

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

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ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 53% very short, 32% short, 15% adequate. Much of the State received rain, but not in time to help drought stressed crops. Corn 95% mature, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 82% harvested 82%, 96% 1998, 86% avg. Cotton bolls 88% opening, 89% 1998, 80% avg.; 32% harvested, 39% 1998, 21% avg. Soybeans 94% blooming, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 92% setting pods, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 61% dropping leaves, 69% 1998, 57% avg.; 51% very poor, 18% poor, 15% fair, 16% good. Pasture feed 23% very poor, 34% poor, 29% fair, 14% good. Livestock 10% very poor, 21% poor, 47% fair, 17% good, 5% excellent.

ALASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.5. Topsoil 95% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 100% adequate. More cool, cloudy, damp conditions hindered the fall harvests. Daytime high temperatures were mostly in the forties with nighttime lows mostly in the thirties. However, lows in the teens were reported in the Sawmill Creek area at mid-week. Oats 85% harvested. Barley 95% harvested. Second cutting hay harvest 60% complete. Winter straw supplies 40% short, 60% adequate. Commercial storage potato harvest, 95% complete. Major activities included: Cutting hay, harvesting vegetables, grains, hay, potatoes, fence and machinery repair.

ARIZONA: Cotton harvest continues throughout most of State. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 32% not being harvested, 7% light, 21% moderate, 40% active. Alfalfa 6% poor, 24% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Pasture conditions improved significantly throughout the State last month with good rains, warm temperatures. Pastures throughout the State ranged from excellent to good condition. Livestock good to excellent condition with pasture feed improving. Many ranchers are reporting widespread rains, no supplemental feeding. The ranges are greening up, some ranchers are reporting the best Summer season in years. Both stock water, soil moisture were adequate to surplus. Insect damage was light to moderate with some reports of grasshopper damage. Central areas producers shipped a light volume of cantaloupes, green onions, watermelons. Eastern areas producers shipped apples, chile peppers, pumpkins. Central, western citrus groves harvested lemons last week.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 43% very short, 41% short, 16% adequate. Cool, dry in most areas of the State. A soaking rain was reported throughout the State. Some areas reported over an inch while others had almost ½ inch of rain. A frontal passage on the first of the month brought cooler temperatures to northern areas. Livestock were reported in fair condition. Many farmers were feeding supplemental hay early this year because of the drought. Main farm activities: Harvesting rice, sorghum, cotton, corn, preparing land for planting of annual forages such as rye, ryegrass. Other activities included: Liming pastures, land leveling, planning for fall pastures, irrigating soybeans for the last time, spraying fields for insects and weeds, continued pea, pumpkin harvesting, started wheat planting, treating crop lands for armyworms, fields were being sub soiled, plowed, tree fruit, small fruit harvesting, dusting and ear tagging cattle for external parasites, planning for Brucellosis vaccinations, fall calving, giving vaccinations, pregnancy checking spring bred cows, selling cull cows, weaning calves. Corn 98% harvest; Cotton 96% opening bolls, 43% harvested, 1% very poor 10% poor 41% fair 35% good 13% excellent; soybeans 100% setting pods, 47% shedding, 20% harvested, 12% very poor 19% poor 30% fair 29% good 10% excellent; sorghum 100% mature, 96% harvested; alfalfa 6% very poor 30% poor 49% fair

15% good; other hay 19% very poor, 34% poor, 36% fair, 11% good.. Range, pasture feed 21% very poor, 34% poor, 34% fair, 10% good, 1% excellent.

CALIFORNIA: Field activities progressed rapidly under ideal conditions in most areas. Seedbed preparations for fall-seeded small grains and forage crop plantings remained active. Winter forage planting continued. Seeding of wheat and barley fields slowly gained momentum. Some early seeded wheat fields were beginning to emerge in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Rice harvest was in full swing, with some fields still showing blanking as a result of cool temperatures experienced at pollination. Defoliation of Upland variety cotton was gradually increasing; harvest was underway in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Most American Pima cotton fields were still at least one week away from the first defoliant application. Corn for grain, silage was harvested. Dry beans, sugar beets were also harvested. New crop sugar beets and alfalfa were sprayed for worms. Seed alfalfa harvest neared completion in the San Joaquin Valley. Vinseed harvest continued in the Sacramento Valley. Seeding of new alfalfa began in some areas. Alfalfa, sudan grass were cut for hay or green chopped. Harvest of grapes for fresh use continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Varieties picked included Red Globe, Thompson Seedless. Harvesting of grapes for raisins was active; approximately 20% were on open trays, 35% rolled, 45% picked up. Picking of wine grapes continued. Harvest of stone fruit crops was nearing completion. Fig harvest continued. Picking of apples was active. Olive harvest was underway. Prune harvest was making progress. Harvest of almonds, walnuts continued. Pistachio harvest was also active. Valencia oranges, lemons were picked in southern State. New crop navel oranges were maturing well. Fall strawberries were setting fruit, were available in limited quantities from roadside vendors. Processing, fresh market tomato harvests were winding down. Continued mild weather extended the vegetable season. This was true for eggplant, green beans, onions, cucumbers, yellow, white sweet corn, okra, squash, assorted Asian vegetables. Cantaloupe harvest slowed; most packers should finish for the season in three to four weeks. Sweet pepper harvesting was active; the red pepper harvest was starting. Most onion fields have had the onions bagged for drying; several fields remained for harvest. Some fall lettuce fields were thinned, treated to control worms. Harvest of pumpkins, ornamental gourds was expected to begin in one or two weeks. Broccoli, radicchio plantings were thriving. Carrots were planted in Tulare County. Among the crops harvested were bok choy, cilantro, lemon grass, mint, garlic, mushrooms, parsley, snap peas, sugar peas, radishes, sweet potatoes, honeydew melons, watermelons. Normal seasonal decline of pasture conditions in central, northern areas continued, with pastures in poor to fair condition. Most sheep have moved to foothill or alfalfa pastures, lambing was in full swing. Lambs started arriving in the Imperial Valley for the winter alfalfa pasture season. Cattle were still moving from mountain to foothill pastures. Beef cows were calving. Hay, supplemental feeding continued. Livestock were in good condition. Fire hazards were still high in many areas, as fall rains have not begun.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 1% very short, 22% short, 67% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 21% short, 71% adequate, 6% surplus. The week started and ended on a very cold note, seasonal temperatures prevailed for most of the period. First general killing frost occurred on the night of 28th. Spring wheat 93% harvested, 99% 1998, 95% avg. Corn 99% dented, 99% 1998, 97% avg.; silage 91% harvested, 92% 1998, 89% avg. Dry onions 80% harvested, 86% 1998, 89% avg. Sugar beets 10% harvested, 9% 1998,

8% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 12% fair, 58% good, 24% excellent. Dry beans 95% cut, 95% 1998, 90% avg.; 76% harvested, 86% 1998, 78% avg. Summer potatoes 96% harvested, 93% 1998, 90% avg. Fall potatoes 72% harvested, 63% 1998, 65% avg. Alfalfa 83% 3rd cutting, 88% 1998, 83% avg.; 28% 4th cutting, 14% 1998, 20% avg.; 1% very poor, 8% poor, 21% fair, 53% good, 17% excellent. Pasture feed, range mostly good condition.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil 87% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 92% adequate, 5% surplus. Field corn 7% very poor, 20% poor, 31% fair, 34% good, 8% excellent; 90% mature, 88% 1998, 85% avg.; 55% harvested for grain, 53% 1998, 47% avg.; 80% harvested for silage, 98% 1998, 91% avg. Soybeans 6% very poor, 24% poor, 38% fair, 26% good, 6% excellent; 41% turned, 63% 1998, 60% avg.; 22% shedding leaves, 33% 1998, 38% avg. Sorghum 8% poor, 57% fair, 33% good, 2% excellent; 80% turned, 78% 1998, 76% avg.; 33% mature, 49% 1998, 50% avg. Lima beans 86% harvested, 80% 1998, 85% avg. Apples 81% harvested, 88% 1998, 82% avg. Clover, other hay 45% 4th cutting, 43% 1998, 43% avg. Alfalfa hay 67% 4th cutting, 79% 1998, 77% avg.; 15% 5th cutting, 0% 1998, 7% avg. Hay supplies 2% very short, 27% short, 71% adequate. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 5% poor, 43% fair, 47% good, 3% excellent. Activities: Continued corn harvesting, soybean harvest starting up.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture throughout State mostly short to adequate. Scattered showers brought varying amounts of rain. Palmetto-Ruskin about 0.50 to 3.00 in. with most falling in eastern parts. Southwestern areas picked up trace to 1.00 in.; Dade County, 1.35 to 2.00 in.; Ft. Pierce about 1.50 in. Rainfall at major stations varied from traces to over 3.00 in. Temperatures 1 to 3 degrees above normal at major stations. Daytime highs mostly 80s with several localities recording at least one high in 90s. Nighttime lows in 60s, 70s with Valparaiso reporting at least one low in 50s. Tobacco marketing resumed 27th after being suspended 15th due to Hurricane Floyd. Soybean, cotton harvest starting. Sugarcane condition normal. Haying active. Peanut 71% harvested. Bell pepper harvesting started, East Coast vegetable area. Strawberry transplanting began, Palmetto-Ruskin. Tomato picking gained momentum, Quincy. Clearer conditions allowed most vegetable work to get back on schedule. Rain most citrus areas early in week, then dry until Sunday, moisture adequate. Some fruit splitting, new growth slowing. New fruit progressing well, maturity testing continues. Fresh shipments include Navels, Ambersweet oranges, Fallglo tangerines, grapefruit. Caretakers cutting cover crops, fertilizing, spraying, planting new trees after pushing abandoned groves. Pasture feed 5% poor, 35% fair, 60% good. Cattle 35% fair, 45% good, 20% excellent.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Soil moisture 12% very short, 30% short, 53% adequate, 5% surplus. Hay 15% very poor, 30% poor, 37% fair, 18% good. Peanuts 69% dug, 46% 1998, 68% avg. Rye 21% planted, 20% 1998, 19% avg. Sorghum 67% harvested for grain, 66% 1998, 54% avg. Other small grains 18% planted, 10% 1998, 10% avg. Apples 17% poor, 35% fair, 41% good, 7% excellent; 58% harvested, 67% 1998, 75% avg. Pecans 7% very poor, 15% poor, 33% fair, 38% good, 7% excellent; 1% harvested, 2% 1998, 2% avg. Scattered rains continued to fall over the State. Rains were too late for most summer crops, did help small grains, winter pastures. Rains helped soil conditions. Corn harvest neared completion ahead of the five year average pace. Soybeans were being harvested last week. Crop condition improved. Sorghum harvest continued ahead of last year, the five year average pace. Rain fell at an inopportune time for peanut, cotton farmers as they need sunshine, dry weather to harvest. Peanut harvest continued. Farmers continued to defoliate cotton last week, some were applying chemicals to finish opening cotton bolls. Cotton condition changed slightly from the previous week, harvest was at last year's pace. Improved soil moisture helped pastures, winter grazing. Pasture, hay conditions improved from the previous week. Small grain planting benefitted from the rains as well. Apple harvest was slowed due to the rains and remained behind last year and the five year average pace. Pecan condition changed slightly last week as harvesting began in some areas. Fall vegetable harvesting continued. Squash was being picked. Some cabbage drowned last week. Other activities included overseeding pastures, preparing pecan groves for harvest, baling peanut hay.

HAWAII: Weather conditions were favorable for agriculture. Most areas received sunny weather. Windward areas of the southern islands experienced a mixture of morning showers with sunny afternoons. Overall crops made fair to good progress. Banana harvesting is active with most orchards in good condition. Papaya orchards made good progress. Harvesting remained steady. Head cabbage fields in good condition. Insect pressure is generally low. Sweet corn in good condition. Harvesting is expected to increase in coming weeks.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 12% very short, 40% short, 48% adequate. Cold front drops temperatures. Potato crop in good condition despite heavy frost. Irrigation supply 1% poor, 5% fair, 39% good, 55% excellent. Alfalfa hay 95% 3rd cutting, 91% 1998, 86% avg. Oats 99% harvested for grain, 99% 1998, 95% avg. Mint 100% harvested, 99% 1998, 99% avg. Dry beans 95% harvested, 83% 1998, 84% avg. Corn 73% harvested for silage, 57% 1998, 67% avg. Corn 6% harvested for grain, 5% 1998, 4% avg. Sweet corn 98% harvested, 95% 1998, 95% avg. Onions 73% harvested, 54% 1998, 74% avg. Peaches 99% harvested, 91% 1998, 97% avg. Prunes, plums 95% harvested, 68% 1998, 91% avg. Apples 19% harvested, 22% 1998, 33% avg. Hops 98% harvested, 93% 1998, 98% avg. 98%. Potatoes with vines dead/kill 96%, 94% 1998, 97% avg.; 37% harvested, 33% 1998, 38% avg. Sugar beets 15% harvested, 12% 1998, 13% avg. Winter wheat 40% planted, 45% 1998, 48% avg.; 13% emerged, 15% 1998, 17% avg. Activities: Preparing seedbeds, fertilizing for fall planted grains, chopping corn silage, harvesting potatoes, sugar beets, other row crops.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil 20% very short, 35% short, 44% adequate, 1% surplus. Despite scattered rains last week, farmers continued harvesting corn, soybeans. Progress is furthest along in the southern districts. Soybean harvest is in line with 1998 progress, is slightly ahead of the five-year average. Other activities for last week included fall tillage, tending to livestock. Soybeans 98% turning yellow, 94% 1998, 94% avg.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil 34% very short, 38% short, 28% adequate. Subsoil 57% very short, 36% short, 7% adequate. Corn, soybean harvest made good progress. Corn harvest still 17 days ahead of average. Soybean harvest 8 days ahead of average. Harvested corn moisture averaging around 17%, soybeans 10.5% moisture content. Mid-week showers brought relief to dry soil conditions. Corn 29% good to excellent. Soybean 23% good to excellent. Range, pasture feed 48% very poor, 37% poor, 14% fair, 1% good. Feeding hay necessary. Tobacco harvest nearly complete. Activities: Seeding winter wheat, tillage of soils, chopping stalks, grain bin maintenance, hauling grain, harvesting tobacco, stripping tobacco, feeding hay, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 15% very short, 34% short, 50% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 16% very short, 36% short, 47% adequate, 1% surplus. Farmers busy with harvest, even though rain fell over most of the State. Windy, warm conditions were beneficial to drying corn, soybean crops. Frosts did blacken leaves on some soybeans, but temperatures were not low enough to kill the stem, halt bean development. Corn 18% harvested, 18% 1998, 11% avg. Percent moisture of all field corn 23% harvested, 19% avg. Corn lodging none 49%, light 36%, moderate 13%, heavy 2%; ear droppage: none 58%, light 34%, moderate 7%, heavy 1%; 2% very poor, 6% poor, 22% fair, 46% good, 24% excellent. Soybeans 96% dropping leaves, 97% 1998, 92% avg.; 32% harvested, 47% 1998, 33% avg.; lodging none 58%, light 32%, moderate 9%, heavy 1%; shattering none 52%, light 36%, moderate 10%, heavy 2%; 3% very poor, 7% poor, 27% fair, 43% good, 20% excellent. Winter wheat 35% planted, 46% 1998, 41% avg. Fall calving cows are doing well though the cool, wet weather has caused some sickness in newborn calves. Producers are feeding hay, green-chopped corn, though the recent rain has helped pasture conditions. Range, pasture feed 8% very poor, 20% poor, 41% fair, 28% good, 3% excellent.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 2% very short, 22% short, 65% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 22% short, 72% adequate, 3% surplus. Rain fell over much of the State early in the week with the heaviest amounts in the east. Some areas in the eastern third of the State reported rainfall amounts up to 7.00 in., bringing fall fieldwork in that area of the State to a near stand-still. Wheat 1% poor,

