ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork was 4.7. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 2% short, 79% adequate, and 19% surplus. Corn planted 14%, 39% 2012, and 24% five year average. Corn condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 57% fair, 43% good, and 0% excellent. Winter Wheat Headed 6%, 30% 2012, and 8% five year average. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 31% fair, 61% good, and 6% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 69% good, and 6% excellent. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 9% poor, 39% fair, 49% good, and 2% excellent. The week’s average mean temperatures ranged from 44.8 F in Russellville, to 54.0 F in Brewton; total precipitation ranged from 0.00 inches in Enterprise, to 1.34 inches in Guntersville. This past week temperatures have been cooler than normal for this time of the year but not below freezing. Field work has been slow due to wet conditions which have made nitrogen application on wheat difficult and hindering land preparation for spring planting. There has been very little corn planting in the Northern parts of the State due to rains and cooler temperatures. Fruit crop producers were waiting to see how the cool weather has affected their crops. Most cattle producers continue feeding hay as recent cold temperatures slowed pastures growth. Cattle sale prices have remained good to excellent.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures were above normal across the State for the week ending March 31, 2013, ranging from 3 degrees above normal at Canyon de Chelly and St. Johns to 10 degrees above normal at Phoenix, Prescott and Tucson. The highest temperature of the week was 93 degrees recorded in Bullhead City. The lowest reading was 15 degrees at the Grand Canyon. No precipitation was recorded at any of the 22 weather stations last week. Arizona's alfalfa conditions remained in excellent to fair condition, depending on location. Harvesting occurred on three-quarters of the alfalfa acreage across the State. The State’s durum wheat condition is mostly fair to excellent and this year’s barley is in fair to good condition. Warm temperatures throughout the State helped with green forage production, but more moisture is needed to sustain rangeland and pastures in the coming months. Pasture areas are in mostly good to poor condition, depending on location.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 6% short, 60% adequate, 33% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 9% short, 65% adequate, 23% surplus. Corn 22% planted, 56% 2012, 32% avg.; 3% emerged, 14% 2012, 8% avg. Significant rainfall occurred throughout the state. Planting of major field crops lagged behind average due to wet and cold conditions. Many producers were still making field preparations. Livestock were in fair to good condition last week. Pasture and range condition were reported in mostly fair condition last week. Producers were spraying and fertilizing their pastures. Many producers were feeding hay with some reports of low hay supplies. Hay condition was fair to good due to favorable weather. However, in many locations growth was slow due to wet and cold conditions.

CALIFORNIA: The far North Coast and northern interior of California had at least scattered showers each day. Meanwhile, dry high pressure brought warmer than normal temperatures to the remainder of the interior portions of California through most of the week. By the mid and later part of the week, a slow-moving and rather moist area of low pressure edged towards the northern and central California coast and resulted in some heavier rain showers and thunderstorm activity for the interior and northern sections. Portions of the Sacramento and Northern San Joaquin Valleys received well over an inch of rain with most of the remaining Central Valley locations observing greater than a quarter of an inch. Some of the more favored northern foothill and mountain locations received over 2 inches. Rainfall amounts trended downward across the Bay Area and Central Coast with amounts locally exceeding three quarters of an inch. This low pressure system only brushed the Southland late in the week with minor to trace amounts observed in the Los Angeles Basin and Inland Empire, while areas near Santa Barbara and the Ojai Valley locally received greater than half an inch. Wheat, barley and other winter forage crops continue to grow as fields were heading out. Rice planting preparation
Cotton producers in the San Joaquin Valley continued planting at a rapid pace but most northern producers were still preparing fields. Irrigation continued in vineyards and stone fruit orchards. Cherries were in full bloom. Peaches, nectarines, plums, apricots and prunes were leafing out. Fruit was forming on most stone fruit trees. Grapes were leafing out. Apples and pears were leafing out and starting to bloom. Olives continued to be pruned. Blueberries were blooming; hot house blueberries were being picked. Blooms continued to emerge on citrus trees. Mandarin trees were being netted to prevent cross pollination and ensure seedless fruit. Navel oranges and lemons continued to be harvested. Valencia orange harvest progressed. Hass avocado harvest continued. Almond bloom was complete; trees were leafing out and nuts were forming. Walnuts were pushing catkins and were treated for blight. Pistachio bloom was increasing. In Tulare County, squash, cucumbers and eggplants were being planted. Fresno County reported that processing tomatoes were being transplanted, while bell peppers and carrots were being planted. The weather has been good for onions and garlic, which have been irrigated and fertilized. In Madera County, processing tomatoes were being transplanted. San Joaquin County reported asparagus harvest was in full swing as other cool season vegetables were being harvested. In Sutter County, processing tomatoes were being transplanted. Range and pasture conditions were reported to be in fair to good condition. The impact of recent precipitation in the Sacramento Valley, northern portions of the San Joaquin Valley and Sierra foothills was expected to be evident in a few weeks. More precipitation was needed. Sheep and cattle grazed on idle fields, dry land grain and alfalfa fields. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. When weather permitted, bees were active pollinating late stone fruit orchards and berries.

