ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork was 6.7. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 37% short, 58% adequate, and 1% surplus. Corn planted 57%, 58% 2011, and 60% five year average. Corn emerged 51%, 34%, 2011, and 31% five year average. Corn condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 69% good and 14% excellent. Winter wheat headed 79%, 29% 2011, and 10% five year average. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 63% good, and 13% excellent. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 57% good, and 13% excellent. The average mean temperature for the week ranged from 50.1°F in Sylacauga to 72.1°F in Marshall. The average precipitation for the week ranged from 0.86 in Phenix City to 2.91 in Decatur. Pomegranates were leafing out. Apples were starting bloom and leafing out. Strawberries were being transplanted in Siskiyou County. Early blueberries in Tulare County were starting harvest. Olive groves were pruned. Orange and avocado trees were in bloom in early locations. 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 to pick up. Almond bloom was over as almond trees were leafing out and nuts were growing larger. Freeze damage was becoming apparent in areas hit hard by the March cold spell. Walnuts were continuing to leaf out while eastern sections of the county were in bloom. Pistachios were blooming and leafing out. Almonds, almonds, and pistachios continued to be exported. Kern County reported carrots, melons, peppers and processing tomatoes being planted. In Tulare County, squash, tomato, and peppers were being planted. Fresno County reported onion and garlic continued to grow well while being treated with herbicides for volunteer wheat. Harvesting of asparagus, broccoli and some head lettuce had begun. Some heavy rains made for muddy conditions for harvest of lettuce and broccoli. Processing tomatoes were being planted from seed as well as transplanting. Bell pepper, carrot, cantaloupe, honeydew and watermelon fields were being prepared for planting. Spring vegetables such as beets, radishes, cabbages, turnips, daikon, green onions, spinach, herbs, mustard greens, choy, chards and kales continued to be harvested. Eggplant and squash continues to be planted. In Merced County, fresh market tomato and processing tomato planted continuing as asparagus harvest continued. Some tomato fields were damaged by frost. In Stanislaus County, broccoli, and spinach continued to be harvested. San Joaquin County reported continued harvesting of asparagus. Non-irrigated rangeland continued to improve in response to the late spring rains with greenings reported across the state. Range conditions were poor for this time of the year for much of the state. Livestock were moved to rangeland in some areas. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Sheep and cattle grazed on retired farmland and alfalfa fields. Pollination activities were winding down in stone fruits and blueberries. Some bees were being moved to citrus or shipped out-of-state. Milk production was negatively impacted by muddy con conditions. Some dairy herds were culling some less productive cows.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures were mostly above normal for the week ending April 15, ranging from 6 degrees above normal at Parker. The highest temperature of the week was 95 degrees at Roll. The lowest reading was 23 degrees at Grand Canyon. There was precipitation recorded in all but six of the 22 weather stations, ranging from 0.01 inches in Maricopa to 0.84 inches in Kingman. All weather stations have below normal precipitation to date in 2012. Alfalfa conditions remain mostly fair to excellent, depending on location. Harvesting has occurred on 80 percent of the growing areas across the State. Two-thirds of the State’s durum wheat crop has headed. Central Arizona growers shipped broccoli, cabbage, kale greens and parsley. Western Arizona growers shipped broccoli, cauliflower, celery, cilantro, kale greens, broccoli, kale, iceberg, red leaf, romaine, and processed lettuces. Also shipped this week were parsley, spinach and Swiss chard. Rangeland conditions continue to deteriorate with many areas reporting very dry pastures. Conditions ranged from very poor to good.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for field work 5.8. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 16% short, 72% adequate, and 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 9% short, 75% adequate, and 15% surplus. Corn 94% planted, 74% 2011, 64% avg.; 76% emerged, 40% 2011, 38% avg. Sorghum 47% emerged, 9% 2011, 9% avg. Soybeans 19% planted, 10% 2011, 7% avg.; 7% emerged, 2% 2011, 1% avg. Livestock were in good condition last week. Pasture and range conditions are reported in mostly fair to good condition.