21% fair, 65% good, 3% excellent. Sunflower 2% poor, 18% fair, 66% good, 14% excellent. Sunflowers 62% mature, 82% 1998. Sunflowers 12% harvested, 35% 1998. Hay, forage supplies 5% short, 86% adequate, 9% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 10% short, 87% adequate, 2% surplus. Cattle continue to move from pastures to feedlots or row crop stubble. Ranchers are busy fall calving, weaning calves, moving calves to market.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.1. Topsoil 68% very short, 27% short, 5% adequate. Subsoil 78% very short, 21% short, 1% adequate. Temperatures slightly above normal. Widely scattered showers brought varying amounts of precipitation to the State. Rainfall provided only limited drought relief. Corn harvest is nearly complete while the soybean harvest gained momentum. Burley 96% cut, 94% 1998, 92% avg. Dark tobacco 98% cut, 94% 1998, 93% avg. Housed tobacco 6% very poor, 18% poor, 40% fair, 32% good, 4% excellent. Tobacco 5% stripped, 29% ready for stripping, 66% was not ready for stripping. Winter wheat seeding 14% complete, 17% 1998, 14% avg. Pasture feed 54% poor, 29% poor, 15% fair, 2% good. Hay continues to be fed to livestock. Livestock sales volume continued to be high due to short supplies of hay, water.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Soil moisture 10% very short, 36% short, 47% adequate, 7% surplus. Cotton harvest continued. Hay 94% final cutting, 83% 1998, 91% avg. Pecans 5% very poor, 8% poor, 38% fair, 44% good, 5% excellent; 4% harvested, 5% 1998, 2% avg. Soybeans 99% leaves turning, 95% 1998, 91% avg. Sugarcane 18% fair, 57% good, 25% excellent; 100% planted, 83% 1998, 88% avg.; 9% harvested, 1% 1998, 1% avg. Sweet potatoes 3% very poor, 10% poor, 50% fair, 36% good, 1% excellent; 57% harvested, 50% 1998, 54% avg. Sweet potato harvest made good progress. Wheat 4% planted, 17% 1998, 9% avg. Livestock 2% very poor, 8% poor, 35% fair, 46% good, 9% excellent. Vegetables 8% very poor, 16% poor, 42% fair, 30% good, 4% excellent. Pasture conditions improved with the rain showers.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Subsoil 16% very short, 23% short, 54% adequate, 7% surplus. Topsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 74% adequate, 17% surplus. Corn 19% very poor, 28% poor, 36% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent; 90% mature, 89% 1998, 88% avg.; 46% harvested for grain, 52% 1998, 39% avg.; 82% harvested for silage, 89% 1998, 81% avg. Soybeans 6% very poor, 17% poor, 32% fair, 39% good, 6% excellent; 66% turned, 75% 1998, 73% avg.; 45% shedding leaves, 43% 1998, 47% avg. Sorghum 3% poor, 30% fair, 65% good, 2% excellent; 90% turning color, 79% 1998, 86% avg.; 32% mature, 39% 1998, 62% avg.; 26% harvested, 19% 1998, 18% avg. Apples 41% harvested, 57% 1998, 56% avg. Clover, other hays 75% 4th cutting, 72% 1998, 56% avg. Alfalfa 51% 4th cutting, 83% 1998, 81% avg; 20% 5th cutting. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 12% poor, 29% fair, 48% good, 8% excellent. Hay supplies 13% very short, 50% short, 36% adequate, 1% surplus. Activities: Harvesting of corn, hay. Soybean harvesting just starting up.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 5% very short, 11% short, 77% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 14% very short, 35% short, 47% adequate, 4% surplus. Hay 1% very poor, 4% poor, 26% fair, 37% good, 32% excellent. Hay 59% 4th cutting 59%, 45% 1998, 34% avg. Dry beans 95% harvested, 99% 1998, 72% avg. Corn silage 93% harvested, 92% 1998, 68% avg. Soybeans 95% mature, 80% 1998, 51% avg. Much needed rain this week helped sugar beet yields, newly planted wheat, dry soybeans. Temperatures remained cool as fall weather settled in. Corn harvest very slow this week as rain prevented much field work. Farmers tried to finish corn silage harvest as harvesting corn for grain will be top priority in coming weeks. Soybean harvest continued as beans very dry. Most farmers believe that rain received last week helped soybeans. Dry bean work slowed due to rain, with most farmers trying to complete harvest. Third cutting of hay completed and those fields that will have a 4th cutting being harvested. Rain helped sugar beet yields as fields very dry. Early planted winter wheat has started to emerge as rains last week provided good germination conditions. Harvest of Jonagold, Empire, Jonathan apples completed. Many Golden Delicious, Red Delicious being picked. Some Idared and Romes being harvested. Harvest of Concord grapes will wind down this week. Carrot harvest continued. About one week of celery harvest left with good quality reported. Pumpkin harvest well along. Processing