COLORADO: Days suitable for field work 5.0 days. Topsoil moisture 21% very short, 29% short, 49% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 39% very short, 44% short, 17% adequate. Winter wheat pastured 8%, 2% 2012, 7% avg; jointed 0% 2013, 11% 2012 4% avg. Spring barley seeded 15%, 32% 2012, 20% avg, emerged 1%, 22% 2012, 7% avg; Spring wheat seeded 9% 28% 2012, 14% avg, emerged 1%, 8% 2012, 3% avg; Dry onions planted 21%, 28% 2012, 26% avg; Sugarbeets planted 0% 2013, 8% 2012, 5% avg; Summer potatoes planted 0% 2013, 9% 2012, 2% avg; Livestock condition 3% very poor, 8% poor, 42% fair, 46% good, 1% excellent. The State experienced some rain and snow in the eastern sections, and dry breezy conditions in the southern sections. Overall snowpack is 78 percent of average.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 3. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 0% short, 84% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 0% short, 85% adequate, 15% surplus. Hay supplies 9% very short, 46% short, 45% adequate, 0% surplus. Pasture condition 5% very poor, 11% poor, 65% fair, 15% good, 4% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 16% fair, 59% good, 21% excellent. Barley condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 15% fair, 55% good, 26% excellent. Barley planted 51% this week, 0% last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Green Peas planted 17% this week, 7% last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Potatoes planted 10% this week, 0% last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Field activities included fertilizing small grain, liming, and plowing corn ground.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture 16% very short, 35% short, 43% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture 14% very short, 30% short, 51% adequate, 5% surplus. Corn and peanuts being planted. Some spring hay being harvested. Sugarcane harvest almost complete. North Florida farmers planting cantaloupe, watermelons, and tomatoes. Warm season crops in south Florida setback due to frost, high winds. Forty packinghouses and 18 processors open and shipping. Shipping of fresh fruit moderate. Valencia harvest running full steam. Varieties being packed were Valencias, Honey tangerines and colored grapefruit. Pasture Condition 10% very poor, 40% poor, 35% fair, 13% good, 2% excellent. Cattle Condition 1% very poor, 10% poor, 55% fair, 30% good, 4% excellent. Statewide; drought first limiting factor for forage growth. Cold temperatures slowed growth, flooding and disease hurt forage growth in the north. In south, some pastures overgrazed, hay being fed.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil moisture 3% short, 66% adequate, 31% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 8% short, 72% adequate, 18% surplus. Range and pasture 1% very poor, 9% poor, 33% fair, 49% good, 8% excellent. Blueberries 13% poor, 36% fair, 39% good, 12% excellent. Corn planted 30%, 68% 2012, 49% avg. Oats 1% very poor, 2% poor, 28% fair, 60% good, 9% excellent. Onions 2% poor, 53% fair, 41% good, 4% excellent. Peaches 8% poor, 32% fair, 13% good, 47% excellent. Peaches blooming 93%, 86% 2012, 91% avg. Rye 2% poor, 37% fair, 55% good, 6% excellent. Tobacco transplanted 16%, 10% 2012, 6% avg. Watermelons planted 15%, 39% 2012, 35% avg. Winter wheat 1% poor, 25% fair, 58% good, 16% excellent. Precipitation estimates for the State ranged from no rain up to 1.3 inches. The average temperatures for the week ranged from the lower 30s to the mid 70s.
HAWAII: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 28% very short, 37% short, 35% adequate, 0% surplus. Weather conditions during the week in Hawaii fluctuated between clear skies with lots of sunshine and overcast with light to medium passing rain showers. Moderate rains fell across the Counties of Maui and Hawaii mostly towards the end of the week and over the weekend. The Isle of Kauai received some rain showers early in the week, which tapered off to drier conditions by the week’s end. Daytime high temperatures were in the upper seventies to mid eighties for most areas. The average weekly total rainfall across the State was 1.68 inches, the majority of which fell on the Island of Hawaii. Overall drought conditions remained unchanged from the previous two weeks ratings, and approximately 66 percent of the State currently has a drought rating categorized as abnormally dry or drier. Development of most crops and pastures increased this week due to slightly higher temperatures and increased day length. Pastures in many leeward and mountain areas remain dry and dusty as a result of ongoing drought conditions. State irrigation reservoirs remain at levels near their holding capacities.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 5.5 days. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 18% short, 73% adequate, 3% surplus. Onions planted 75%, 51% 2012, 28% avg. Oats planted 15%, 21% 2012, 9% avg. Oats emerged 3%, 9% 2012, 2% avg. Dry peas planted 0%, 5% 2012, 2% avg. Calving complete 85%, 82% 2012, 79% avg. Lambing complete 83%, 86% 2012, 77% avg. Hay and roughage supply 2% very short, 37% short, 60% adequate, 1% surplus. Irrigation water supply 0% very poor, 4% poor, 40% fair, 47% good, 9% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 39% fair, 48% good, 11% excellent. The Franklin County extension educator reports soil is beginning to dry enough to be worked in some areas of the County. The Twin Falls and Jerome County extension educator reports lack of spring moisture and lack of snow pack is a major concern. Barley planting is estimated to be 23 percent complete at the State level. This is 18 percentage points above average.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.6. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 5% short, 72% adequate, 22% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 23% short, 64% adequate, 7% surplus. Oats planted 2%, 66% 2012, 24% avg. The cold weather continued throughout the State last week with the average temperature being almost 7 degrees below normal. Statewide temperatures averaged 39.2 degrees. Total precipitation received across the State last week was .35 inches below normal and totaled only .57 inches. But soil moisture levels continued to improve last week as the heavy snow from the previous weekend slowly melted. As a result of the weather patterns the past month soil temperatures have not reached the required level for planting and soil moisture levels across the State are too wet for planting also. Very little fieldwork has been accomplished limited to activities such spreading fertilizer early in the day when the ground is still frozen. Weight limits have been posted on many roads limiting grain movement off the farm. Winter wheat is starting to come out of dormancy with reports of some yellowing in fields needing warmer weather. Oats planting has barely begun.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.1. Topsoil moisture 3% short, 70% adequate, 27% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 12% short, 77% adequate, 10% surplus. Temperatures ranged from 5o to 11o below normal with a low of 17o and a high of 61o. Precipitation ranged from 0.02 to 1.13 inches. Very little field work was accomplished due to snow cover early in the week and muddy conditions afterward. The winter wheat crop, pastures and hay fields remain dormant in all but the southernmost counties. Hay supplies are becoming short in many areas. Spring calving continues with a few problems reported due to the recent snow. Other activities included hauling grain to market, preparing tillage and planting equipment, spreading fertilizer and manure and tending to livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.4. Topsoil moisture 14% very short, 38% short, 46% adequate and 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 41% very short, 44% short, 15% adequate. At this time last year over 50 percent of oats had been planted. Manure was hauled as conditions allowed.

