ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 11% short, 83% adequate, and 3% surplus. Corn planted 61%, 41% 2011, and 44% five year average. Corn emerged 33%, 21% 2011, and 18% five year average. Corn condition 7% fair, 79% good, and 14% excellent. Winter Wheat Headed 59%, 0% 2011, and 0% five year average. Winter wheat condition 2% poor, 18% fair, 65% good, and 15% excellent. Livestock condition 2% poor, 17% fair, 64% good, and 17% excellent. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 20% fair, 61% good, and 15% excellent. The week’s average mean temperatures ranged from 63.7 F in Gainesville, to 69.4 F in Mobile; total precipitation ranged from 0.03 inches in Talladega, to 3.20 inches in Coden. Wheat and canola crops in the northern part of the State received hail damage last week. Rainfall was variable across the State with some isolated areas of flooding in the northern part of the State, while the southeast region of the State received no rainfall and remains in a drought stage. Corn planting is progressing, but cool temperatures are slowing growth.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures were mostly above normal for the week ending April 8, ranging from 5 degrees above normal at Grand Canyon to 5 degrees below normal at Parker. The highest temperature of the week was 92 degrees at Coolidge. The lowest reading was 10 degrees at Grand Canyon. Precipitation was not recorded in any of the 21 weather stations for the week. Cotton planting was 25 percent complete, ahead of the 5-year average of 21 percent. Alfalfa conditions are mostly fair to excellent, depending on location. Harvesting is occurring on three-quarters of the growing areas across the State. A third of the State’s durum wheat crop has headed. Central Arizona growers shipped broccoli, cabbage, kale greens, cilantro, parsley and citrus. Western Arizona growers shipped broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, cilantro, Chinese cabbage, endive, escarole, frisee, kale greens, Boston, green leaf, iceberg, red leaf, romaine, and other lettuces. Also shipped this week were arugula, bok choy, parsley, spinach and citrus. Rangeland conditions decreased from the previous week but continue to vary from very poor to good, depending on location. Dry conditions remain for most of the State.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil moisture 10% short, 82% adequate, and 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% short, 84% adequate, and 9% surplus. Corn 84% planted, 59% 2011, 50% avg.; 48% emerged, 21% 2011, 23% avg. Sorghum 15% emerged, 1% 2011, 2% avg. Soybeans 10% planted, 5% 2011, 2% avg.; 2% emerged, 1% 2011, 0% avg. Winter wheat 73% headed, 16% 2011, 15% avg. Livestock were in good condition last week. Pasture and range condition were reported in mostly good condition. Heavy rains and winds occurred in the Southern part of Arkansas. But very little precipitation occurred in the Eastern and Northern parts of the state. There were several reports of armymush infestations in wheat.

CALIFORNIA: Wheat, grain hay, rye and oats continued to mature and were in fair to excellent condition. Over half of the winter wheat crop had headed out. Precipitation events that have occurred in the past weeks have reduced the pressure on producers to irrigate their crops. Cotton producers’ main activity was preparing seedbeds. However some producers began to plant during the week. Alfalfa fields continued to grow well following perst and weed control applications. Producers were making their first cutting of Alfalfa during the week. Rice ground preparation, fertilization and draining continued throughout the week. Plum, peach, apricot, and nectarine bloom was complete in all but the latest varieties. Trees were almost fully leafed out and showing fruit. Thinning continued in apricots. Cherries continued to bloom and leaf out. Prunes were past full bloom and beginning to leaf out in Sutter and Yuba Counties. Weed treatments and bloom sprays continued in stone fruit orchards. Kiwis continued to be exported. Grapevines continued to leaf out while growth was beginning to accelerate. Apples were starting bloom and leafing out. Strawberries were being transplanted in Siskiyou County. Roadside strawberry stands had opened in Tulare County. Olive groves were pruning. Navel oranges, tangerines, tangelos and lemons continued to be harvested and packed for export. The harvesting of late variety navel oranges and early Valencia oranges began. Cara Cara orange harvest was wrapping up. Seedless tangerine groves were