CALIFORNIA: Recent rain showers have improved soil moisture supplies for dry land crops. Early planted grain fields were growing well with wheat headed nearly two-thirds complete and some cutting for oat hay underway. Wheat conditions continued to improve with recent precipitation as the crop was rated mostly good to excellent. Seedbed preparations for corn and cotton halted in some rain affected areas, but the main activities included cultivation to remove weeds, herbicide applications, and reshadng seed beds. Some operators were able to start planting, however the majority of operators were waiting for warmer soil temperatures. Rice producers continue preparations for planting. 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. Cherry bloom was nearly complete as bees were being moved out of orchards. 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. Recent hail storms in the San Joaquin Valley hit stone fruit orchards hard causing growers significant fruit damage. Grapevines continued to leaf out while vineyards were being pruned and sprayed.
# Australian Crop and Weather Update

**FLORIDA:**
- Topsoil moisture 29% very short, 50% short, 21% adequate. Subsoil moisture 16% very short, 55% short, 29% adequate. Eighty percent of Florida's landmass is in severe, extreme, or exceptional drought. Peanut planting is moving along at a rapid pace. Peanut producers are ahead of schedule. Field Corn planting is estimated to be 7 percent complete at the state level. This is 3 percentage points above average. The Cassia extension educator reports very dry weather and too much wind. Calving is finishing up and livestock are in good condition.

**ILLINOIS:**
- Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 24% short, 61% adequate, and 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 32% short, 60% adequate, and 4% surplus. Oats 93% planted, 59% last year, 44% average. Weather conditions normalized last week with an average statewide temperature of 51.4 degrees, 1 degree above normal. Statewide precipitation averaged 0.98 inches, 0.09 below normal. More rainfall is expected during the coming week for a good rain to improve soil moisture. Frost conditions were reported in parts of the state, but the damage on wheat and emerged corn was mostly mild. Some farmers reported concern about the frost damage to hay conditions.

**INDIANA:**
- Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 27% short, 57% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 20% short, 70% adequate, 6% surplus. Corn emerged 3%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Soybeans planted 5%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Winter wheat jointed 57%, 19% 2011, 22% avg. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, 16% excellent. Availability of hay 2% very short, 14% short, 78% adequate, 6% surplus. Temperatures ranged from the upper 30's to the lower 60's.

**IOWA:**
- There were 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the past week. The widespread rain impacted moisture levels throughout the state. Topsoil moisture levels improved to 6 percent very short, 21 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture also improved and is now rated 14 percent very short, 31 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Severe thunderstorms and tornadoes struck the state on Saturday, April 14. Farmers fear hay growth was affected and a major crop damage event may be in the near future if a hard freeze occurs during the next few days.

**KANSAS:**
- Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 8% short, 78% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 17% short, 74% adequate, 5% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 91%, 45% 2011, 47% avg.; wind damage 84% none, 11% light, 4% moderate, 1% severe; insect infestation 79% none, 17% light, 4% moderate, 0% severe; disease infestation, 71% none, 20% light, 8% moderate, 1% severe. Range and pasture condition 10% very poor, 14% poor, 32% fair, 39% good, 5% excellent. Feed grain supplies 6% very poor, 15% short, 77% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 15% very short, 20% short, 62% adequate, 3% surplus. Stock water supplies 5% very short, 11% short, 79% adequate, 5% surplus. Kansas producers saw the fifth consecutive week of above normal temperatures along with severe thunderstorms and tornadoes. High temperatures ranged from the low 70's to low 80's, and low temperatures ranged from the low 30's to mid 40's. All stations reported at or above normal average temperatures with Hutchinson and Colby the warmest at 9 degrees above normal. Colby was also the only station that did not receive rain last week. Eighteen of the 53 stations reported over an inch of rain, with Beloit, Columbus, and Clay Center receiving the largest amounts with 3.97 inches, 2.73 inches, and 2.56 inches, respectively. All districts reported between 3.7 and 4.0 days suitable and 10 days unsuitable. Some districts reported 2 days continuous rain while others were preparing for spring planting and spraying for insects and disease. A few producers have even begun to cut alfalfa for the first time. The Kansas wheat crop continues to progress two to three weeks ahead of the average. Only the western third of the state is less than 85 percent jointed. The South Central district at 51 percent headed and the Southeast District at 61 percent headed are progressing more rapidly than the rest of the state. Only the western districts are below 10 percent corn planted, while the Southeast District already has 70 percent of this year's corn crop planted. Many cattle herds were turned out to spring pasture last week, while a few producers are still finishing up their livestock. A few producers are thinking of taking off corn to feed for winter use.