KANSAS: Days Suitable for field work was 3.9 days. Topsoil moisture 16% very short, 30% short, 50% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 41% very short, 40% short, 18% adequate, and 1% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 13%, 57% 2012, 22% avg.; condition 10% very poor, 19% poor, 40% fair, 29% good, and 2% excellent. Range and pasture condition 46% very poor, 33% poor, 17% fair, 4% good, and 0% excellent. Hay and forage supplies 36% very short, 38% short, 25% adequate, 1% surplus. Stock water supplies 37% very short, 30% short, 33% adequate, 0% surplus. Precipitation was limited to southeastern areas of Kansas and a few isolated spots in western portions of the State. For last week, average temperatures were again below normal but warmed by the weekend allowing farmers to continue spring planting preparation. Additional precipitation is still needed throughout the State to replenish soil moisture and stock ponds.
KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0 Topsoil 2% short, 54% adequate, 44% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 4% short, 69% adequate, 26% surplus. Moisture totals averaged .5 inches, .52 inches below normal. Temperatures averaged 41 degrees, 9 degrees below normal. Tobacco plants transplanted 57% set, 71% 2012, 60% average. Condition of winter wheat 1% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 60% good, 18% excellent. Pasture conditions 6% very poor, 19% poor, 37% fair, 34% good, 4% excellent. Winter kill light due to mild winter. Pastures supplying 23% of livestock roughage needs. Plant, forage growth lagging due to below normal temperatures over the last 6 weeks.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork, 6.2. Soil moisture 3% very short, 14% short, 73% adequate, 10% surplus. Corn planted 95% this week, 86% last week, 78% last year, 84% average; Corn emerged 49% this week, 20% last week, 42% last year, 29% average. Winter Wheat headed 22% this week, 14% last week, 84% last year, 40% average. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 46% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Range and pasture condition 3% very poor, 9% poor, 52% fair, 34% good, 2% excellent. Spring Plowing 73% this week, 62% last week, 57% last year, 64% average. Vegetables condition 2% very poor, 13% poor, 51% fair, 31% good, 3% excellent. Sugarcane condition 7% very poor, 8% poor, 41% fair, 36% good, 8% excellent. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 5% poor, 44% fair, 45% good, 4% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 3. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 1% short, 72% adequate, 27% surplus. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 1% short, 84% adequate, 15% surplus. Hay supplies 8% very short, 29% short, 63% adequate, 0% surplus. Pasture condition 2% very poor, 13% poor, 41% fair, 44% good, 0% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 18% fair, 65% good, 15% excellent. Barley condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 68% good, 7% excellent. Barley planted 49% this week, 0% last week, 0% last year, 40% average. Green Peas 10% this week, 10% last week, 20% last year, 9% average. Potatoes planted 19% this week, 19% last week, 18% last year, 10% average. Field activities while limited due to snow and damp conditions included manure application, spraying herbicide, and tilling vegetable ground.

MICHIGAN: Precipitation for the week ended April 1 ranged from 0.37 to 0.46 inches in the Upper Peninsula and varied from 0.03 to 0.22 inches in the Lower Peninsula. There was 1 day suitable for field work. The amount of snow still on the ground prohibited growers from getting started on any major planting or field work. The field work that was completed included manure spreading, pruning, and working on equipment. The amount of snow cover for winter wheat varied based on region. Some areas reported adequate snow cover, while others reported minimal amounts. Current winter wheat condition is 55% good to excellent.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.2. Topsoil moisture 11% Very Short, 33% Short, 45% Adequate, 11% Surplus. Subsoil moisture 30% Very Short, 44% Short, 25% Adequate, 1% Surplus. Spring wheat planted 0%, 3% 2012, 1% avg. Range and pasture condition 33% very poor, 14% poor, 29% fair, 23% good, 1% excellent. Corn land prepared 0%, 3% 2012, 1% avg. Soybean land prepared 0%, 1% 2012, 0% avg. Barley, planted and beyond 0%, 5% 2012, 1% avg. The approximate date to begin full scale field work is April 25th. Ground throughout much of the State remains snow covered. Temperatures remain below average. Activities consist of preparing equipment, spreading manure, and cleaning out feed lots.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Soil moisture 0% very short, 1% short, 42% adequate, 57% surplus. Corn planted 44%, 60% 2012, 43% avg. Corn emerged 2%, 28% 2012, 16% avg. Hay - cool season hay harvested 3%, 3% 2012, 1% avg. Sorghum planted 0%, 7% 2012, 1% avg. Soybeans planted 0%, 7% 2012, 3% avg. Watermelons planted 12%, 22% 2012, 28% avg. Winter wheat jointing 77%, 87% 2012, 57% avg. Winter wheat heading 0%, 46% 2012, 11% avg. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 5% poor, 46% fair, 38% good, 11% excellent. Blueberries condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 3% fair, 60% good, 35% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 37% fair, 57% good, 5% excellent. Range and pasture 2% very poor, 10% poor, 43% fair, 36% good, 9% excellent. A spring freeze damaged early blooms on blueberries, peaches, and plums. The rain and cooler temperatures continued to slow fieldwork and corn planting.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.6. Precipitation 0.69 inch. Temperatures were to 4 to 9 degrees below average. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 9% short, 69% adequate, 20% surplus. Subsoil moisture supply 14% very short, 27% short, 56% adequate, 3% surplus. Supply of hay and other roughages 35% very short, 38% short, 27% adequate. Stock water supplies 5% very short, 14% short, 75% adequate, 6% surplus. Pasture condition 19% very poor, 35% poor, 37% fair, 9% good.