tomato harvest winding down. Onion, pepper, zucchini squash harvests complete.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 3% very short, 12% short, 68% adequate, 17% surplus. Soybeans 86% mature, 96% 1998, 82% avg.; 12% moisture content, 13% 1998, 13% avg. Corn 96% silage cut, 98% 1998, 82% avg.; 22% moisture content, 19% 1998, 25% avg. Winter wheat 92% seeded, 98% 1998, 97% avg. Rye 93% seeded, 99% 1998, 96% avg. Dry beans 61% harvested, 92% 1998, 79% avg. Sugar beets 28% harvested, 32% 1998, 21% avg. Sunflowers 5% harvested, 20% 1998, 22% avg. Potatoes 51% harvested, 71% 1998, 64% avg. Grain/Hay stubble plowed 74%, 87% 1998, 78% avg. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 14% poor, 30% fair, 46% good, 6% excellent. Sugar beets 4% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 55% good, 14% excellent. Sunflowers 6% very poor, 16% poor, 32% fair, 38% good, 8% excellent. Dry beans 4% very poor, 14% poor, 39% fair, 37% good, 6% excellent. The week was unseasonably cold, but mostly dry, harvest activity picked up speed, especially on soybeans. Southern third of the state had an unusual early snowfall on 1st, 2nd. Corn continues to dry well in the field. Moisture in soybean plants is highly variable. Some fields are almost too dry, while others need a killing frost to help dry out green stems, leaves.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Soil moisture 35% very short, 37% short, 27% adequate, 1% surplus. Cotton 52% harvested, 56% 1998, 39% avg.; 4% very poor, 17% poor, 40% fair, 33% good, 6% excellent. Rice 99% mature, 100% 1998, 98% avg.; 84% harvested, 92% 1998, 86% avg. Soybeans 99% turning color, 98% 1998, 92% avg.; 93% shedding leaves, 87% 1998, 77% avg.; 62% harvested, 60% 1998, 41% avg.; 13% very poor, 20% poor, 34% fair, 26% good, 7% excellent. Sweet potatoes 50% harvested, 44% 1998, 54% avg.; 1% very poor, 9% poor, 33% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent. Hay (warm-season) 95% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Cattle 4% very poor, 9% poor, 39% fair, 44% good, 4% excellent. Pasture feed 20% very poor, 30% poor, 33% fair, 16% good, 1% excellent. Corn, cotton, soybean harvests are ahead of the five-year average. However, the rice harvest is progressing slightly behind the five-year average.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil improved to 35% very short, 33% short, 29% adequate, 3% surplus before the effect of additional weekend rainfall. Precipitation 1.75 in. With virtually no rain in the south-central, southeast, topsoil moisture remained over 90% very short in those areas. Row crop harvesting was interrupted by heavy rains that fell across most northern areas of the State early in the week, followed again by showers a few days later. Ninety-seven percent of the corn is mature, about the same as 1998 but a week ahead of normal for this date. Fifty-six percent of the corn is harvested, about 3 days ahead of last year and a week ahead of normal. Corn harvest is virtually complete in the southern third of the State with over 90% of the crop harvested, while the northwest, the largest producing corn district, is well behind the rest of the State with 28% harvested. Ninety-five percent of all soybeans were turning color, 79% were dropping leaves, 55% have reached maturity. The maturing process is similar to last year but about 4 days ahead of average. Nineteen percent of the crop is harvested, slightly ahead of 1998 and 2 days ahead of the 5-year average. Eighty percent of the sorghum crop was mature, about a week behind last year but normal for this date. Fifty percent of the crop is harvested, 4 days ahead of last year and about a week ahead of the 36% normal. Harvesting in the Bootheel is most advanced with 87% complete. Fifty-nine percent of the cotton was harvested, almost 3 weeks ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Continued dry weather in the Bootheel contributed to the earlier than normal boll-opening, followed by rapid harvesting. Winter wheat seeding for next year's crop has progressed to 13% in the ground, a few days behind last year but about normal for this date. Pasture feed, range improved slightly to 46% very poor, 27% poor, 20% fair, 7% good. Pastures in some of the driest areas will still need more moisture, warm fall weather to bring growth back from dormancy.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Topsoil 13% very short, 36% short, 49% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 18% very short, 41% short, 40% adequate, 1% surplus. Cooler across much of the State with decent moisture being received at some locations. Barley 97% harvested, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Spring wheat 93% harvested, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Sugar beets 22% harvested, 14% 1998, 16% avg. Oats 96%

harvested, 100% 1998, 98% avg. Corn for silage 84% harvested, 91% 1998, 88% avg. Potatoes 37% harvested, 26% 1998, 30% avg. Dry beans 91% harvested, 95% 1998, 95% avg. Alfalfa 98% 2nd cutting, 99% 1998, 98% avg. Cattle, calves moved from summer ranges 49%, 41% 1998, 36% avg. Sheep, lambs moved from summer ranges 49%, 52% 1998, 42% avg. Wet weather conditions in some areas prevented farmers from getting into their fields as much as they would like which kept them from making progress in harvesting crops, seeding winter wheat. Late seedings of small grains in the spring in the north central, central, northeast parts of the state has delayed harvest as crops are not yet mature. Some fields are still green or too wet to harvest.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil 12% short, 42% short, 44% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 10% very short, 35% short, 54% adequate, 1% surplus. Temperatures generally below normal across the State with some early frost, freezing temperatures. Precipitation traces to 1.00 to forty-five hundredths inches at Falls City. Corn 1% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 51% good, 19% excellent; 91% mature, 96% 1998, 87% avg. Corn 17% harvest, 30% 1998, 14% avg. Soybean 3% very poor, 10% poor, 30% fair, 46% good, 11% excellent; acreage 96% dropping leaves, 97% 1998, 92% avg.; 27% harvest, 33% 1998, same as average. Sorghum 97% acreage turning color, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 74% mature, 93% 1998, 80% avg.; 7% harvest, 12% 1998, 11% avg.; 5% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent. Dry beans harvest moved ahead to 89%, just ahead of 81% 1998, 83% avg. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 6% poor, 29% fair, 56% good, 8% excellent. Alfalfa fourth cutting, where possible, was at 78% complete, 64% 1998, 62% avg. Wheat 92% seeded, 89% 1998, 86% avg. Wheat 62% emerged, 64% 1998, 59% avg. Proso millet 73% harvest. Pasture feed, range 7% very poor, 12% poor, 30% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent. Producer activities included drilling wheat, putting up alfalfa, cane, building electric fences, moving old crop grain to elevators, shredding corn stalks, discing soybeans stubble, marketing of yearlings.

