storm on December 19, with snow totals reaching over 20 inches in some areas covered winter small grain fields like a blanket. Some soybeans fields remained unharvested. Farmers were feeding livestock, working on equipment and attending agricultural conferences.

MICHIGAN: The precipitation for the past four weeks ending January 3 varied from 1.08 inches central Lower Peninsula to 2.68 inches eastern Lower Peninsula. Rain and Snowfall during the month ended field activities; snowfall provided adequate cover of the winter wheat crop. Corn was harvested in some areas; a few fields remained unharvested.

MINNESOTA: Livestock condition 19% fair, 56% good, 25% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 6% short, 77% adequate, 17% surplus. December average temperatures were below normal for most reporting stations. Precipitation during the month was above normal for nearly all locations as two significant winter storms affected the state. Heavy snowfall, combined with strong winds reduced visibility and prompted blizzard warnings for many southern and eastern Minnesota counties December 8-9. A second winter storm affected most of the state Dec 23-25 with the largest snowfall totals occurring in western Minnesota and along the North Shore. Corn harvest was ongoing for producers in northern Minnesota due to the long growing season. Winter storms made livestock management difficult at times; however, the state’s livestock were in generally good to excellent condition with adequate feed supplies.

MISSISSIPPI: At the start of the New Year, Mississippi’s farmers are eager to end the disastrous ’09 harvest. Rains and chilly weather, a staple of this year’s harvest season, once again kept producers in the Delta out of their fields. Despite delays, the winter wheat crop is doing well and is in its winter dormancy.

MISSOURI: December was colder and wetter than normal. Precipitation averaged 3.05 inches compared to the December 30-year average of 2.67 inches. The southeast district reported the most precipitation with 6.43 inches, while the southwest district reported the least precipitation at 1.92 inches. Dunklin county reported 8.33 inches of precipitation for December with Stoddard and Ripley counties reporting over 7.00 inches. Temperatures ranged from 1 to 5 degrees below normal. The condition of the dormant winter wheat crop ranges from poor to good, with the majority rated fair. Some late planted wheat emergence is mixed.

MONTANA: Top soil moisture 3% very short, 2% last year, 33% short, 16% last year, 63% adequate, 75% last year, 1% surplus, 7% last year. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 12% last year, 33% short, 22% last year, 55% adequate, 64% last year, 1% surplus, 2% last year. Winter wheat condition 2% very poor, 1% last year, 5% poor, 4% last year, 59% fair, 60% last year, 4% last year, 14% last year, 14% excellent, 14% last year. Winter wheat wind damage 81% none, 79% last year, 15% light, 19% last year, 4% moderate, 2% last year, 0% heavy, 0% last year. Winter wheat freeze and drought damage 79% none, 85% last year, 17% light, 14% last year, 4% moderate, 1% last year, 0% heavy, 0% last year. Winter wheat protectiveness of snow cover 2% very poor, 2% last year, 9% poor, 4% last year, 39% fair, 17% last year, 40% good, 32% last year, 7% excellent, 45% last year. Most of the state received above normal moisture for the month ending December 31st. West Glacier received the most monthly accumulated precipitation with 3.73 inches. Temperatures during the month of December were below normal with precipitation in the form of freezing rain and snow, and lows ranged from negative 40 to negative 10. Hardin had the high temperature of 61 degrees, and Jordan had the low temperature of minus 40 degrees. Range and pasture feed condition 26% very poor, 17% last year, 28% poor, 19% last year, 30% fair, 51% last year, 14% good, 12% last year, 2% excellent, 1% last year. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed 95%, 83% last year, 94% last year. Calves and lambs receiving supplemental feed 90%, 95% last year. Livestock are receiving supplemental feed due to the cold weather and heavy snowfall. Livestock grazing 22% open, 13% last year, 47% difficult, 54% last year, 31% closed, 33% last year.