MONTANA: Days suitable for field work 3.0, 4.5 last year. Topsoil moisture 18% very short, 13% last year; 22% short, 33% last year; 57% adequate, 53% last year; 3% surplus, 1% last year. Subsoil moisture 25% very short, 10% last year;
28% short, 40% last year; 47% adequate, 46% last year; 0% surplus, 4% last year. Barley planted 11%, 6% last year. Oats planted 1%, 3% last year. Spring wheat planted 1%, 4% last year. Range and pasture feed condition 28% very poor, 3% last year; 35% poor, 19% last year; 28% fair, 45% last year; 9% good, 31% last year; 0% excellent, 2% last year. Livestock grazing 59% open, 85% last year; 21% difficult, 5% last year; 20% closed, 10% last year. Livestock receiving supplemental feed – cattle 95%, 87% last year. Livestock receiving supplemental feed – sheep 96%, 85% last year. Livestock birthing – calving complete 51%, 52% last year. Livestock birthing – lambing complete 33%, 34% last year. The week ending March 31 was marked by warm days, cold nights, and little precipitation for much of Montana. Swan Lake received the highest amount of precipitation for the week with 0.24 of an inch of moisture. Most other stations reported receiving little to no precipitation. High temperatures ranged from the lower 40s to lower 70s, with the State-wide high temperature of 71 degrees recorded at Superior. A majority of stations reported lows well below zero to the upper teens, the coldest being Scobey at -22 degrees, followed by Ophiem with -19 degrees.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5 days. Wheat conditions rated 14% very poor, 35 poor, 41 fair, 10 good, 0 excellent. Hay and forage supplies rated 16% very short, 43 short, 41 adequate, and 0 excellent. Cattle and calves condition rated 1% very poor, 2 poor, 24 fair, 69 good and 4 excellent. Percent cows calved since January 1, 61%, 71 2012, 66 avg. Sheep and lamb condition rated 0% very poor, 0 poor, 25 fair, 73 fair, 2 excellent. Stockwater supplies rated 12% very short, 24 short, 63 adequate, 1 surplus. For the week ending March 31, 2013, below normal temperatures limited fieldwork activities with producers awaiting warmer conditions. Livestock producers have reported favorable spring calving conditions with survival being good.

NEVADA: Final field preparations were being made for Spring grain seeding. Garlic fields were being sprinkler irrigated. Calving continued. Lambing was underway. Hay feed supplies were short after the cold winter. Potato processing continued, as did the marketing of cucumbers from southern greenhouses. Main farm and ranch activities included field preparations, herbicide applications, calving, and shipping of 2012 crop hay held in storages.

NEW ENGLAND: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 4.5. Topsoil moisture was 5% short, 80% adequate, 15% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 85% adequate and 15% surplus. Pasture and range condition was 15% poor, 35% fair, and 50% good. Temperatures reached highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 20s across the Garden State. New Jersey’s small grain crops were progressing nicely. Orchard pruning was well underway. Fields were being prep for spring planting. Greens and lettuces are among the crops that have been planted. Other activities included tillage work, spreading lime and fertilizer, vegetable producers laying plastic, and weed control.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil moisture 84% very short, 11% short and 5% adequate. Wind damage 29% light, 11% moderate and 12% severe; 10% winter wheat damaged to date. Freeze Damage 18% light, 17% moderate; 12% winter wheat damaged to date. Wind winter wheat hails damage to date. Alfalfa 9% very poor, 11% poor, 46% fair and 34% good. Irrigated winter wheat 12% poor, 60% fair, 12% good and 16% excellent; 41% grazed. Dry winter wheat 82% very poor, 18% poor; 31% grazed. Total winter wheat 53% very poor, 16% poor, 21% fair, and 4% good, excellent 6%; 35% grazed. Lettuce 55% good and 45% excellent. Chile 50% fair and 50% good; 55% planted. Onion 44% fair and 37% good and 19% excellent; 96% planted. Cattle 25% very poor, 19% poor, 40% fair, and 16% good. Sheep 5% very poor, 10% poor, 61% fair and 24% good. Range and pasture 66% very poor, 26% poor and 8% fair. This past week New Mexico had above average temperatures with mid to high level clouds and little precipitation. Temperatures in Santa Fe, Los Alamos and Tucumcari had risen 10 degrees above average. Areas that were fortunate to get little precipitation were Raton and Capulin with 0.1 inches, Las Vegas with a trace and Clayton with 0.03 inches.

NEW YORK: Temperatures ranged from the mid 20’s to the upper 50’s. Some areas still observed occasional snow flurries, but no significant accumulations. The maple season continues to be strong in stark contrast to last year. Apple, onion, and potato growers continued moving their crops from storage for grading and packing. Other major activities included tending livestock, spreading manure, attending meetings and trade shows, preparing equipment for plantings, and finalizing plans for the upcoming season.