netted in preparation of the coming bloom. Almond bloom was over; almond trees were leafing out and nuts were growing larger. Freeze damage was becoming apparent in some areas hit hard by the March cold spell. Walnuts were continuing to leaf out while early varieties were in bloom. Growers were applying blight sprays. Pistachios were leafing out. Walnuts, almonds, and pistachios continued to be exported. Kern County reported carrots being harvested and tomatoes being planted. In Tulare County, Italian squash, tomato, and cucumber seedlings were being planted and tented under plastic and hot caps while processing tomato seedlings were being planted on the west side of the county. Fresno County reported processing tomato transplants were prosperous while lettuce was beginning to be harvested. Garlic and onions had established a good start. In Stanislaus County, broccoli, and spinach were being harvested as tomato transplants were being planted. San Joaquin County reported continued harvesting of asparagus. In Sutter County, field preparation continued and processing tomato transplants were delivered to fields. Non-irrigated rangeland began to gradually improve in response to the late spring rains. Greening was reported across the State. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. When weather conditions permitted, bees were working the cherry, plum and other stone fruit bloom.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9 days. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 37% short, 55% adequate. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 38% short, 52% adequate. Barley 36% planted, 26% 2011, 24% avg.; 30% emerged, 10% 2011, 7% avg. Spring wheat 32% planted, 14% 2011, 15% avg.; 10% emerged, 2% 2011, 4% avg. Winter Wheat 1% pastured, 6% 2011, 6% avg.; 18% jointed, 9% 2011, 10% avg. Sugarbeets 18% planted, 4% 2011, 9% avg. Summer potatoes 21% planted, 6% 2011, 5% avg. Dry onions 45% planted, 41% 2011, 38% avg. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 31% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Colorado experienced above average precipitation while the rest of the State had below average precipitation levels. Temperature were above average for this time of year, but reports of freezing temperatures at night in the Western regions affected some of the cherry and peach producing areas. Windy and dry conditions prevailed on the Eastern Plains and in the San Luis Valley. Overall, mountain snowpack is 49 percent of average leaving irrigators concerned with a possible reduction in water deliveries this growing season.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 17% very short, 59% short, 24% adequate. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 34% short, 59% adequate. Hay supplies 4% very short, 52% short, 44% adequate. Pasture condition 6% very poor, 12% poor, 14% fair, 65% good, 3% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% poor, 10% fair, 80% good, 9% excellent. Barley condition 1% poor, 11% fair, 80% good, 8% excellent. Corn planted 4%, 2% 2011, 2% avg. Barley headed 55%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Winter Wheat headed 2%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Green Peas planted, 54%, 2% 2011, 48% avg. Potatoes planted 12%, 24% 2011, 31% avg. Sweet Corn planted 3%, 2% 2011, 2% avg. Apples bloomed 16%, 3% 2011, 10% avg. Peaches bloomed
ILLINOIS: Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 40% short, 51% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 40% short, 52% adequate, 1% surplus. Oats 91% planted, 70% last week, 30% average. Warm and dry conditions throughout most of the State continued last week with an average Statewide temperature of 56.4 degrees, 8.8 degrees above normal. Statewide precipitation averaged 0.44 inches, 0.26 below normal. Despite these good conditions for planting, many farmers were hesitant to plant too much too early. In some cases, fields were too dry, and farmers were waiting on rain.