**KENTUCKY:**
- Days suitable fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 29% short, 62% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 21% short, 71% adequate, 6% surplus. Rainfall averaged 0.10 inches Statewide, 0.91 in. below normal. Most precipitation Northern locations, much of the State needs rain. Temperatures averaged 54 degrees, 1 degree below normal. Tobacco transplants 89% seeded, 81% 2011,
86% average. Transplants emerged 70%, 61% 2011, 60% average. Winter wheat headed 70%. Condition of winter wheat, 1% poor, 9% fair, 58% good, 32% excellent. Frost midweek caused damage to wheat, fruit and vegetable crops. Alfalfa Hay average height 13 inches. Alfalfa and small grain hay harvest underway. Plant and forage growth continued most of last week.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil moisture 2% very short, 2% short, 77% adequate, 19% surplus. Corn planted 99% this week, 93% last week, 100% last year, 98% average; emerged 92% this week, 68% last week, 96% last year, 88% average; condition 16% fair, 68% good, 16% excellent. Winter wheat headed 99% this week, 96% last week, 92% last year, 83% average. Peas planted this week, 7% last week, 3% last year, 1% average; condition 5% poor, 23% fair, 65% good, 8% excellent. Sweet Corn 1% Planted, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Green beans 1% Planted, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Subsoil moisture condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, 19% excellent.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 19% very short, 53% short, 28% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 42% short, 47% adequate, 0% surplus. Hay supplies 5% very short, 16% short, 79% adequate, 0% surplus. Pasture condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 33% fair, 43% good, 9% excellent. Sweet Corn 1% Planted, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Green beans 1% Planted, 0% 2011, 0% average. Subsoil moisture condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, 19% excellent. Alfalfa Hay average height 17 inches. Alfalfa and small grain hay harvest underway. Plant and forage growth continued most of last week.

MONTANA: Topsoil moisture 11% very short, 1% last year; 30% short, 3% last year; 56% adequate, 55% last year; 3% surplus, 41% last year. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 0% last year; 31% short, 6% last year; 55% adequate, 71% last year; 4% surplus, 23% last year. Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3, 1.3 last year. Camellia planted 30%, 10% last year. Camellia emerged 8%. Corn planted 5%. Dry peas planted 30%, 1% last year. Flaxseed planted 14%. Lentils planted 21%. Wheat planted 15%. Sugar beets planted 20%, 6% last year. Durum Wheat planted 12%. Winter Wheat – spring stages 4% still dormant, 39% last year; 29% greening, 49% last year; 67% green & growing, 12% last year. Range and pasture feed condition 3% very poor, 4% last year; 15% poor, 13% last year; 44% fair, 42% last year; 34% good, 38% last year; 4% excellent, 3% last year. Lambing complete 60%, 59% last year. Montana had warm spring days and cool nights last week with measurable precipitation as a result of the state's major air masses. The amount of precipitation for the week was 1.15 inches of moisture and most other stations saw 0.10 to 0.99 of an inch. High temperatures ranged from the lower 60s to lower 80s, with the state-wide high temperature of 81 degrees recorded at Drummond. A majority of stations reported lows in the upper teens to lower 30s, the coldest being Scobey at 9 degrees, followed by Opheim and St. Marie with 10 degrees.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil moisture 7% very short, 21% short, 67% adequate, and 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 34% short, 56% adequate, and 1% surplus. Wheat jointed 38%, 5% 2011, 6% avg. Alfalfa conditions rated 7% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 1% excellent. Range and pasture feed condition 1% very poor, 8% poor, 4% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Cattle and calves conditions 5% poor, 75% good, 20% excellent. Cows calved 88% complete. Calf losses rated 34% below average, 66% strong. Storms late in the week delayed field activities but increased soil moisture levels. High winds, tornadoes and hail damaged property in parts of the State. However, the general rail traffic was welcome and should aid germination of spring planted crops. Corn planting made little progress during the 4.6 days suitable for fieldwork. Seeding of oats was three-fourths completed with one third of the crop emerged. Wheat jointed at 38% was two and half weeks ahead of normal. Average potential for freeze damage has been reduced as temperatures cooled and ranged from the low 50’s in the west to mid 50’s in the east. Cattle and calves were in mostly good to excellent condition. Spring calving was 88 percent complete with calf losses below average. In general, temperatures averaged one degree below normal across the northern half of the State, and 1 degree above normal across the southern half of the State. Snowfall in February and March was 15% below average, and the wet spring. Many farmers have completed corn planting and some cotton has been put into the ground. Winter wheat is starting to mature in some areas. Easter snow is expected in the northern half of the State this week.