NORTH CAROLINA: There were 2.5 days suitable for field work for week ending March 24th, same days as for week ending February 24th. Statewide soil moisture levels were rated at 3% short, 50% adequate and 47% surplus which is very similar to the month of February as well. Many areas of the State received over 1 inch of rain during the past week with several areas receiving over 2 inches. Most of the State is still recovering from dry conditions so the rainfall is very
beneficial. Average temperatures for this past week were below normal with low temperatures ranging from 14 to 34 degrees. Most tobacco seed greenhouses are ready for the upcoming season. The cool, wet weather is causing a delay in corn land preparations, requiring frost protection for strawberries and has caused pastures to become very muddy which raises concerns for animal health.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork were 0. Approximate starting date for fieldwork April 23, 2013. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 22% short, 62% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 12% very short, 33% short, 51% adequate, 4% surplus. Calving 41% complete. Lambing 58% complete. Shearing was 80% complete. Cattle/calf conditions 1% very poor, 5% poor, 17% fair, 66% good, and 11% excellent. Sheep/lamb conditions 4% poor, 19% fair, 66% good, and 11% excellent. Pasture still dormant 98%. Hay and forage supplies 3% very short, 18% short, 74% adequate, and 5% surplus. Stock water supplies 6% very short, 16% short, 76% adequate, and 2% surplus. For the week ending March 31, 2013, below normal water temperatures limited snowmelt, with many areas of the State still experiencing average to above-average snow depths. Even though the additional precipitation was welcomed by producers in drought stricken areas, there is continued concern with the potential of spring flooding. Agricultural activities during the week included hauling grain to market when conditions allowed, calving and lambing, and preparing equipment for fieldwork.

**OHIO:** Temperatures across the State were colder than usual as snow continued to fall in several areas. The average temperature across the State was 38.6 degrees, 6.4 degrees below normal. Temperatures ranged from 4.2 to 8.4 degrees below the normal average. Precipitation averaged 0.45 inches for the week, 0.31 inches below normal. Farmers are doing little to no work in the field at the present time, as temperatures have been cold and the ground is wet due to continued snowfall.

**OKLAHOMA:** Topsoil moisture 18% very short, 33% short, 48% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 45% very short, 43% short, 12% adequate. Canola condition 15% very poor, 27% poor, 32% fair, 24% good, 2% excellent. Rye condition 19% very poor, 15% poor, 32% fair, 32% good, 2% excellent; jointing 40% this week, 35% last week, 79% last year, 67% average. Oats condition 10% very poor, 18% poor, 44% fair, 25% good, 3% excellent; planted 86% this week, 76% last week, 94% last year, 91% average. Corn seedbed prepared 53% this week, 42% last week, 64% last year, 56% average. Soybeans seedbed prepared 20% this week, 13% last week, 25% last year, 23% average. Peanuts seedbed prepared 14% this week, 5% last week, 20% last year, 32% average. Cotton seedbed prepared 27% this week, 26% last week, 45% last year, 40% average. Livestock condition 4% very poor, 17% poor, 43% fair, 32% good, 4% excellent. Pasture and range condition 36% very poor, 34% poor, 25% fair, 5% good. Improvements to crop conditions and pastureland from moisture received during February and early March were reported. The U.S. Drought Monitor showed improvements to drought conditions during March, although the entire State was still rated in a moderate drought or higher. Precipitation was below normal for March, at only 39 percent of normal for the State. Freezing temperatures towards the end of the month put small grains and canola at risk, as two fifths of wheat and rye were already jointing. Forage and grasses also showed little growth due to the cold temperatures.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 17% short, 77% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 17% short, 80% adequate, 3% surplus. Winter Wheat Condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 27% fair, 71% good, 1% excellent. Spring Wheat, Planted 28%, 32% 2011, 20% average. Spring Wheat, Emerged 9%, 13 2011, 7% average. Barley, Planted 15%, 30% 2011, 21% average. Barley, Emerged 3%, 9% 2011, 11% Range & Pasture 0% very poor, 3% poor, 39% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Weather Oregon weather was warm, as most stations reported high temperatures in the upper 60’s to lower 80’s. All stations reported above normal temperatures. Most stations in the State reported below average precipitation. Medford had the highest recorded temperature, at 80 degrees. Most stations in central & eastern Oregon reported low temperatures below freezing while only several western Oregon weather stations reported freezing temperatures. Joseph experienced the lowest temperature with a reading of 20 degrees. Crescent City received the most precipitation at three quarters of an inch, but below its normal precipitation for this time of the year. Field Crops First three months of 2013 have been very dry for north central Oregon. Wheat looks pretty good for this time of year, but only because warm temperatures have allowed grain to grow & it has been sucking the moisture out of the ground. There are big fears over weather patterns. Several growers are currently estimating 60 percent crop anticipation unless the rain picks up. This week has allowed more spraying as there were warmer temperatures & much less wind than the week before. Spraying is expected to continue. Spring planting continues. Fruits & Nuts Eastern Filbert Blight sprays were applied in hazelnuts. Willamette Valley peaches were blooming. Warmer weather was advancing bud break & bloom on tree fruits. Pears will be blooming this weekend. Gravenstein apples are pushing bloom. Plum, peach, apricot, & pear trees were all in full bloom in Douglas County. Apples were about a week away from first bloom stages. The wine
grapes were at wooly bud stage with new shoots about ten days out. At the week’s end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows d’Anjou pear with blossom buds at full white (WSU stage 5); Red Delicious apple at tight cluster to first pink (WSU stages 4 & 5); Bing cherry at first white (WSU stage 6); Pinot noir grape at BBCH stage 3. Vegetables The early vegetable crops looked very good. Nurseries & Greenhouses are busy with seedlings & bedding plants. Livestock. Range & Pasture: Temperatures warmed considerably last week causing significant green-up on Harney County rangelands & crops. Livestock producers were starting to turn out onto their desert allotments in Lake County. Temperatures have been near to above normal in the Willamette Valley, which has helped pastures & improved the ability to till earlier than in past years. With the moisture & warm weather in southwestern Oregon, grass has started to grow a little, & livestock began to return to some of the lowland pastures where soil moisture conditions allowed.