NEBRASKA: Corn 96% harvested complete. Wheat conditions ranged 0% very poor, 2% poor, 33% fair, 61% good, 4% excellent, below last year’s condition. Hay and forage supplies rated 0% very short, 6% short, 90% adequate, and 4% excellent, near a year ago. Cattle and Calves condition rated 0% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 75% good, and 3% excellent, below last year. For the month of December 2009, a strong winter storm with blizzard conditions gave much of Nebraska a white Christmas. During the first and third week’s temperatures were around 4 degrees below normal with minimal amounts of precipitation. During the second week temperatures turned bitter cold and averaged 18 degrees below normal, with precipitation in the form of heavy snow. The last week temperatures averaged nine degrees below normal. Average temperatures averaged nine degrees below normal with precipitation in the form of freezing rain and snow. Livestock producers were using hay and other supplemental feeds due to ice and snow cover and extreme low temperatures. Depth of snow at the end of December averaged eight inches across the state, with the Northeast District reporting the largest amount of snow coverage. Early 19 inches, and the East District 13 inches, while the western counties had less than two inches of cover. Temperatures averaged below normal the entire month. During the last week of the month, soil temperatures ranged from 24 in the western part of the state to 33 in the south and eastern areas.

NEVADA: A cold front passed through the State early in the month bringing cold temperatures and snow. Temperatures ranged from 1.6 to 10.0 degrees below normal for the month. Las Vegas recorded the monthly high at 64 degrees. Elko recorded the lowest temperature of the month at -22 degrees. Reno recorded the most precipitation with 1.79 inches. Snow began to accumulate in the mountains. Supplemental feeding of range livestock was common. Potato and onion processing was ongoing.

NEW ENGLAND: Average high temperatures for the month of December ranged from the high 20s to low 40s across New England with average lows ranging from the low 10s in the northeasterm regions to the mid-20s in the southern states. Temperatures in New England were average overall. Total precipitation for the month was 1.7 to 10.0 inches with minor deviations from normal levels in most locations. December began with partly cloudy skies and average to above average temperatures. Temperatures were at record levels on the humid December 3rd, ranging from the 40s in northern Maine to the 60s in most of New England. A minor snowstorm entered the region over the weekend, leaving at least three inches in western Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine. Other regions experienced moderate precipitation. Another storm affected New England on December 9th, dumping 3 to 8 inches of snow in most of New England. Areas farther south experienced less snowfall but around an inch of rain. The weekend of December 13 was marked by a mixture of rain, ice, snow, and variable high temperatures ranging from the mid-10s in northern Maine to the low 30s in the southern coastal
areas. No major precipitation fell on the third week, except for Sunday. Temperatures were below average this week, ranging from the low 20s to mid 30s and occasionally dipping below 0 in northern latitudes, particularly during December 17-19. On December 20th, 3 to 14 inches of snow fell on the southern states; northern New England received no measurable snowfall. Apart from 10 inches of snow in northern Maine and 2 inches in northwestern Vermont, the rest of New England had little to no precipitation from December 21 to 26. Temperatures increased during the weekend of December 26 and peaked during the rainy Sunday, when they were 11-22 degrees above the average. Total precipitation for that day was 0.2 to 2.0 inches. The year ended with widespread light snowfall that would intensify over the beginning of January.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures were mostly above normal for the first week of December and then variable the rest of the month, ranging from high 50s to low-teens. There were measurable amounts of snowfall in all localities with reports of up to 2 feet in Burlington County. Farmers virtually finished their 2009 season harvesting of corn and soybeans. Producers continued planting small grain crops. Other activities included equipment repair, greenhouse work, and feeding stored hay to livestock.

NEW MEXICO: The first two weeks of December had storm systems move through New Mexico, bringing rain and snow to high elevations. A large snow and ice storm blew through the state before Christmas. Temperatures averaged well below normal. Some areas were as much as double digits below normal. A system earlier in the week brought moisture to much of the state in the form of snow or a rain snow mix. The last week remained fairly cool, with average temperatures below the long-term average for the month. An ice storm fell during the middle of the week with amounts ranging from half an inch to a couple hundredths. Pecan harvest continued. Cotton and chili harvest was completed. Ranchers were busy supplemental feeding and culling herds.