NEVADA: State was dry, had varied temperatures. Temperatures dipped below freezing in the Northern portion of the State. Harvest of 3rd cutting was near completion, 4th cutting of alfalfa continued. Harvest of field crops was winding down. Digging of potatoes, onions, some garlic continued over the week. Alfalfa seed harvest was near completion. Grain harvest was completed statewide. Fall planting of winter wheat, winter barley, new alfalfa continued. Cattle were gathered for weaning and pregnancy checks. Main farm, ranch activities: Irrigation, planting, harvest of 3rd and 4th cutting of alfalfa, working livestock, harvest of potatoes, onions, garlic.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 3% very short, 7% short, 77% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 8% very short, 19% short, 71% adequate, 2% surplus. Pasture feed 6% very poor, 8% poor, 36% fair, 44% good, 6% excellent. Maine potatoes 50% harvested, 65% 1998, 65% avg.; condition excellent to good. Massachusetts potatoes 80% harvested, 80% 1998, 80% avg.; condition good to fair. Rhode Island potatoes 85% harvested, 80% 1998, 80% avg.; condition fair to poor. Oats in Maine 99% harvested, 95% 1998, 90% avg.; condition good to excellent. Barley in Maine 100% harvested, 100% 1998; condition good to excellent. Field corn 85% harvested, 60% 1998, 55% avg.; condition good to fair. Sweet corn 99% harvested, 95% 1998, 99% avg.; condition good to fair. Second cut hay 95% harvested, 95% 1998, 95% avg.; condition good to fair. Third cut hay 80% harvested, 70% 1998, 75% average; condition fair. Apples 70% harvested, 75% 1998, 65% avg.; size average to below average, condition good. Peaches 99% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; size average to below average, condition fair. Pears 50% harvested, 85% 1998, 80% avg.; size below average, condition fair to poor. Cranberries 20% harvested, 20% 1998, 30% avg.; size average, condition good. Major farm activities included: Harvesting potatoes, field corn; cutting hay; picking apples, peaches, pears; spreading manure, lime; plowing, discing harvested fields.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Temperatures averaged much above normal. Rainfall 1.14 in. North, 0.63 in. Central, 0.54 in. South. Heaviest 24 hour total 1.10 in. at Charlotteburg on the 29th to the 30th. Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 89% North, 77% Central, 57% South. Irrigation water supply is adequate in most areas. Planting of small grains, cover crops continued across the State. Harvest of grain corn is underway with well below

average yields being reported. Corn silage is being harvested in the northern counties, low yields and poor quality have been reported. Several silage fields will not be harvested due to the high levels of nitrogen in the plant stalks. Early planted soybeans are in poor condition while the late planted crop is in fair condition. Soybean plants in southern area have started to drop leaves. Many soybean farmers are concerned about the consequences of having an early frost because the progress of the crop was significantly delayed during the dry summer months. Third cutting of alfalfa, other hay is underway and the crop has been rated between good, fair. Harvest of summer vegetables such as tomatoes, peppers, snap beans, eggplant, escarole, green beans, squash continued. Most of the remaining tomato, pepper, snap bean fields are in fair condition. Harvest of fall cabbage, lettuce, spinach is also underway, their condition is good in most areas. Some fall vegetable fields were washed out by the heavy rains brought by Floyd. Production of several vegetables has been reduced by excess moisture related problems such as diseases, insects. Sweet potato harvest is underway, overall quality is good, although some farmers have reported smaller than usual sizes. Harvest of apples is in full swing and good quality has been reported. Harvest of cranberries is also underway and the reported condition is good.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Dry, autumn-like weather prevailed during the week. Clayton, Tucumcari were the only spots to measure any precipitation at all as a cold front moved through State early in the week. Many locations in the north had their first freezing temperatures of the season on the 29th. For the week, temperatures were generally 5 to 10° below normal in the extreme northeast to 3 to 6° above normal in the southwest. Statewide 1° below normal. Alfalfa farmers continued land preparation, planting new fields as harvest was about over for the year. Chile, corn silage harvest remained active. Sorghum, wheat conditions declined with no moisture received on dryland crops. Ranchers moved cattle to lower grounds, prepared for marketing, shipping of livestock. Pasture feed, range 1% very poor, 3% poor, 40% fair, 51% good, 5% excellent. Cattle, sheep mostly fair to good condition.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Soil moisture 18% short, 74% adequate, 8% surplus. Pasture feed 5% poor, 44% fair, 49% good, 2% excellent. Corn 10% poor, 21% fair, 53% good, 16% excellent. Silage corn 84% harvested, 75% 1998, 50% avg. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 98% complete, 86% 1998, 89% avg. Soybeans dropping leaves. Potato digging continued. Vegetable harvest winding down. Only late plantings remain in the field. Onions being moved into storage. Pumpkins, squash harvests picked up. Grapes in Lake Erie region 65% harvested. Apple picking in full swing. Harvest near half-way mark.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3, 5.0 last week. Soil moisture 5% very short, 14% short, 29% adequate, 52% surplus. Wet weather continued to be the topic of discussion this week in State as widespread precipitation fell across the entire State. Rainfall was welcomed in the western part of the State, especially in the Mountain region, however excess moisture continues to plague the Coastal regions. Potentially devastating losses in the sweet potato crop is the most recent of the continual bad news for agriculture. With much of the soil in eastern areas at or near field capacity, harvest activities and other fieldwork has been hampered. Major activities of the week included continued hurricane clean-up, tobacco harvesting, marketing, harvesting of sweet potatoes, corn for grain and silage harvest. Other tasks included baling hay, harvesting apples and vegetables, tending livestock and land preparation and planting of small grains. Defoliation of cotton has taken place by air in many areas.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 1% very short, 10% short, 82% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 11% short, 79% adequate, 10% surplus. Week of mostly dry weather allowed producers to make good progress on the small grain, dry edible bean, potato harvests. A hard freeze was reported across the State which will accelerate the dry down process for row crops. Durum wheat 81% combined, 100% 1998, 96% avg. Canola 94% combined, 100% 1998. Corn for grain 88% ripe, 96% 1998, 87% avg.; 3% harvested, 33% 1998, 12% avg.; silage 67% chopped, 88% 1998, 79% avg. Dry edible beans 81% cut, 100% 1998, 92% avg.; 66% combined, 97% 1998, 82% avg. Flaxseed 75% combined, 100% 1998, 83% avg. Potatoes 78% dug, 83%