Pennsylvania: Days suitable for fieldwork. 1. Soil moisture; 0% very short, 0% short, 72% adequate and 28% surplus. Spring plowing; 9% this week, 0% last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Tobacco planted in beds; 25% this week, 0% last week, 0% last year, and 4% average. Winter Wheat conditions; 0% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 15% excellent. Pasture condition; 21% very poor, 3% poor, 33% fair, 42% good, 1% excellent. Field activities for the week included manure hauling, pruning fruit trees, and installing drainage passages into crop fields. Spring plowing is slowly getting underway and is 9% complete.

South Carolina: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Soil moisture 0% very short, 5% short, 75% adequate, 20% surplus. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 2% poor, 34% fair, 61% good, 3% excellent. Pasture condition 0% very poor, 4% poor, 42% fair, 52% good, 2% excellent. Rye 0% very poor, 0% poor, 33% fair, 67% good, 0% excellent. Oats 0% very poor, 0% poor, 26% fair, 71% good, 3% excellent. Peaches 0% very poor, 0% poor, 66% fair, 34% good, 0% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 39% fair, 58% good, 2% excellent. Freeze damage 81% none, 1% light, 8% moderate, 0% heavy, 0% severe. Corn planted 22%, 50% 2012, 34% avg. Corn emerged 4%, 16% 2012, 10% avg. Winter wheat headed 3%, 27% 2012, 7% avg. Rye headed 3%, 0% 2012, 0% avg. Oats headed 1%, 27% 2012, 12% avg. Tobacco transplanted 3%, 8% 2012, 1% avg. Snap beans, fresh planted 3%, 24% 2012, 18% avg. Cucumbers, fresh planted 4%, 19% 2012, 13% avg. Watermelons planted 6%, 29% 2012, 25% avg. Tomatoes, fresh planted 27%, 42% 2012, 29% avg. Cantaloupes planted 5%, 30% 2012, 17% avg. Cool temperatures and moist soils have delayed planting and development of crops. Much of the peach crop was in bloom with some trees beginning to leaf out. Below freezing temperatures this past week has had an effect on bloom, but damage has not been fully assessed. The average temperature for the seven-day period was eight degrees below the long term average. The State average rainfall for the seven-day period was 0.3 inches.

South Dakota: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.7. Topsoil moisture 34% very short, 38% short, 23% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 52% very short, 35% short, 11% adequate, 2% surplus. Percent of winter wheat acreage lost to winter kill 26%. Spring wheat seeded 1%. Calving 39% complete. Lambing 64% complete. Cattle moved to pasture 2% complete. Cattle/calf conditions 4% poor, 26% fair, 64% good, and 6% excellent. Sheep/lamb conditions 3% poor, 19% fair, 67% good, and 1% excellent. Range and pasture conditions 34% very poor, 37% poor, 24% fair, 5% good. Hay and forage supplies 25% very short, 31% short, 42% adequate 2% surplus. Stock water supplies 27% very short, 31% short, 39% adequate, 3% surplus. For the week ending March 31, 2013, below normal temperatures limited snowmelt and kept soil temperatures at or below freezing in many areas. With only 1.7 days suitable for fieldwork, activities were limited to fertilizer applications to wheat, alfalfa, and pastures. Other agricultural activities during the week included calving, lambing, and preparing for spring planting.

Tennessee: Days suitable 3.0. Topsoil moisture 50% adequate, 50% surplus. Wheat condition 2% poor, 16% fair, 64% good, 18% excellent. Cattle condition 4% poor, 24% fair, 64% good, 8% excellent. Farmers prepared for planting corn, top-dressed wheat, spread fertilizer and lime. Wheat progressed well with little to no disease or insect pressure. Some farmers dealt with muddy feeding conditions. Most livestock in good shape with adequate hay stocks. Hay stocks 7% very short, 20% short, 64% adequate, 9% percent surplus. Temperatures well below normal. Rainfall averaged near normal East and Plateau, elsewhere below normal.

Texas: Many areas experienced nighttime freezing temperatures last week, causing concern among producers about possible crop damage. Weather conditions across the State continued to be dry and windy, with most areas receiving less than one half inch of precipitation. Areas of the Blacklands and North East Texas experienced up to three inches of rainfall. Some areas saw severe weather with high winds and hail. Small Grains Winter wheat and oat crop conditions were mostly fair to poor as soil moisture continued to be short across most of the State. Irrigated wheat producers
continued to apply irrigation water due to dry conditions. Dry land wheat in the Blacklands and North East Texas mostly had adequate soil moisture as of the end of the week. Row Crops Land preparation for corn, sorghum, and cotton planting continued in the Plains, where producers listed fields and pre-watered in advance of planting the 2013 cotton crop. Corn and sorghum planting continued to progress in the Upper Coast and South Texas. Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops Producers were evaluating potential damage to fruit trees and vegetable crops after having nighttime freezing temperatures last week. Some damage was reported in North East Texas to warm season vegetable crops. Potato crops flowered in the Upper Coast, while spinach harvesting resumed in South Texas. Onion and cabbage crops also made progress. Livestock, Range and Pasture Livestock producers continued to graze cattle on wheat and oats as pasture conditions remained poor across much of the State. Supplemental feeding of hay continued, helping cattle to remain in good condition. Some producers in South East Texas prepared hay fields for planting.