NEVADA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Temperature cooled mid week as two cold fronts moved across the State bringing rain and some snow. Conditions warmed again by week’s end. Temperatures ranged from four degrees below normal to three degrees above normal. Las Vegas recorded a high temperature of 88 degrees. Reno and Winnemucca had the low of 21 degrees. Winnemucca recorded 0.18 inches of precipitation. Rain showers prevented some field work.
Seeding of spring crops was underway. Fall seeded grain was in good condition. Alfalfa fields were greening. Spring calving and lambing was underway. Main farm and ranch activities included prepping fields for seeding, ditch burning and equipment maintenance.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Days suitable for field work 6.1. Topsoil moisture 19% very short, 47% short, 30% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 42% short, 42% adequate, 7% surplus. The week began cloudy with variable daytime temperatures ranging from the low 40s to low 60s. Temperatures during the middle of the week were average to above average in the 50s and 60s. Light rain arrived on Thursday but failed to bring enough moisture to alleviate brush fire danger conditions. Snow continued to fall in the northern and western parts of the state. The next cold wave started on Saturday and intensified Sunday with temperatures generally in the 70s. Total precipitation for the week ranged from 0.02 to 0.32 inches. General activities included working in nurseries and greenhouses, tending to livestock, spraying fertilizers, spreading manure, discing, plowing, irrigating, and planting early season vegetable crops.

**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for field work 7. Topsoil moisture 40% very short, 40% short, and 20% adequate. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 55% short, and 35% adequate. Pasture and Range condition 10% poor, 50% fair, and 40% good. Rainfall amounts were below normal for all locations. Temperatures reached highs in the mid 70s to low 80s and lows in the low to upper 30s across the Garden State. The majority of winter wheat has headed and the condition was 10% fair and 90% good. Windy weather and some hot temperatures have dried soil reserves. This was interfering with planting, germination, and proper growth. More than sporadic rain showers were needed to help an extremely early start. Windy conditions, 26% very good, 37% good, 20% average, 15% short, 6% surplus. Wheat jointing 95% this week, 92% last week, 91% last year, 90% average. Canola condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 51% good, 22% excellent; jointing 98% this week, 97% last week, 96% last year, 95% average. Peaches condition 12% very poor, 16% poor, 37% fair, 31% good, 4% excellent. Peaches planted 22%, 1% 2011, 11% average. Alfalfa 26% very poor, 23% poor, 22% fair, and 26% good; 6% average; 32% short, 65% adequate, 3% surplus. Wheat jointing burn in some greens/lettuces and have caused poor asparagus growth due to curved spears. Strawberries were in full bloom while peaches and blueberries were starting to set fruit. Other farming activities during the week were irrigation, tillage, planting, discing, and spreading fertilizer. Livestock conditions were average. Milk production was average to slightly below average due to heat stress associated with higher temperatures.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil moisture 71% very short, 25% short and 4% adequate. Wind damage 20% light, 17% moderate and 8% severe; 47% winter wheat damaged and 13% onion damage to date. Alfalfa 26% very poor, 23% poor, 22% fair and 25% good; 6% average; 32% short, 65% adequate, 3% surplus. Wheat jointing 95% this week, 92% last week, 91% last year, 90% average. Canola condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 51% good, 22% excellent; jointing 98% this week, 97% last week, 96% last year, 95% average. Pasture and Range condition 10% poor, 50% fair, and 40% good. Rainfall amounts were below normal for all locations. Temperatures reached highs in the mid 70s to low 80s and lows in the low to upper 30s across the Garden State. The majority of winter wheat has headed and the condition was 10% fair and 90% good. Windy weather and some hot temperatures have dried soil reserves. This was interfering with planting, germination, and proper growth. More than sporadic rain showers were needed to help an extremely early start. Windy conditions, 26% very good, 37% good, 20% average, 15% short, 6% surplus. Wheat jointing 95% this week, 92% last week, 91% last year, 90% average. Canola condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 51% good, 22% excellent; jointing 98% this week, 97% last week, 96% last year, 95% average. Peaches condition 12% very poor, 16% poor, 37% fair, 31% good, 4% excellent. Peaches planted 22%, 1% 2011, 11% average. Alfalfa 26% very poor, 23% poor, 22% fair, and 26% good; 6% average; 32% short, 65% adequate, 3% surplus. Wheat jointing burn in some greens/lettuces and have caused poor asparagus growth due to curved spears. Strawberries were in full bloom while peaches and blueberries were starting to set fruit. Other farming activities during the week were irrigation, tillage, planting, discing, and spreading fertilizer. Livestock conditions were average. Milk production was average to slightly below average due to heat stress associated with higher temperatures.