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 18% short, 67% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 11% short, 76% adequate, 11% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 29%, 7% 2011, 9% avg. Pasture condition 2% very poor, 6% poor, 15% fair, 56% good, 21% excellent. Availability of hay 2% very short, 13% short, 81% adequate, 4% surplus. Temperatures ranged from 50 to 120 above normal with a low of 220 and a high of 870. Peanut production in 2011 was up 41% from 481 inches to 621 inches. No peanuts have been working at a feverish pace, now that the earliest planting date that corn would be eligible for crop insurance replant payments has passed. In fact, six percent of intended corn acres have been planted which is ahead of the previous record of 3 percent established in 2004. However, other farming operations are waiting to begin planting until there is a less likely chance of frost. A few scattered fields of soybeans have also been planted at this point. Other activities included preparing planting equipment, performing pre-plant tillage operations, hauling grain to market, spreading fertilizer and manure, applying anhydrous ammonia, repairing and installing drainage tile and taking care of livestock.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 30% short, 58% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 12% very short, 36% short, 49% adequate, 3% surplus. Range and Pasture 3% very poor, 7% poor, 42% fair, 37% good, 11% excellent. Blueberries 15% very poor, 12% poor, 23% fair, 29% good, 21% excellent. Corn 1% very poor, 20% poor, 72% fair, 7% good. Corn Planting 71%, 49% 2011, 75% average. Onions 30% fair, 65% good, 5% excellent. Peaches Blooming 87%, 85% 2011, 90% avg. Rye 2% poor, 41% fair, 49% good, 8% excellent. Sorghum Planted 1%, 3% 2011, 2% avg. Tobacco Transplanted 11%, 5% 2011, 7% avg. Watermelons Planted 41%, 33% 2011, 39% avg. Winter Wheat 4% poor, 36% fair, 47% good, 13% excellent. Precipitation estimates for the State ranged from no rain up to 2.5 inches. The week’s average temperatures ranged from the lower 60s to the mid 70s.

HAWAII: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Soil moisture was at short to adequate levels. Very sunny and clear conditions early in the week gave way to overcast skies and isolated showers in the second half. These showers occurred mostly on windward areas. Increasing day length has helped encourage crop growth. Irrigation water supplies ensured that crops located in areas which did not receive precipitation this week continued to progress. Natural rainfall locations reported an average of 0.57 inches of measurable rainfall across all islands during the reference week. The National Drought Monitor listed 45.33 percent of land area in the State was classified as no drought present as of April 3, 2012, which is unchanged from the previous week’s reference day. This is the third consecutive week in which drought conditions remained unchanged. No drought conditions were reported for the island of Kauai, the island of Oahu, or the southeastern tips of Hawaii and Molokai Islands. A total of 5.83 percent of the land area remained rated as extreme drought. The areas which remain classified in extreme drought are located on the leeward tip of Molokai Island, the southern leeward coast Maui Island, and a pocket on the Kohala slopes of the Big Island.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 4.1. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 11% short, 69% adequate, 18% surplus. Field corn planted 6%, 0% 2011, 9% avg. Winter wheat jointed 5%, 5% 2011, 4% average. Onions planted 70%, 35% 2011, 55% avg; emerged 0%, 0% 2011, 8% avg. Potatoes planted 4%, 1% 2011, 2% avg. Oats planted 27%, 1% 2011, 20% avg; emerged 13%, 0% 2011, 5% avg. Dry peas planted 8%, 15% 2011, 10% avg. Lentils planted 0%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Calving complete 89%, 89% 2011, 89% avg. Lambing complete 94%, 86% 2011, 87% avg. Hay and roughage supply 9% very short, 12% short, 67% adequate, 12% surplus. Irrigation water supply 23% fair, 50% good, 27% excellent. Sugarbeets planted 25%, 1% 2011, 25% avg; emerged 0%, 0% 2011, 3% avg. Spring wheat emerged 8%, 2% 2011, 5% avg. barley emerged 8%, 1% 2011, 2% avg. The Nez Perce extension educator reported adequate soil moisture and mild temperatures have created excellent winter wheat conditions. The Franklin extension educator reports spring farming operations are moving right along.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 11% short, 76% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% short, 82% adequate, 10% surplus. Rainfall averaged .49 inches Statewide, .5 in. below normal. Most precipitation Eastern locations, western areas need rain. Temperatures averaged 60 degrees, 7 degrees above normal. Tobacco transplants 84% set, 71% 2011, 75% avg. Transplants emerged 35%, 36%, 2011, 40% avg. Condition of winter wheat, 1% poor, 8% fair, 53% good, 38% excellent. Pasture conditions 3% poor, 19% fair, 54% good, 24% excellent. Winter kill light due to mild winter. Plant and forage growth continue 2 to 3 weeks ahead of...
MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Top soil moisture 3% very short, 12% short, 76% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 12% short, 74% adequate, 11% surplus. Hay supplies 3% very short, 16% short, 81% adequate. Pretreatment condition 3% poor, 25% fair, 61% good, 11% excellent. Range and pasture 3% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 56% good, and 11% excellent. Sugarcane 3% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 54% good, and 18% excellent.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil moisture 89% very short, 12% short, 8% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 1% short, 9% adequate, 89% surplus. Alfalfa and oat planting continued. Livestock producers took advantage of dry weather to apply manure. Week of warm weather in March caused some enthusiasm to begin planting corn early, but with a return to more seasonal weather, this enthusiasm has waned. There was a small amount of corn planted last week. Unusually high nighttime temperatures to most of Montana toward the end of the week with 2.50 inches. Temperatures were 5 to 11 degrees above average. Topsoil moisture supply 1% very short, 16% short, 78% adequate, 5% surplus. Ground worked spring tillage 63%, 1 month ahead of 2011. Rice planted was 43 days ahead of 2011. Winter wheat headed and beyond 98%, nearly a month ahead of last year and the 5-yr average. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 58% good, and 10% excellent.
Las Vegas recorded a high temperature of 86 degrees. Ely had the low of 9 degrees. Northern Nevada received some precipitation. Ely recorded 0.29 inches of precipitation. Windy conditions and rain showers prevented some field work in the northern part of the State. Seeding of spring crops was underway. Spring calving and lambing was underway. Main farm and ranch activities included prepping fields for seeding and equipment maintenance.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 12% very short, 52% short, 23% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 13% short, 62% adequate, 14% surplus. The week began windy with partly cloudy skies and average temperatures ranging from the upper 40s to mid-50s. Temperatures throughout the week were generally average across the region with the exception of Sunday, which brought cooler daytime temperatures to northern New England. Dry, windy conditions persisted throughout the week, fueling brush fires across New Hampshire. In contrast, northernmost latitudes of New Hampshire and Maine reported over 3 inches of winter precipitation at the end of the week. General farm activities included working in nurseries and greenhouses, tending to livestock, spraying fertilizers, spreading manure, disking, plowing, and getting ready to plant fields.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 6.5. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 40% short, and 55% adequate. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 35% short, and 60% adequate. Pasture and Range condition 5% poor, 30% fair, and 65% good. Rainfall amounts were below normal for all locations. Temperatures reached highs in the mid 60s to mid 70s and lows in the upper 20s to upper 30s across the Garden State. Winter wheat is 100% emerged in the State, and the condition is 10% fair and 90% good. Most planting is on hold despite warm temperatures for fear of frost injury. So far frost has spared fruit producers, but the weather conditions are creating ideal weather conditions for windside corn to bloom. Grape producers are expecting the season to be 3-4 weeks in advance with flowers in bloom with a threat of freeze for a month yet. Windy conditions have limited spraying opportunities. Dry conditions are noticeable but not critical due to the early date. Most winter grain crops look good. Producers are picking asparagus, and preparing fields for spring plantings. Other farming activities during the week are: tillage work, fertilization, irrigation of spinach and sod, establishing hay (spring planted) and spreading lime and fertilizer. Some early corn is planted. Insect activity is light. Winter wheat conditions are good. Conditions are favorable for calving and lambing.