UTAH: Days Suitable For Field Work 6. Subsoil Moisture 10% very short, 40% short, 49% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter Wheat Condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 31% fair, 60% good, 4% excellent. Spring Wheat planted 24%, 36% 2012, 14% avg. Winter Barley planted 29%, 40% 2012, 19% avg. Oats planted 15%, 15% 2012, 10% avg. Cows Calved 67%, 58% 2012, 34% avg. Cattle and calves condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 31% fair, 60% good, 2% excellent. Sheep Condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 66% good, 3% excellent. Range and Pasture 11% very poor, 15% poor, 50% fair, 22% good, 2% excellent. Stock Water Supplies 11% very short, 15% short, 73% adequate, 1% surplus. Sheep Sheared On Farm, Sheared On Range 56%, N/A 2012, 24% avg. Sheep Sheared On Range, Sheep Sheared On Range 40%, N/A 2012, 14% avg. Ewes Lamb On Farm, Ewes Lamb On Farm 57%, N/A 2012, 27% avg. Ewes Lamb On Range, Ewes Lamb On Range 19%, N/A 2012, 9% avg. Field Crop Summary Beaver County reports that farm work is going well. In Box Elder County good weather this week allowed farmers to be in the fields conducting various operations including fertilizer application, weed spraying, and some tillage. Warmer and dryer conditions this week have allowed farmers to begin planting onions, spring wheat, barley, and oats. They have also been busy fertilizing their grain fields. There were some winter wheat crops in irrigated fields that experienced damage due to winter weather. Much dry land wheat was planted late last fall and is not very far along this Spring. Many farmers are reporting their stands look pretty good but the wheat is short (young). In Garfield/Kane Counties, fields are starting to dry out and farm activities will soon begin. Agricultural Summary In Beaver County reports are that things are dry farmers are worried that they won't have enough irrigation water for the upcoming season. Box Elder County farmers are concerned about the lack of moisture. March was very dry with less than a half inch of precipitation recorded in the county. Conditions in Duchesne County continue to be very dry and producers are more worried about the drought this year than last year. Last year, the abundance of water in reservoirs at the beginning of the growing season reduced the severity of the drought. However, last year's dry weather depleted the amount of water carried over, and due to the lack of moisture received this winter, reservoir levels will be very low going into the growing season. Garfield/Kane Counties report that mild weather has helped turn the grass green at lower elevations. Spring precipitation is needed to maintain the growth. Rich County reports that the lack of snow cover has limited moisture availability. Livestock Summary Beaver County reports that livestock are doing well. Box Elder County livestock producers are beginning to brand and vaccinate calves in preparation for Spring turnout. Ranchers have reported a fairly difficult time with their calving season. Ranchers have had to watch their calves closely because of problems with scours. Because there was little winter pasture, ranchers have had to replace traditional winter pasture feed with a lot of alfalfa, grass and straw, which will cut deeply into their profit margins. Grass on rangelands is just beginning to green up with an inch or two of green growth. Sheep producers are getting ready for lambing and are currently shearing their range herds. Most farm flocks have already lambed and sheep have been shorn. Duchesne County reports that calving season has been going well with good weather and producers are hopeful, with the current prices, that they will receive a good price in the fall, when they sell their calves.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Topsoil moisture 3% short, 60% adequate, 37% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 4% short, 70% adequate, 24% surplus. Pasture 4% very poor, 16% poor, 30% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Livestock 2% very poor, 9% poor, 25% fair, 53% good, 11% excellent. Other Hay 1% very poor, 4% poor, 57% fair, 32% good, 6% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 1% poor, 44% fair, 44% good, 11% excellent. Corn planted 1%, 6% 2012, 2% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat 1% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 66% good, 11% excellent. Barley 2% poor, 28% fair, 61% good, 9% excellent. Greenhouse tobacco 14% fair, 60% good, 26% excellent. Plant beds tobacco 5% fair, 90% good, 5% excellent. Tobacco plant beds seeded 80%. Summer potatoes 3% fair, 95% good, 2% excellent. Summer potatoes planted 63%, 62% 2012. All apples 1% fair, 99% good. Peaches 35% fair, 63% good, 2% excellent. Grapes 1% fair, 99% good. Oats 22% fair, 72% good, 6% excellent. It was a wet and unseasonably cold week for the Old Dominion. Temperatures for the week were about 8 degrees below normal, and most areas experienced below freezing temperatures for the
nighttime lows. Precipitation was in the form of rain and snow. Due to the weather, days suitable for field work were 3.4. Despite the cold weather, calving progressed well. The majority of livestock was in good to excellent condition. Hay storage was running low; the lack of pasture growth and longer winter conditions contributed to a higher demand for supplemental feeding. Except for a few producers in the warmer eastern Virginia counties, farmers are still waiting for the ground temperature to warm up before beginning to plant corn. Other farming activities for the week included starting vegetables in greenhouses, taking soil samples, applying lime, fertilizers, and herbicides, and last minute repairs and machinery adjustments.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 11% short, 76% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 11% short, 84% adequate, 5% surplus. Irrigation water supply 0% very short, 0% short, 97% adequate, 3% surplus. Hay and Roughage 10% very short, 6% short, 80% adequate and 4% surplus. Range and Pasture 19% very poor, 0% poor, 31% fair, 49% good, 1% excellent. Winter Wheat Dryland 0% very poor, 4% poor, 25% fair, 46% good, 25% excellent. Winter Wheat Irrigated 0% very poor, 0% poor, 21% fair, 72% good, 7% excellent. Spring Wheat Planted 25%, NA% last year, NA% five-year average. Spring Wheat Emerged 1%, NA% last year, NA% five-year average. Barley Planted 12%, NA% last year, NA% five-year average. Potatoes Planted 25%, NA% last year, NA% five-year average. Dry Edible Peas Planted 25%, NA% last year, NA% five-year average. Processing Green Peas Planted 32%, NA% last year, NA% five-year average. In Whitman County, producers continued spring fieldwork with good seeding conditions. Spring planting began and was progressing in Lincoln County. Spraying activities began on the winter wheat crop in Adams County, with spring planting well underway. In the Yakima Valley, many varieties of peaches and nectarines were in bloom. Cherries were in the early stages of bloom, while apricots were post bloom. In Yakima County, apple and pear development ranged from green tip in cooler areas to the tight cluster stage in warmer parts of the county. In Chelan County, the warm days advanced development in the fruit trees. Berries in Whatcom and Snohomish Counties continued to bud out. In Klickitat County, livestock continued on supplemental feed, but began to graze on available grass. Calving continued in Stevens County.