NEW YORK: Cold, snowy weather hindered outside activities and daily chores. Producers were kept busy clearing snow and ice. Major activities included caring for livestock, spreading manure, grading and packing potatoes, onions, apples and cabbage. Winter meetings and trade shows were well attended.

NORTH CAROLINA: Topsoil moisture 37% adequate, 63% surplus. The state experienced above normal precipitation during the first half of December. The rest of the month saw normal precipitation. Temperatures were below normal for most of the month. Field activities were limited for the majority of the month due to wet conditions. Cotton and soybean harvest were the main activities when weather permitted.

NORTH DAKOTA: Average snow depth was 11.30 on January 3. Hay and Forage supplies were rated 3% short, 88% adequate, 9% surplus. Snow cover protection for alfalfa was rated 2% poor, 61% adequate, 37% excellent. Corn 71% adequate, 29% surplus. Wheat was neither covering nor average available. Snow cover protection for winter wheat was rated 2% poor, 63% adequate, 35% excellent. Cattle condition 2% poor, 17% fair, 69% good, 12% excellent. Sheep condition 2% poor, 15% fair, 78% good, 5% excellent. Road conditions were rated 82% open, 14% closed. Twenty percent were drifted, 12% icy, 62% dry. A major snowstorm occurred across the state in late December which further delayed corn harvest progress. Minimal progress was made harvesting corn since the previous estimate on December 20.

OHIO: The December 2009 average temperature for Ohio was 30.5 degrees, 1.2 degrees below normal. Precipitation for the state averaged 3.23 inches, 0.31 inch above normal. Winter wheat producing counties report that the wheat crop is in fair to good condition. Even though much of the crop was planted late, conditions through November were favorable, and the crop is close to where it should be for this time of year. Most wheat fields have some snow cover, which is favorable considering the very cold temperatures. Cattle are in good condition. Hay inventories are adequate for livestock.

OKLAHOMA: Topsoil moisture 7% very short, 20% short, 61% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 16% short, 70% adequate, 6% surplus. Wheat 3% poor, 27% fair, 56% good, 14% excellent; grazed 38% this month, 27% last month, 31% average; 3% very poor, 5% poor, 19% fair, 57% good, 16% excellent; grazed 72% this month, 46% last year, 52% average. Oats 11% very poor, 12% poor, 22% fair, 40% good, 15% excellent; grazed 13% this month, 5% last year, 7% average. Livestock 1% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent. Pasture, Range 4% very poor, 17% poor, 41% fair, 2% good, 45% excellent. Livestock conditions rated in mostly good to fair condition. Livestock marketings were average. The wintry conditions have been hard on livestock across the State, as body conditions have dropped and high death loss rates were reported from the Blizzard. Producers have had to increase hay and supplemental feeding as well as break ice due to the frigid temperatures.

OREGON: December weather has been mixed, with snow, rain, freezing temperatures and wind. Average snow accumulation varied from 1.2 inches in lower elevations to 57.2 inches in higher elevations. NRCS reported less than normal accumulation in all basins. Precipitation ranged between 3 inches of rain to 10.7 inches this past month. Overall precipitation across the State has been below normal; hopefully January, February storms will bring levels up. Average temperatures throughout the State were cooler than normal, varied from -22 degrees in the lows to 62 degrees in the highs. Freezing weather was hard on the willow and thistle in the Willamette Valley, may have caused damage to fall wheat crops. Other areas reported that the wheat came through the cold spell well. Some orchard pruning took place before the Christmas week. Cattle are calving, mostly all are on supplemental feed.

PENNSYLVANIA: Principal farm activities during the month of December included mechanical harvesting corn and soybeans, attending organizational meetings, inspecting wheat, barley and fruit trees for frost damage, spreading manure, and making other preparations for the winter weather. There is still some corn yet to be harvested in parts of the state. The Keystone state during the month of December experienced a wide range of temperatures and precipitation. The last week of December was the wettest of the month.