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil moisture 55% very short, 26% short, and 19% adequate. Wind damage 8% light and 2% moderate; 40% winter wheat damaged and 8% onion damage to date. Freeze damage 6% light and 2% moderate. Alfalfa 11% very poor, 5% poor, 40% fair, 37% good, and 7% excellent; 4% first cutting completed. Cotton 2% planted. Corn 1% planted. Irrigated winter wheat 3% very poor, 8% poor, 69% fair, 8% good and 12% excellent; 44% grazed. Dry winter wheat 60% very poor, 39% poor and 1% fair; 30% grazed. Total winter wheat 40% very poor, 28% poor, 25% fair, 3% good and 4% excellent; 35% grazed. Lettuce 2% poor, 48% good and 50% excellent. Chile 74% planted. Onion 18% fair, 63% good and 19% excellent; 100% planted. Cattle 28% very poor, 26% poor, 32% fair, 10% good and 3% excellent. Sheep 24% very poor, 36% poor, 36% fair and 4% good. Range and pasture 64% very poor, 18% poor, 11% fair, 6% good and 1% excellent. A snowstorm started off our week, giving us some much needed moisture. Temperatures were below normal.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Soil moisture 5% very short, 16% short, 76% adequate, 3% surplus. Pasture Conditions 5% very poor, 38% poor, 36% fair, 16% good, 4% excellent. Pastures were turning green across the State. Favorable weather has allowed many farmers to get a jump start on field tillage operations, new seeding establishment, and manure spreading. Oats seedings 25% complete. Sweet corn 7% planted. Lettuce 11% planted. Fruit trees, grapes, and strawberries experienced early growth. There have been several evenings with freezing temperatures and this resulted in frost damage. The damage is being monitored. A few storms produced windside corn continued this week and is earlier than last year and the 5 year average.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. The approximate starting date for field work is April 3. Topsoil moisture supplies 12% very short, 23% short, 57% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies 1% very short, 16% short, 72% adequate, 11% surplus. Durum wheat 8% planted. Dry edible peas 3% planted. Canola 1% planted. Potatoes 1% planted. Hay and forage supplies were 2% short, 82% adequate, 16% surplus. Grain and concentrate supply 4% short, 83% adequate, 13% surplus. Calving and lambing 80% and 76% complete, respectively. Shearling 85% complete. Cow condition 1% poor, 9% fair, 74% good, 16% excellent. Calf condition 6% fair, 77% good, 17% excellent. Sheep condition 8% fair, 70% good, 22% excellent. Lamb condition 7% fair, 69% good, 24% excellent. The percentage of feed obtained from pasture and range for cattle and sheep were 18% and 11%, respectively. Pastures and ranges 52% grazed and 48% still dormant. Ideal weather conditions continued to improve and fieldwork and plant activities to continue ahead of average. Seeding was prevalent in areas while fieldwork was delayed in parts of the State affected by precipitation.

OHIO: Days suitable for field work 4.8. Top soil moisture 1% short, 78% adequate, 21% surplus. Apples condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 40% fair, 48% good, 8% excellent. Hay condition 3% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, 17% excellent. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 18% fair, 61% good, 17% excellent. Range and pasture condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 48% fair, 44% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat condition 4% very poor, 13% poor, 33% fair, 39% good, 11% excellent. Winter wheat jointed 13%, 5% 2011, 6% avg. Potatoes planted 4%, NA% 2011, 3% avg. Apples green tip (or beyond) 85%, 12% 2011, 19% avg. Apples full bloom (or beyond) 40%, NA% 2011, 1% avg. Peaches green tip (or beyond) 84%, 14% 2011, 19% avg. Peaches full bloom (or beyond) 47%, 4% 2011, 1% avg.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 16% short, 74% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 13% very short, 29% short, 54% adequate, 4% surplus. Wheat jointing 92% this week, 85% last week, 82% last year, 80% average; headed 41% this week, 9% last week, 6% last year, 6% average. Canola condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 19% fair, 53% good, 23% excellent; blooming 99% this week, 87% last week, 69% last year, n/a average. Rye condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 16% fair, 59% good, 22% excellent; jointing 94% this week, 86% last week, 92% last year, 90% average; headed 73% this week, 36% last week, 12% last year, 11% average. Oats condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 18% excellent; emerged 96% this week, 79% last week, n/a last year, n/a average; jointing 43% this week, 26% last week, 25% last year, 31% average. Corn seedbed prepared 88% this week, 84% last week, 81% last year, 76% average; planted 51% this week, 21% last year, n/a average. Sorghum seedbed prepared 55% this week, 48% last week, 50% last year, 34% average. Soybeans seedbed prepared 33% this week, 26% last week, 31% last year, 33% average. Peanuts seedbed prepared 47% this week, 40% last week, 57% last year, 53% average. Cotton seedbed prepared 73% this week, 47% last week, 43% last year, 56% average. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 12% poor, 33% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Pasture and range condition 6% very poor, 14% poor, 38% fair, 38% good, 6% excellent. Additional moisture fell this week and every Mesonet station recorded rainfall. The average rainfall for the State was 0.93 inches. Heading of wheat and rye progressed well ahead of normal, due to the favorable spring conditions. Wheat and canola conditions continued to improve. Field preparation for spring crops continued between rain showers, as did corn planting. Conditions of pasture and range improved from recent rainfall, and new growth was reported. Improved grazing availability benefitted cattle producers.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Topsoil moisture 5% short, 60% adequate, 35% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 5% short, 62% adequate, 28% surplus. Spring Wheat Planted 53%, 36% 2011, 61% average; Emerged 23%, 14% 2011, 26% average. Barley Planted 62%, 52% 2011, 62% average; Emerged 28%, 45% 2011, 39% average. Range & Pasture 6% very poor, 18% poor, 44% fair, 30% good, 2% excellent. Temperatures for the week were below normal for most stations across the State. They were also below normal for the weather year so far. Precipitation for the week was above normal for almost all stations & below normal for none. For the weather season, almost all stations also report above normal precipitation. Farmers & ranchers, in aggregate, had few days suitable for field work, but they had more such days then last week. Wet conditions have slowed field work but with hopes of drier weather soon for western Oregon. March was a good snow pack month for eastern
Oregon. Wet, cool weather may adversely detract from Willamette Valley small grain potential. Reports on clover for seed varied. In Umatilla County, spring seeding continued, with spring wheat seeding leading the way. Pea & corn seeding was planned for the coming week. Potatoes were about 50 percent planted. Onions planting was nearing its finish. Producers in the many wet areas were itching to get in the field. Wasco County sweet cherry buds were in the green-tip stage of development. Still await the bloom. Temperatures in Hood River remained above critical levels for orchard crops. At week’s end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows - d’Anjou pear at blossom buds exposed to first white (WSU stages 2 to 4); Red Delicious apple at half-inch green (WSU stage 3); Bing cherry at green tip to open cluster (WSU stages 3 to 5); Pinot noir grape at Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 2. In the Willamette Valley, Peaches were in bloom. Treasure Coast, cool, wet weather has not been favorable for bloom. Some early spring cherry varieties were in the popcorn stage of bloom. Eastern Filbert Blight control sprays were applied. Prunes in some areas were in bloom but very spotty. Pears in southern Oregon were starting to need protection with some buds starting to show. In Douglas County, plums were moving past full bloom. Peaches, nectarines, & cherries were at full bloom. Pears were about 7-10 days away from full bloom. Apples & prunes were about 10-14 days away from full bloom. Expected freeze did not hit the Roseburg area. It was still too early to determine if wet field conditions will affect planting of April green peas. In general, producers will delay planning vegetables if cool, wet conditions persist. Greenhouses were busy getting spring starts ready for spring planting. Some early spring decorative starts were now at outlets. Nurseries also were very busy with sales of trees & shrubs. Cool, wet weather as slowed sales to local consumers. Tail end of the cold front was moving out west. Cool spot temperatures have retarded pasture growth. Pastures were green or greening across the State. In Lake County, livestock producers were starting to turn out onto government allotments. Some had to wait for water.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Soil moisture 4% very short, 27% short, 68% adequate, 1% surplus. Tobacco planted in beds 25%, 50% Prv. Yr., 14% 5-Yr. Avg. Peaches in the pink 99%, 79% Prv. Yr., 54% 5-Yr. Avg. Cherries in the pink 99%, 47% Prv. Yr. Apples in the pink 68%. Winter wheat condition 10% fair, 56% good, 34% excellent. Pasture condition 5% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 59% good, 10% excellent. Primary farm activities for the week included field preparation, manure hauling, planting oats and new seedings and spraying herbicide. Spring plowing is well underway and is 50% complete, which is ahead of the 7% reported at this time last year.