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork was 2. Topsoil moisture was 1% very short, 4% short, 66% adequate, and 29% surplus compared to 5% short, 90% adequate, and 5% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring planting was 10%, 25% in 2012, 23% 5-year avg. Hay and roughage supplies were 4% very short, 15% short, 80% adequate, and 1% surplus compared to 2% short, 79% adequate, and 19% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies were 3% short and 97% adequate compared to 1% very short, 4% short, 94% adequate, and 1% surplus last year. Winter wheat conditions were 1% poor, 28% fair, 70% good, and 1% excellent. Hay conditions were 2% very poor, 7% poor, 40% fair, 50% good, and 1% excellent. Apple conditions were 37% fair and 63% good. Peach conditions were 32% fair, 67% good, and 1% excellent. Cattle and calves were 1% poor, 26% fair, 69% good, and 4% excellent. Calving was 70% complete, compared with 79% last year. Sheep and lambs were 1% poor, 23% fair, 73% good, and 3% excellent. Lambing was 73% complete, compared with 84% last year. Farming activities included calving and lambing. Hay stocks are good as farmers still have proficient supplies. Field work has been delayed due to weather conditions in the State as fields remain wet from the recent rain and snow showers.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 0.2. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 18% short, 65% adequate, and 14% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 39% short, 48% adequate, and 5% surplus. Snow cover had mostly melted across southern parts of the State by the close of the week, though northern areas remained buried in up to fourteen inches of snow. Reporters across the State noted that water and ice ponding may adversely affect winter crops, however it was too early to determine the extent of winterkill. Spring tillage had not yet begun as the ground was reportedly still frozen Statewide. There were some reports of manure hauling where the field conditions allowed. Maple syrup season was beginning, with variable flow reported. Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 1 to 4 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 40 to 44 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 21 to 30 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.01 inches in Milwaukee to 0.67 inches in Eau Claire.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 30% very short, 30% short, 39% adequate, 1% surplus. Winter wheat condition 12% very poor, 30% poor, 28% fair, 30% good; Barley planted 16%, 57% last year, 34% average; emerged 1%, 8% last year, 2% average. Oats planted 10%, 3% last year, 3% average. Spring wheat planted 2%, 1% last year, 2% average. Spring calves born 43%. Farm flock sheep shorn 33%; lambed 38%. Range flock sheep shorn 15%; lambed 12%. Calf losses 66% light, 34% normal. Lamb losses 43% light, 57% normal. Cattle condition 1% very poor, 8% poor, 39% fair, 50% good, 2% excellent. Calves condition 2% poor, 29% fair, 67% good, 2% excellent. Sheep condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 36% fair, 59% good. Lamb condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 31% fair, 65% good. Range and
pasture condition 26% very poor, 42% poor, 24% fair, 8% good. Spring grazing prospects 30% very poor, 32% poor, 32% fair, 6% good. Irrigation water supplies 21% very short, 30% short, 49% adequate. Farm activities included tending to livestock, calving, lambing and planting. High temperatures ranged from 46 degrees in Lake Yellowstone to 70 degrees in Torrington. Low temperatures ranged from 20 degrees below zero in Lake Yellowstone to 13 degrees in Worland. Average temperatures ranged from 22 degrees at Lake Yellowstone to 40 degrees in Cody and Greybull. Temperatures were below normal in twenty-seven stations. Evanston and Buford were the most above normal at a plus four degrees while Powell was the most below normal at a minus eight degrees. Twelve stations received no precipitation during the week. Shirley Basin received the most precipitation at 0.46 inches. Twenty-six out of the 33 reporting stations reported below normal precipitation for the year so far. Campbell County reports that the entire county is in need of precipitation. Converse County reported the 0.3 inches of moisture was a start in the right direction. Cool season grasses are trying to break dormancy. Lincoln County reported that things were starting to warm up a little. Cold mornings and muddy fields are holding up spring field work. Sweetwater County reported that things are very dry, precipitation is very short with no water for livestock. Uinta County reports some precipitation in the mountains but little in the valley or in the desert. Weather has been favorable for calving and lambing during the latter part of the week but very cold earlier in the week. Albany County reported dry and windy conditions. There is some snow in the mountains but it does not look good for spring and summer moisture.
Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Crop progress and condition estimates included in this report are based on survey data collected each week from early April through the end of November. Additionally, survey respondents are contacted four times during the winter season – once per month in December, January, February, and March. The non-probability crop progress and condition surveys include input from approximately 4,000 respondents whose occupations provide them opportunities to make visual observations and frequently bring them in contact with farmers in their counties. Based on standard definitions, these respondents subjectively estimate the progress of crops through various stages of development, as well as the progress of producer activities. They also provide subjective evaluations of crop and soil moisture conditions. Any weather data mentioned in this report is provided by outside sources such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Agricultural Weather Information Service (AWIS).
Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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