SOUTH CAROLINA: A boundary of cold air and rain showers charged into the state on the first Monday of December. Heavy rains caused roadway flooding in both Georgetown and Charleston counties. The Reedy River near Greenville rose 8 feet to flood stage from heavy rainfall intervals of up to three hours. When the sun reappeared Thursday, Long Creek in Oconee County had measured an event total of 4.12 inches of rain. While most of the state observed drying weather on Friday, rain showers persisted over coastal locations. A second eastward-moving front came early Saturday, changing the state's weather system, producing snow flurries at Caesars Head State Park. Much of central and western South Carolina reported a hard freeze Sunday morning. The state average temperature for the first week of December was one degree below normal. The state average rainfall for the period was 2.6 inches. Cloudy skies and periodic rains were observed throughout the second week of December. Catastrophic thunderstorms formed for the month. Tuesday into Wednesday and included high winds ahead of a fast moving frontal boundary. Seventeen counties reported damaging wind gusts resulting in downed trees and power disruptions. At 2:00 a.m. Wednesday, Greer was reporting 36 miles while a distant Charleston AP reported 62 miles. The state's colder air rolled into the state late Thursday. On Friday morning, the thermometer registered its lowest values of the season. More wet weather returned Saturday with the harshest amounts falling along the coastal counties. Warm air eased northward along the beaches on Saturday, pushing temperatures to 70 degrees at Charleston AP on Sunday. The state average temperature for the second week of December was three degrees below normal. The state average rainfall for the week was 1.7 inches. The third week of December began with dense fog and very limited visibility for several South Carolina locations. The convergence along the warm boundary produced rainfall amounts of 1.19 inches at Pritchardville and 1.09 inches at Beaufort on Tuesday. Afternoon high temperatures reached into the middle 70’s near the coast. Colder air arrived Wednesday and by Thursday morning, much of the state observed temperatures at or below freezing. A Gulf-origin storm feature began affecting the state early Friday. Greenville reported snow flurries at 9:00 a.m. Caesars Head and Landrum received heavy snow showers measuring six inches on the ground. The Georgetown Airport received 4.10 inches of rain during the event. Saturday was cold and cloudy with afternoon temperatures in the 40’s. Particularly sunny weather helped with drying Sunday. The state average temperature for the third week of December was one degree below normal. The state average rainfall for the month was 1.9 inches. The fourth week of December arrived Wednesday with a frosty start. Sunny, cold weather continued through Thursday. Clouds increased on Thursday along a boundary of warmer air and the forecast of rain. Christmas Day Friday dawned with rain crossing the Savannah River basin into South Carolina. Locations within the Midlands reported several hours of heavy rain that resulted in localized flash flooding and standing water. Columbia received 3.36 inches of rain and established a record heaviest amount for December 2009.
This spring to correct ruts left by combines. Throughout the state, soybeans, corn, and cotton remain in the fields, with producers at the mercy of the weather to determine when and if they will be completed.

WISCONSIN: December temperatures for the state of Wisconsin ranged from 0 to 2 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 25 to 32 degrees. Average low temperatures ranged from 10 to 21 degrees. Precipitation ranged from 0.70 inches in Wausau to 2.94 inches in Madison. At the end of the month, the entire state had snow cover. The state average rainfall for the period was 1.4 inches.

WYOMING: Topsoil moisture 16% short, 83% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 21% short, 71% adequate. Average depth of snow cover 2.3 inches. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 91% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 91% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat freeze damage 62% none, 35% light, 3% moderate. Cattle conditions 22% fair, 75% good, 3% excellent. Sheep conditions 17% fair, 82% good, 1% excellent. Stock water supplies 9% short, 91% adequate. Hay and roughage supplies 6% short, 92% adequate, 2% surplus. Some moisture was received in localized areas last week in Wyoming. Some areas experienced high winds and low temperatures. Activities feeding cattle, sheep and other livestock.

Washington: In our largest grain growing county, Whitman County, December was uneventful. Snowfall and precipitation were below normal, but winter wheat conditions remained good despite the lack of moisture. A hard freeze early in the month has left farmers wondering about potential freeze damage but this won’t be known until spring. Frozen ground has not allowed snow fall and rain to seep in and some runoff has been reported. Hay supplies were in good shape and ranchers were preparing for their specific calving season. Pruning continued in fruit orchards while Christmas tree sales were sluggish due to large over supply in Western Washington.