1998, 76% avg. Soybeans 94% mature, 99% 1998, 98% avg.; 22% harvested, 65% 1998, 54% avg. Sugarbeets 33% lifted, 35% 1998, 22% avg. Sunflowers 70% bracts turned brown, 93% 1998, 87% avg.; 1% harvested, 15% 1998, 10% avg. Condition ratings for row crops declined from last week. Emerged crop condition: corn for grain 1% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 61% good, 11% excellent; silage 5% poor, 23% fair, 59% good, 13% excellent; potatoes 7% poor, 11% fair, 43% good, 39% excellent; soybeans 3% very poor, 9% poor, 21% fair, 56% good, 11% excellent; sugar beets 1% very poor, 4% poor, 12% fair, 56% good, 27% excellent; sunflower 1% very poor, 8% poor, 29% fair, 47% good, 15% excellent. Stockwater supplies 1% short, 93% adequate, 6% surplus.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 31% very short, 43% short, 25% adequate, 1% surplus. Soybeans 96% mature, 81% 1998, 68% avg.; 51% harvested 51%, 50% 1998, 26% avg. Alfalfa hay 87% 4th cutting, 82% 1998. Other hay 95% 3rd cutting, 92% 1998, 85% avg. Corn 93% mature, 82% 1998, 56% avg.; 87% harvested for silage, 71% 1998, 59% avg.; 26% harvested for grain, 14% 1998, 8% avg. Winter wheat 34% planted, 30% 1998, 21% avg.; 2% emerged, 2% avg. Fall, winter apples 60% harvested, 62% 1998, 45% avg. Grapes 75% harvested, 70% 1998. Tobacco 82% harvested, 92% 1998. Tobacco 1% stripped. Processing tomatoes 94% harvested, 94% 1998, 87% avg. Potatoes 93% harvested, 91% 1998, 72% avg. Pasture feed 25% very poor, 37% poor, 27% fair, 11% good. Corn 8% very poor, 17% poor, 35% fair, 34% good, 6% excellent. Soybeans 7% very poor, 17% poor, 33% fair, 36% good, 7% excellent. Activities: Harvesting corn, soybeans; planting wheat; fall tillage; hauling grain; constructing grain bins; baling hay; picking pumpkins, apples, grapes; baling corn stalks; controlling weeds; spreading lime; hauling manure; developing new water systems; looking for hay; cutting tobacco. Fires were reported in Fulton county due to dry weather. Frost was reported in Wayne, Guernsey counties. Reporters comment on insect damage to soybean pods as well as beans falling out of pods before they are harvested because of dry conditions. Reported weed pressures include yellow foxtail, pigweed, velvetleaf, lambs quarters, Canadian thistle, giant ragweed, Johnson grass, chickweed, mare's tail. Reported insects include spider mites on soybeans; leaf hoppers in potatoes; corn borers; stink bugs on pumpkins, squash; beetles in soybeans, corn. Reported diseases include sudden death syndrome, white mold in soybeans; gray leaf spot, sun dust syndrome, fungus on corn; brown stem rot; stewart's wilt in corn. Fruit, vegetable producers are busy harvesting fall crops such as pumpkins, squash, tomatoes, broccoli, cauliflower, apples, peppers, sweet corn, indian corn. Poor pasture conditions still prevail although rain has helped certain parts of the State. Pastures are greening, are slow to recover. Cooler weather has alleviated stress on livestock although many producers are trying to find hay, alternative water supplies. Reporters comment on lower weaning weights, thinner cows than usual for this time of year.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Subsoil 10% very short, 27% short, 63% adequate. Topsoil 11% very short, 30% short, 54% adequate, 5% surplus. Cool temperatures improve condition of row crops. Dry weather allows wheat seeding to advance. Oats 30% planted, 20% 1998, 24% avg.; 6% up-to-stand, 6% 1998, 4% avg. Corn 88% harvested, 94% 1998, 79% avg.; Soybeans 12% poor, 44% fair, 42% good, 2% excellent; 56% mature, 82% 1998, 67% avg.; 27% harvested, 40% 1998, 26% avg. Peanuts 46% mature, 73% 1998, 56% avg.; 1% combined, 3% 1998, 4% avg.; Alfalfa Hay 3% very poor, 7% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 5% excellent; 74% 4th cutting, 56% 1998, 82% avg.; 18% 5th cutting, 9% 1998, 24% avg.; other hay 70% 2nd cutting, 30% 1998, 78% avg. Livestock 3% poor, 28% fair, 65% good, 4% excellent. Feeder steer prices stable at \$79 per cwt.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 41% short, 47% short, 12% adequate. Subsoil 59% very short, 35% short, 6% adequate. Barley harvested 96%, 97% 1998, 97% avg.; 17% planted, 11% 1998, 10% avg. Winter wheat 1% planted, 23% 1998, 29% avg. Range, pasture feed 8% very poor, 26% poor, 35% fair, 30% good, 1% excellent. Activities: Except for barley, late third cutting alfalfa hay, 1999 field crop harvest completed. Dry conditions continued across State, some grain growers delayed fall seeding for lack of moisture. Eastern areas growers planting wheat, barley deep, concerned that a shower might cause problems by causing soil crusting. In contrast, Willamette Valley growers dusting seed in hopes rain would come soon to start seed. Willamette Valley tall fescue seedings completed, seeding of new perennial ryegrass fields in

full swing. Irrigation continued at nurseries because of the hot dry summer weather last week. Greenhouses busy with fall plants, Christmas poinsettias. On south coast Easter Lily growers starting to dig commercial bulbs, processing bulb materials, sow cover crops. Potato, onion harvests mostly completed in all areas of the State. Some growers reported potato quality good, yields down due to cool spring. North east seed potatoes being harvested. Western regions reported sweet corn harvest continued. Frost during week hurt sweet corn not yet picked, damaged tomato leaves, pumpkin vines, all other susceptible crops. Willamette Valley evergreen blackberry harvest winding down. Other berries being prepared for winter. Apple harvest, hazelnut drop continued. Rogue River Valley apple, pear harvest continued. On South coast cranberry growers made final preparations for harvest. In Hood River Valley, Bosc pears, Jonagold apple harvest underway in lower valley. In upper valley, Anjou pears harvest began at lower elevations. There has been no significant rain for a month, orchards are dry. Livestock mostly good. Most range operations in east have gathered their livestock. Seasonal shipments of yearling cattle to feeding operations continued. Spring calves weaned, given shots in southwest. Grass growth in Willamette Valley, coastal counties finished by hot weather, except where irrigated. Supplemental feeding continued at near winter levels. Most eastern mountain areas had enough frost nights to end growing season; first snow fell in Willowa Mountains.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Soil moisture 15% very short, 17% short, 58% adequate, 10% surplus. Ensilage corn harvested 85% complete, 77% 1998, 65% avg. Soybeans harvested 4% complete, 6% 1998, 4% avg. Soybean 8% very poor, 29% poor, 35% fair, 27% good, 1% excellent. Potato harvest 65% complete, 67% 1998, 64% avg. Fall plowing 45% complete, 50% 1998, 55% avg. Wheat planted 16% complete, 17% 1998, 36% avg. Wheat emerged 12% complete, 5% 1998. Barley planted 51% complete, 39% 1998, 52% avg. Barley emerged 30% complete, 16% 1998. Alfalfa 3rd cutting 92% complete, 92% 1998, 89% avg. Alfalfa 4th cutting 65% complete, 57% 1998, 54% avg. Timothy clover 2nd cutting 91% complete, 95% 1998, 97% avg. Quality of hay made 6% very poor, 18% poor, 30% fair, 43% good, 3% excellent. Grape harvest 45% complete, 48% 1998, 51% avg. Apple harvest 44% complete, 57% 1998, 57% avg. Activities include: Harvesting corn, soybeans, fruits, vegetables, potatoes, corn silage and tobacco; planting barley, wheat and cover crops; machinery maintenance; filling silos; fixing fences; hauling, pumping and spreading manure; spreading lime; caring for livestock; cutting hay; plowing for the fall.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Soil moisture 4% very short, 20% short, 59% adequate, 17% surplus. Apples 65% harvested, 67% 1998, 72% avg.; 28% poor, 63% fair, 9% good. Corn 99% harvested, 99% 1998, 93% avg. Livestock 9% poor, 34% fair, 46% good, 11% excellent. Grapes 30% poor, 50% fair, 20% good. Pasture feed 9% very poor, 24% poor, 50% fair, 17% good. Sorghum 100% turned color, 100% 1998; 80% matured, 79% 1998; 55% harvested, 51% 1998, 57% avg.; 18% very poor, 37% poor, 41% fair, 4% good. Sweet potatoes 22% harvested, 39% 1998, 28% avg.; 20% poor, 75% fair, 5% good. Tobacco 100% harvested, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 86% stalks destroyed, 87% 1998, 84% avg. Winter grazings 32% planted, 39% 1998, 33% avg.; 17% emerged, 25% 1998, 21% avg. Winter wheat 9% planted, 15% 1998, 9% avg.; 3% emerged, 3% 1998. Barley 8% planted, 8% 1998, 7% avg. Oats 10% planted, 10% 1998, 14% avg.; 2% emerged, 2% 1998, 6% avg. Rye 20% planted, 15% 1998, 18% avg.; 8% emerged, 3% 1998, 8% avg.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 2% very short, 15% short, 70% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 12% short, 72% adequate, 15% surplus. Alfalfa is 2% poor, 21% fair, 59% good, 18% excellent; 3rd cutting complete 84%, 93% 1998, avg. unavailable. Soybeans 65% mature, 93% 1998, 76% avg. Sunflower 4% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent; ray flowers 96% dry, 100% 1998, 100% avg.; 79% bracts yellow, 96% 1998, 98% avg.; 57% mature, 89% 1998, 77% avg.; 9% harvested, 30% 1998, 17% avg. Flaxseed 25% fair, 65% good, 10% excellent; harvested 98%, 100% 1998, 99% avg. Corn 91% harvested for silage, 89% 1998, 79% avg. Sorghum 54% harvested for silage, 68% 1998, 62% avg. Winter rye 72% seeded, 91% 1998, 90% avg.; 48% emerged, 51% 1998, 68% avg. Stockwater supplies 1% very short, 5% short, 81% adequate, 13% surplus. Cattle 8% fair, 67% good, 25% excellent. Sheep 6% fair, 59% good, 35% excellent.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 60% very short, 29% short, 11% adequate. Subsoil 69% very short, 24% short, 7% adequate. Burley 95% harvested, 90% 1998, 91% avg.; 11% stripped, 12% 1998, 10% avg. Dark Fire-Cured 94% harvested, 94% 1998, 93% avg. Pasture feed 57% very poor, 30% poor, 12% fair, 1% good. Winter wheat 4% seeded, 9% 1998, 13% avg. Cattle 7% very poor, 18% poor, 44% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent. Scattered showers fell in many areas of the State last week, but more is desperately needed to help stressed pastures and in the preparation of fields and pastures for fall seedings. Rainfall was also beneficial in the fact that middle, eastern area tobacco cured better with the moisture. Despite the mid-week rains, fall row crop harvest continued at a brisk pace. With the exception of a few late planted fields, corn harvest was virtually complete. As tobacco harvest draws closer to completion, many burley producers were concentrating their efforts on preparing their crop for stripping. Most cattle are in fair condition, but the lack of adequate forage and water has caused many herds to show signs of stress.