**NEW YORK:** Days suitable for field work 6.2. Soil moisture was rated 11% very short, 34% short, 52% adequate, and 3% surplus. Pasture Conditions were rated 4% very poor, 33% poor, 38% fair, 24% good, and 1% excellent. Some farmers were waiting for ground conditions to warm up before planting corn. Corn was greener across the state. Some manure spreading was being done to fields. Oats seedings began at 52%. Sweet corn and lettuce planting were underway. The dry, warm winter has early spring planting far ahead of schedule. Temperatures ranged from the mid 70s to the lower 30s. Light rain storms moved across the state.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** There were 6.1 days suitable for field work, compared to 4.6 the previous week. Statewide soil moisture levels were rated at 1% very short, 27% short, 68% adequate and 4% surplus. The state received below normal precipitation and temperatures the week ending April 15, 2012. Scattered frost impacted some crops, but the extent of the damage is unknown. Conditions were favorable for field work.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil moisture supplies 9% very short, 20% short, 58% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies 1% very short, 13% short, 74% adequate, 12% surplus. Durum wheat planted 16% this week, 8% last week, 0% last year, 1% average. Canola planted 2% this week, 1% last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Dry edible peas planted 13% this week, 3% last week, 0% last year, 1% average. Potatoes planted 3% this week, 1% last week, 0% last year, 3% avg. Hay and forage supplies were 2% short, 79% adequate, 19% surplus. Grain and concentrate supply 4% short, 81% adequate, 15% surplus. Calving and lambing 69% and 81% complete, respectively. Cow fertility 99% complete. Cow condition 1% poor, 7% fair, 73% good, 19% excellent. Calf condition 6% fair, 70% good, 24% excellent. Sheep condition 7% fair, 70% good, 23% excellent. Lamb condition 8% fair, 68% good, 24% excellent. The percentage of feed obtained from pasture and range for cattle and sheep was 19% and 16%, respectively. Pastures and ranges 64% greased and 36% still dormant. Hay crops despite widespread precipitation that occurred late last week. Reporters commented that the rain was beneficial in most areas. Other activities during the week included applying fertilizer.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for field work 5.9. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 17% short, 73% adequate, 8% surplus. Apples condition 12% very poor, 35% poor, 32% fair, 19% good, 4% excellent; jointing 98% this week, 97% last week, 96% last year, 95% average. Pasture and Range condition 12% very poor, 16% poor, 37% fair, 31% good, 4% excellent. Peaches planted 22%, 1% 2011, 11% average. Alfalfa 26% very poor, 23% poor, 22% fair, and 26% good; 6% average; 32% short, 65% adequate, 3% surplus. Wheat jointing burn in some greens/lettuces and have caused poor asparagus growth due to curved spears. Strawberries were in full bloom while peaches and blueberries were starting to set fruit. Other farming activities during the week included applying fertilizer.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 6% short, 63% adequate, 31% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 6% short, 59% adequate, 30% surplus. Spring Wheat, Planted 70%, 44% 2011, 71% average. Spring Wheat, Emerged 35%, 19% 2011, 35% average. Barley, Planted 67%, 57% 2011, 72% average. Barley, Emerged 35%, 47% 2011, 48% average. Rage & Pasture 1% very poor, 10% poor, 38% fair, 43% good, 4% excellent. As for weather conditions, there was normal weather this past week. Average temperature for the State was just slightly above normal at 48.2 degrees. Low temperatures ranged from 41 degrees in Roseburg, down to 21 degrees in Bear Lake. The average precipitation was 2.88 inches in Florence, up to 75 degrees in Rome. All but two stations reported measurable precipitation, but overall the amount was above normal for this time of year. The Moro station reported the most at 1.79 inches, which is 1.58 inches above normal for that station. A little more snow accumulation was welcomed in higher elevations. The Northeast was a little warmer & drier compared to the rest of the State this week. As for Field Crops, warmer temperatures yielded healthy wheat growth.
in north central Oregon for elevations below 1600 feet. Elevations above that were still playing catch up & have more water standing, delaying spraying. In Malheur planting for sugar beets were done, potato planting started. Too early for corn planted there. Umatilla County corn & pea planters hit the fields with spring planting. Wheat continued to grow well, but all in good condition. In the north Willamette Valley, grass for seed was showing signs of recovery from the cold, wet spring. Some wheat may be lost due to winter & spring flooding. Red clover was growing well. In the south Willamette Valley, excessive spring rain has slowed fertilizer applications on grass seed & grain crops. Both were in fair shape considering the constant rains there. Relief needs to come as they head toward May. In southern Oregon, conditions were wet & cool, which delayed field work. Planted crops were looking good, but they could use some warm, sunny days. Hay crops should do well with some warmer weather. As for Fruits & Nuts, cherries & apricots in Wasco County started to bloom. At week’s end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows d’Anjou pear at full white to first bloom (WSU stages 5 & 6); Red Delicious apple at tight cluster (WSU stage 4); Bing cherry at first white to first bloom (WSU stages 6 & 7); Pinot noir grape at first bloom at Eichhorn-Lorenn stage 2. In the Willamette Valley, peaches were in bloom & nearing petal fall. Blueberries & gooseberries had leafed out. Asian Pears were blooming, & Bartlett’s were budding. Gravenstein & apples were starting to bloom. Table grapes were at bud break. Control sprays for Eastern Filbert Blight continued to be applied. Prunes were in full bloom in the southern Willamette. In the Rogue Valley, peaches & apricots were almost at full bloom. Snow peas were in bloom, with some spraying done on those that were. Table grapes were sprayed with worries of a repeat of high mellow last fall. Vine grapes were at wooly bud stage in Douglas County. Bees were out throughout the State on some of the warm days. As for vegetables, some soil vegetables had come up in the Willamette Valley, but there was still a lot to be planted. Garlic should be about 8–12 inches tall. Some growers were trying to plant sweet corn. Initial moldboard plowing on vegetable fields as weather permits. Asparagus in southern Oregon was up & will soon be cut. Onion planting in Malheur County was done. Nurseries were digging, balling, & shipping ornamental trees & shrubs. Greenhouse crops were quite busy with spring starts, now mostly early ornamentals. As for Livestock, Range & Pasture, pastures were putting on growth with warmer temperatures in areas of lower elevation. Higher elevations still had slow grass growth in ranges & pastures. In most parts of Umatilla County, cattle producers were about 10 days from turning animals out to grass. Lots of spring lambing & calving.