**SOUTHERN UTAH:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Tobacco moisture 3% very short, 26% short, 69% adequate, and 2% surplus. Tobacco planted in beds 25%, 50% Prv. Yr., 14% 5-Yr. Avg. Peaches in the pink 99%, 79% Prv. Yr., 54% 5-Yr. Avg. Cherries in the pink 99%, 47% Prv. Yr. Apples in the pink 68%. Winter wheat condition 10% fair, 56% good, 34% excellent. Pasture condition 5% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 59% good, 10% excellent. Primary farm activities for the week included field preparation, manure hauling, planting oats and new seedings and spraying herbicide. Spring plowing is well underway and is 50% complete, which is ahead of the 7% reported at this time last year.

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farmers have mid-April as their target date to begin planting corn. Most of the winter wheat fields are looking well. Plant maturity seems to be a couple of weeks ahead of normal this year. Irrigation water supplies look good for this year. Farmers in Cache County have enjoyed ideal weather for getting crops planted. Most are quite happy about their field progress thus far. Small grains are mostly planted. Some safflower and alfalfa hay is also being planted this early. Corn growers are waiting awhile before planting corn. Growers who depend on irrigation water are feeling confident about water supplies if their source is a reservoir. Growers who depend on surface runoff are bracing themselves for a light water year. In Morgan County the recent snow storm provided much needed moisture for spraying newly planted grain and alfalfa crops. Weber County reported fields were drying out, so growers were happy to see the recent snow that will provide the moisture to germinate seeded fields. In Duchesne-Daggett Counties field preparation and planting are in full swing. In Summit County the first part of the week was dry and warm which helped farmers with field work before the end of the week turned cold and wet. Crop land is dry in Beaver County and farmers are working to get their irrigation systems going. Box Elder County livestock producers reported that they are beginning to brand and doctor calves, preparing to turn them out on spring pastures. Range herds of sheep are being shorn and are expected to be ready to lamb in earnest by next month. Producers report that lambs seem to be doing well. Prices for most commodities remain strong. However, milk price has been falling for the last two months. Dairy producers are struggling financially to make ends meet. In Cache County cattle and sheep have done exceptionally well during the mild winter. Growers report minimal calving and lambing losses as a result of the ideal weather conditions. Most calves and lambs are growing rapidly. The producers in Duchesne-Daggett Counties are finishing up on lambing and calving with young livestock being reported in good health. In Summit County ranchers are still calving and lambing and have reported things going well. In Uintah County the dry weather conditions have been good for livestock during the calving and lambing season, but more moisture will be needed to maintain range land vegetation and crops.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for field work 6. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 36% short, 58% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 21% short, 74% adequate, 4% surplus. Pasture 2% poor, 29% fair, 60% good, 9% excellent. Livestock 3% poor, 23% fair, 60% good, 14% excellent. Other Hay 38% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 35% fair, 50% good, 15% excellent. Winter Wheat 2% poor, 18% fair, 65% good, 15% excellent. Barley 2% poor, 22% fair, 64% good, 12% excellent. Tobacco Greenhouse 35% fair, 34% good, 31% excellent. Tobacco Plant beds 97% fair, 3% good. Potatoes 100% fair. All Apples 1% poor, 94% fair, 5% good. Peaches 1% very poor, 3% poor, 63% fair, 33% good. Grapes 11% poor, 35% fair, 54% good. Winter Wheat condition 28% fair, 72% good. Crop insect infestation 93% none, 7% light. Range and pasture condition 5% very poor, 32% short, 58% adequate. Barley 70% planted, 12% emerged. 62% very poor, 15% fair, 24% good, 1% excellent. Cattle operations continued feeding hay in most counties, although Asotin County cattle producers were sending a few out to pasture. In Klickitat County, green grasses were seen along the Columbia hills and the pastures in the valley were starting to grow.