TEXAS: A light freeze occurred in the Northern High Plains following the passage of a weather front. Temperatures remained generally cool and mild over the state while only widely scattered showers fell in some locations. South Texas and Coastal areas received additional rainfall. Harvest remained active and land preparation remained slow in most locations due to continued dry conditions. Livestock conditions remained fair to good, but were declining. Supplemental feeding continued. Water available for livestock continued to decline and low pond levels were becoming a health concern in some areas. Some herd reduction continued.

Crops: Small Grains: Seeding of wheat, oats continued, but slowed under generally dry conditions. Irrigation continued where possible and scattered showers had little impact for emerging crops. Corn: Harvest continued on the High Plains, but was winding down and was completed in the remainder of the State. Markets continued to be weak. Corn 100% dented, 100% 1998, 100% avg. Cotton development continued on the Plains but was slowed by cooler temperatures, widely scattered showers. Dry land fields continued to mature as a result of the increased moisture, cooler temperatures. Harvest neared completion in the Coastal Bend, heavy rain again interrupted progress. Harvest continued in the Blacklands, Central Texas with generally good yields. Cotton stalk destruction continued where possible in South Texas while harvest of early fields continued to expand on the High Plains. Cotton condition 61% of normal compared with 46% 1998. Peanuts: Harvest activities continued in Plains, Central and South Texas. Dry land fields on the Low Plains received some moisture from widely scattered showers, but development remained slow. Some fields were being plowed in Central Texas as a result of the continued dry conditions. Peanut 79% of normal compared with 54% 1998. Rice: Flooding for the second crop was completed and the crop was progressing, cooler temperatures was slowing maturity. Sorghum: Harvest expanded on the High Plains under cooler conditions. Widely scattered showers in some locations had little effect on harvest. Soybeans: On the Plains Soybeans continued to dry down but was slowed by cooler temperatures. Fields were maturing and preparation for harvest continued.

Commercial Vegetables: Rio Grande Valley, Peppers and tomatoes continued to progress. Planting began for carrots, cabbage, onions. San Antonio-Winter Garden, Cabbage planting continued and preparation for other fall vegetables was still underway. East Texas, Planting of fall crops and gardens continued but remained slow as dry conditions continued. High Plains, pumpkin harvest continued. Pecans: The generally good crop continued to mature, however nut filling remained a problem in some areas as a result of the dry conditions. Shuck split was occurring in some locations on native trees. Nut drop continued in some areas.

Range and Livestock: Livestock water continued to decline. In some areas the levels are so low that pollution from stagnate conditions were becoming a problem. Supplemental feeding and culling of herds continued in some locations. Fall calving continued and grass fires continued to be a problem in most areas of the State.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil 13% very short, 22% short, 64% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 10% very short, 24% short, 66% adequate. Pasture feed, range 2% very poor, 11% poor, 33% fair, 48% good, 6% excellent. Corn 90% in dough stage, 92% 1998, 73% avg.; 60% in dent stage, 65% 1998, 52% avg.; 28% mature, 38% 1998, 45% avg. Corn 68% silage harvested, 49% 1998, 57% avg. Winter