**Pennsylvania:**

- **Days suitable for fieldwork:** 6. Soil moisture 2% very short, 42% short, 56% adequate, and 0% surplus. Tobacco planted in beds 74%, 61% Prv. Yr., 35% 5-Yr. Avg. Apples in the pink 83%, 5-Yr. Avg. 14%. Apples in full bloom or past 65%. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 9% fair, 59% good, 30% excellent. Pasture, condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 4%, fair, 16% good, 82% excellent. Primary farm activities for the week included manure spreading, machinery maintenance, and seeding. Spring plowing was 59% complete, which is ahead of the 8% reported at this time last year and the 5-year average of 27%.

**South Carolina:**

- **Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Soil moisture 7% very short, 45% short, 48% adequate. Winter wheat 2% poor, 33% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Pasture condition 0% very poor, 9% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, 1% excellent. Oats 1% very poor, 2% poor, 29% fair, 64% good, 4% excellent. Hay 49% fair, 49% good, 2% excellent. Peaches 63% fair, 36% good, 1% excellent. Tomatoes, fresh 58% fair, 31% good, 11% excellent. Livestock calving, lambing, and kidding season was winding down as ranchers worked calves and sheared sheep.**

**Tennessee:**

- **Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 24% short, 71% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 18% short, 77% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn planted 60% this week, 2% last week 0% last year, 0% average. Barley seeded 60% this week, 27% last week, 4% last year, 6% average. Barley emerged 22% this week, 1% last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Cattle condition 0% very poor, 7% poor, 72% good, 23% excellent. Calving was complete. Cattle moved to pasture 19% complete. Sheep condition 5% fair, 66% good, 29% excellent. Lambing 70% complete. Range and pasture 6% poor, 36% fair, 49% good, 9% excellent. Feed supplies 2% short, 90% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 7% short, 90% adequate, 2% surplus. The arrival of the first spring rain was welcomed by all across the state to continue growth of crops under current conditions, as well as the outlook for germination of recently planted crops.**

**Texas:**

- **Most areas of Texas received rainfall last week. Areas of East and Coastal Texas received up to 2 inches of rainfall for the week while other areas observed scattered showers. Irrigation was active on wheat in the High Plains which received little rainfall. Dryland wheat continued to suffer due to dry, windy conditions. In many other areas, wheat benefited from timely showers. Producers across the State continued to cut wheat and oats for hay. Other wheat and oat fields were being used for grazing. Many producers were monitoring or spraying for armyworms and aphids. Much of the land preparation was completed for cotton planted in the Panhandle. Some cotton producers were pre-watering while others were making planting decisions. Corn and sorghum planting was underway around the state. In South Texas, dry conditions prompted some cotton, oats, cotton, and sorghum producers to irrigate. In the Cross Timbers, pecan trees looked to be in good shape with good garden in growth crops and nuts present in most trees. Pecan producers were fertilizing and spraying zinc. In North and East Texas, vegetable fields were planted and making good progress. Most fruit trees had small fruit on them. In South Texas, cabbage harvest continued and watermelon transplants showed signs of new fruit. In many of the Cross Timbers, pecan trees looked to be in good shape with good garden growth.**