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for field work 6. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 18% short, 71% adequate, 6% surplus compared to 7% short, 78% adequate, 15% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring crops 39%, 27% in 2011, 36% 5-year avg. Hay and roughage supplies 4% short, 76% adequate, 20% surplus compared to 8% very short, 27% short, 54% adequate, 11% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies 2% short, 97% adequate, 1% surplus compared to 4% very short, 19% short, 76% adequate, 1% surplus last year. Corn 3% planted, 4% in 2011, 2% 5-year avg. Winter wheat conditions 18% fair, 82% good. Hay conditions 1% poor, 30% fair, 62% good, 7% excellent. Apple conditions 8% very poor, 9% poor, 40% fair, 43% good. Peaches 15% very poor, 14% poor, 35% fair, 36% good. Cattle and calves 2% poor, 17% fair, 76% good, 5% excellent. Calving 87% complete, compared to 79% last year. Sheep and lambs 2% poor, 11% fair, 82% good, 5% excellent. Lambing 95% complete, compared to 82% last year. Weather was mostly ideal this week. Farming activities included monitoring frost damage, pasture improvement, and planting early garden crops, moving livestock, preparing fields and planting crops, seeding pastures, fencing, calving, and lambing.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for field work 5.1. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 24% short, 64% adequate, and 6% surplus. Spring tillage 19% complete, 1% 2011, 4% 5-year avg. Temperatures remained above average this week, continuing the trend of this unusually mild winter. Farmers took advantage of the warm spring to get an early start on tillage and planting, though many producers remain concerned about the possibility of April frosts. The lack of snow cover this winter also contributed to dry conditions in some areas. Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 3 to 10 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 50 to 63 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 34 to 38 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.00 inches in Milwaukee to 1.20 inches in Eau Claire.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for field work 6.30. Topsoil moisture 11% very short, 42% short, 47% adequate. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 32% short, 58% adequate. Barley 70% planted, 12% emerged. Oats 12% planted, 1% emerged. Winter wheat condition 28% fair, 72% good. Cattle operations continued feeding hay in most counties, although Asotin County cattle producers were sending a few out to pasture. In Klickitat County, green grasses were seen along the Columbia hills and the pastures in the valley were starting to grow.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for field work were 2.0. Topsoil moisture conditions were 3 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 31 percent surplus. Growth in hayfields was seen statewide. Established hay stands looked excellent in Kittitas County. Winter wheat was beginning to green up in Pend Oreille and Spokane Counties. With favorable weather conditions many winter wheat producers in Adams County were able to spray with the hope of being completed in the coming week. In Franklin County, spring wheat and potato planting were in full swing with producers just starting to plant green peas and corn. In the Yakima Valley, fruit growers contended with frost protection during at least one morning when temperatures reached into the upper 20s. Apricots were in post bloom while peaches and nectarines entered full bloom. Field crews were blossoming thinning peaches and nectarines. Earlier cherry varieties were entering bloom. Apples were beginning to leaf out in the warmer areas of the county. Vegetable fields were being prepared with some growers laying out irrigation and black plastic. Tree fruit flower development was not affected by a cooler and wetter than normal spring in Chelan County. Temperatures up in the 60’s jump started new growth on the raspberries in Whatcom County. Range and pasture conditions were 12 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 42 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Cattle operations continued feeding hay in most counties, although Asotin County cattle producers were sending a few out to pasture. In Klickitat County, green grasses were seen along the Columbia hills and the pastures in the valley were starting to grow.