wheat 70% planted, 88% 1998, 75% avg.; 18% emerged, 41% 1998, 37% avg. Alfalfa hay 95% 3rd cutting, 95% 1998, 90% avg.; 48% 4th cutting, 55% 1998, 45% avg. Alfalfa 34% seed harvested, 74% 1998, 57% avg. Peaches 85% picked, 92% 1998, 98% avg. Pears 91% picked, 91% 1998, 95% avg. Apples 26% picked, 19% 1998, 35% avg. Potatoes 35% harvested, 60% 1998, 44% avg. Onions 72% harvested, 63% 1998, 64% avg. Dry beans 85% harvested, 100% 1998, 93% avg. Cattle moved from summer range 37%, 43% 1998, 48% avg. Sheep moved from summer range 37%, 48% 1998, 49% avg. Major activities included: Harvesting hay, corn silage, moving livestock to winter ranges, planting winter grain.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil 6% very short, 7% short, 65% adequate, 22% surplus. Subsoil 12% very short, 16% short, 60% adequate, 12% surplus. Temperatures this past week were several degrees above normal for much of the Commonwealth. Wet field conditions limited the number of days suitable for field work, with some areas receiving several inches above normal rainfall. Pastures feed 6% very poor, 17% poor, 25% fair, 42% good, 10% excellent. Livestock 5% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, 9% excellent. Corn for grain 98% dented, 99% 1998, 98% avg.; 87% mature, 98% 1998, 92% avg.; 55% harvested, 65% 1998, 52% avg.; 13% very poor, 26% poor, 32% fair, 25% good, 4% excellent. Corn for silage 95% harvested, 93% 1998, 83% avg. Soybeans 100% setting pods, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 40% dropping leaves, 43% 1998, 16% avg.; 0% harvested, 5% 1998, 4% avg.; 5% very poor, 13% poor, 30% fair, 42% good, 10% excellent. Winter wheat 3% seeded, 12% 1998, 7% avg. Barley 15% seeded, 8% 1998, 16% avg. Tobacco, flue cured 80% harvested, 76% 1998, 84% avg. Tobacco, burley 97% harvested, 89% 1998, 91% avg. Tobacco, dark fire cured 97% harvested, 99% 1998, 98% avg. Peanuts 34% dug, 35% 1998, 39% avg.; 8% combined, 15% 1998, 20% avg; 2% very poor, 4% poor, 45% fair, 44% good, 5% excellent. Cotton 77% bolls opening, 77% 1998, 71% avg.; 3% harvested, 36% 1998, 13% avg.; 3% very poor, 9% poor, 45% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent. Apples, all 1% very poor, 11% poor, 31% fair, 48% good, 9% excellent. Apples, fall 55% harvested, 46% 1998, 55% avg. Apples, Winter 18% harvested, 18% 1998, 25% avg. Favorable conditions allowed regrowth in pastures. Livestock producers are hopeful fall forage will be more abundant than previously expected. Hay producers are busy cutting, baling hay as weather permits. Rain occurred in some areas where hay had been cut but not yet baled, reducing quality. Corn harvest continues behind 1998, slightly ahead of normal schedule. Soybean harvest is expected to begin in the next week or two. Some plants remain under water in isolated areas of southeastern areas. Effects of Hurricane Dennis, additional rainfall which has occurred following the storm have yet to be realized. Much of the acreage planted to wheat, barley in State follows another crop. Delayed harvest of summer, fall crops, particularly peanuts, has caused small grain seeding to lag slightly behind normal schedule. Harvest of tobacco acreage is nearly complete, especially in the southwestern portion of the Commonwealth. Peanut harvest began slowly due to persistent, wet conditions in southeastern areas. While limited acreage has been combined to date, yields so far have been rated by producers as good to excellent. Producers are hoping to dig the remaining acres as soon as possible in order to minimize the damage due to increased disease pressure. Cotton producers are turning to aircraft to defoliate this year's crop. Producers are generally able to spray their crop from the ground. Surplus rainfall has made it nearly impossible to get necessary equipment into most fields. A few isolate producers have been able to get cotton pickers into the field, have begun to harvest their crop, others will harvest as soon as field conditions permit. Some fall tillage will be necessary to remove ruts created by the heavy equipment. Producers continue to harvest apples, tomatoes, cucumbers, snap beans, squash, pumpkins, gourds, other vegetable crops.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 25% very short, 46% short, 29% adequate. Subsoil 15% very short, 65% short, 20% adequate. Winter wheat 79% planted, 73% 1998, 74% avg.; 58% emerged, 62% 1998, 58% avg. Planting for winter wheat continued. Producers were still hoping for moisture to germinate the winter wheat that had been planted. Some were still watching the weather and deciding whether to plant winter wheat or not. That winter wheat that had been planted was emerging and seemed to be in good condition. Potatoes 65% harvested, 58% 1998, 56% avg. Potatoes 10% fair, 40% good, 50% excellent. Hay, other roughage supplies 8% short, 72% adequate, 20% surplus. Range, pasture, 20% very poor, 37% poor, 29% fair, 10% good, 4% excellent. Potato harvest progressed ahead of both

1998 and average. Sugar beet harvest continued along with onions, sweet corn, carrots. Apples, pears, grapes were being harvested. Fruit growers were busy trying to get their crops picked before the cold weather was detrimental to the quality of the fruit. Alfalfa producers were starting 4th, 5th cuttings.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil 27% very short, 48% short, 25% adequate. Crop, pasture conditions were aided by rainfall across the State. Crop harvest, planting continue behind normal. Hay 24% very poor, 35% poor, 34% fair, 7% good; Hay 2nd cut 87%; 3rd cut 54%, 76% 1998, 72% avg. Corn 14% very poor, 25% poor, 38% fair, 23% good; 94% dent, 83% 1998; 69% mature, 73% 1998, 75% avg.; 23% harvested, 31% 1998, 31% avg. Soybeans 7% very poor, 13% poor, 40% fair, 40% good; dropping leaves 76%, 87% 1998, 82% avg.; harvested 11%, 22% 1998. Tobacco harvested 82%, 98% 1998, 96% avg. Apples 24% poor, 60% fair, 16% good. Apples harvest 50%, 76% 1998. Wheat planted 6%, 31% 1998, 24% avg.; 3% emerged, 3% 1998. Cattle 3% very poor, 11% poor, 50% fair, 35% good, 1% excellent. Sheep 1% very poor, 6% poor, 63% fair, 28% good, 2% excellent.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Soil moisture 5% very short, 24% short, 69% adequate, 2% surplus. Southern areas received a much-needed slow, soaking rainfall last week. Northwestern areas finally had nearly a full week of sunshine. Frost started to creep southward across the state, mainly occurring in low areas. Much of the State still has not received a killing frost. Some reporters in West Central locations were surprised to see light snow on 2nd. High moisture corn for grain harvest started in the northern half of the State. Reporters commented that there will be less time available to harvest high moisture corn this year due to the speed of the crop drying in the field. Corn silage harvest was pushed in areas which received frost last week. Soybean harvest picked up the pace last week after being stalled by showers. Yields have been reported as better-than-average, but could have been higher if rainfall would have been received during pod fill. Soybean 91% dropping leaves, 96% 1998, 80% avg.; 26% harvested, 21% 1998, 13% avg.; 2% poor, 9% fair, 52% good, 37% excellent. Hay harvest continued on a limited scale last week, as producers reported more-than-adequate supplies of forage. Rainfall aided in regrowth before winter. Fourth crop hay harvested: 54% 1999, 56% 1998. Early-sowed winter wheat germinated last week after receiving moisture. Some wheat producers waited for rainfall before tilling, seeding their fields. Fall tillage completed: 18% 1999, 15% 1998, 12% avg. Horseradish digging and planting started in the Northwest during the past week. Potato growers made good harvest progress; some producers were over two-thirds done. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 25% poor, 40% fair, 30% good, 4% excellent.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 1% very short, 32% short, 66% adequate, 1% surplus. Temperatures cooler than normal with scattered light precipitation. Oats 97% harvested, 99% 1998, 99% avg. Corn 10% fair, 88% good, 2% excellent; 83% mature, 85% 1998, 88% avg.; 1% harvested, 7% 1998, 13% avg.; 94% harvested for silage, 87% 1998, 90% avg. Dry beans 86% combined, 88% 1998, 89% avg. Sugar beets 11% fair, 75% good, 14% excellent; 21% harvested, 6% 1998, 11% avg. Alfalfa 78% 3rd cutting, 72% 1998, 73% avg. Winter wheat 5% fair, 95% good; 88% emerged, 89% 1998, 83% avg. Range, pasture feed 1% poor, 13% fair, 80% good, 6% excellent. Cattle 90% good, 10% excellent. Calf 91% good, 9% excellent. Sheep, lambs 94% good, 6% excellent.