**Utah:**

- **Days suitable for Field Work 5.0. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 20% short, 70% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter Wheat Condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 0% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Spring Wheat planted 58%, 30% 2011, 52% avg. Spring Wheat emerged 44%, 45% 2011, 7% avg. Barley planted 81%, 28% 2011, 51% avg. Barley emerged 44%, 8% 2011, 0% avg. Oats planted 47%, 32% 2011, 31% avg. Oats emerged 9%, 3% 2011, 5% avg. Corn planted 3%, 1% 2011, 5% avg. Cows Calved 55%, 60% 2011, 1% avg. Cattle and calves condition 1% very poor, 0% poor, 7% fair, 76% good, 17% excellent. Sheep Condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 0% fair, 80% good, 14% excellent. Range and pasture 0% very poor, 4% poor, 44% good, 46% good, 6% excellent. Stock Water Supplies 1% very short, 12% short, 86% adequate, 1% surplus. Sheep Sheared On Farm, Sheared On Farm 75%, 73% 2011, 49% avg. Sheep Sheared On Range, Sheep Sheared On Range 56%, 53% 2011, 37% avg. Ewes Lamb On Farm, Ewes Lamb On Farm 75%, 69% 2011, 76% avg. Ewes Lamb On Range, Ewes Lamb On Range 36%, 30% 2011, 30% avg. Apricots full bloom 96%, 69% 2011, 57% avg. Sweet Cherries full bloom Or Past 86%, 18% 2011, 25% avg. Tart Cherries full Bloom Or Past 83%, 65% 2011, 32% avg. Peaches, Full Bloom Or Past 71%, 17% 2011, 22% avg. Part of Northern Utah reported winter storms with a lot of wind and scattered precipitation. Nights were cold. The Recent
snow storm provided needed moisture for Box Elder, Morgan, and Weber Counties. Box Elder County livestock producers report that their animals are doing well. Beef producers report that spring calving is almost completed. Sheep producers are extremely busy with lambing their range herds, which is reported to be going well. Livestock producers are concerned about the dry winter and spring conditions and are anticipating the possibility that rangelands are going to be short of feed this year. In Cache County sheeps and cattle are reported to be doing very well. Very few calving or lambing losses have been reported, due to the pleasant weather and relatively dry conditions. Beaver County reports that livestock are doing well. Garfield/Kane Counties have reported excellent calving success due to the mild winter and spring. Box Elder County received about an inch of precipitation on the east side of the county and very little on the west side of the county when a storm moved through the county on Thursday and Friday. Farmers are seeding safflower, spring wheat, barley, oats, and some new alfalfa. Fall wheats that cook good and also large grains. Alfalfa fields are greening up and beginning to grow. It was reported that at least one producer planted his corn this past week. There have been some losses reported by fruit producers due to the frost on April 7th, but they are still optimistic as some peaches and apples have yet to bloom. More will be known as time passes and it is determined how much fruit is setting. Farmers in Cache County report that most of the small grains have been planted, and some safflower is also going in. Soil temperatures are still too cold for planting corn, but that process is anticipated to start in the next few weeks. Farmers have applied most of the fertilizer and crops are reported to be looking very good right now. Reports from Carbon County that temperatures have cooled somewhat, which is slowing the crop growth to normal. Beaver County reported that farm work is going well with farmers getting their irrigation systems going.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 61% adequate, and 4% surplus. Spring tillage 32% complete this week, 19% last week, 5% last year, 10% average. Corn planted 2% complete this week, n/a last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Nighttime temperatures dropped into the single digits this week in central Wisconsin and into the teens in some parts of northern Wisconsin this week, threatening fruit crops, hay and winter grains. The full extent of freeze damage varied, with the worst impacts reported on budding apple and cherry trees. Small grain, alfalfa and fruit development was reportedly running 3 to 4 weeks ahead of normal across the state. The dry conditions caused about 60% of the rain and snow that fell since late March were in the form of light rain. Although the state was 35 percent short to very short statewide. Dry conditions aided fieldwork, though rain is needed in many areas. Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 1 to 5 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 56 to 59 degrees, while average low temperature ranged from 32 to 37 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.01 inches in Green Bay to 0.48 inches in La Crosse.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 37% short, 55% adequate. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 34% short, 56% adequate. Barley planted 79%, 70% last week, 51% last year, 54% average; emerged 38%, last year 48% last year, 5% average. Oats planted 28%, 12% last week, 27% last year, 51% last year, 5% average; emerged 24%, 12% last week, 3% last year, 5% average. Winter wheat condition 34% fair, 66% good. Wheat was 1% headed, comparison data not available. Intended acreage prepared for spring crops was 57%, 41% in 2011, and 48% 5-year avg. Hay and roughage supplies were 4% short, 78% adequate, 18% surplus compared to 58% adequate and 18% surplus last year. oats were 2% short, 50% adequate and 9% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies were 2% short, 97% adequate and 1% surplus compared to 4% very short, 17% short and 79% adequate last year. Corn was 4% planted, 5% in 2011, and 5% 5-year avg. Winter wheat conditions were 1% poor, 39% fair and 60% good. Wheat was 1% headed, comparison data not available. Hay and roughage supplies were 4% short, 78% adequate, 18% surplus compared to 58% adequate and 18% surplus last year. Peaches were 2% very poor, 16% poor, 35% fair and 29% good. Apple varieties were 1% poor, 25% fair, 72% good and 2% excellent. Calving was 88% complete, compared to 82% last year. Spring lambing was 92% complete, compared to 83% last year. Abnormally dry conditions that may lead to problems this growing season were ideal for field work last week. Farming activities included preparing fields and planting crops, assessing frost damage, showing livestock, planting early garden crops, vaccinating and moving livestock, seeding pastures, harvesting rye, fencing, calving, and lambing.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 6% short, 78% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 25% short, 63% adequate, 6% surplus. Irrigation water supply 87% adequate, 13% surplus. Hay and other Roughage 2% very short, 15% short, 78% adequate, 5% surplus. Range and Pasture Condition 3% very poor, 23% short, 64% adequate, 18% surplus compared to 9% very short, 32% short, 38% adequate and 18% surplus last year. Moisture levels were at or above normal for 14 of the 33 reporting stations. Carbon County reported that rain and snow storms have helped the soil moisture levels but concerns continue over irrigation water supplies. Platte County reported receiving snow over the weekend with hopes for moisture. Laramie County reported rain on lower elevations due to dry conditions. Lincoln County reports that the grass is not growing very well yet and top soil is drying out. Uinta County reports a low level of snowpack and the drought monitor is abnormally low. Activities included planting small grains and some row crops, feeding livestock, shearing sheep, lambing & calving.