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Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

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ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.5. Topsoil moisture: 61% adequate and 39% surplus. Corn planted 7%, 29% 2000, and 22% average. Winter wheat headed 11%, 2000 and average not available. Winter wheat condition: 20% fair and 77% good and 3% excellent. Pasture condition: 2% very poor, 20% poor, 36% fair, 39% good and 3% excellent. Livestock condition: 1% very poor, 3% poor, 39% fair, 50% good, and 7% excellent. Rains slowed land preparation for spring planting. Nitrogen applied to small grains and pastures were fertilized.

ARIZONA: Area generally recorded above average temperatures with mild precipitation throughout the state during the month of March. Warmer than normal temperatures have helped small grain crops, cotton planting progress. Range, pasture continued to improve in most areas during early part of the month due to good precipitation, but ranchers report needing more precipitation for good Spring growth. Precipitation has little impact on row crops due to irrigation.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Temperatures were slightly below normal for the week with rain falling during the middle of the week according to the State Agricultural Statistics Service. Recent rains have slowed field preparations, planting activities. Soil moisture 2% very short, 3% short, 66% adequate, 29% surplus. Sorghum 2% planted, 3% 1999, 2% 5 yr. avg. Rice 1% planted, 1% 1999, 1% 5 yr. avg. Corn 28% planted, 31% 1999, 14% 5 yr avg. Wheat 0% headed, 5% 1999, 3% 5 yr. avg.; 1% very poor, 10% poor, 38% fair, 45% good, 6% excellent; Other Hay 11% very poor, 14% poor, 50% fair, 24% good, 1% excellent; Pasture, Range feeds 4% very poor, 13% poor, 48% fair, 31% good, 4% excellent. **FIELD CROP:** Planting corn, rice, sorghum were reported by several counties. Fertilizer is being applied to wheat, hay, pastures. Row crops ground preparations continued with pre-planting, herbicide, fertilizer application underway. Commercial tomatoes are being bedded, plastic laid. **LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE:** Livestock were in good condition. Cattle were being worked while calves were being weaned. 1/Many reports are received on Friday and may not reflect conditional changes due to weekend weather.

CALIFORNIA: Cotton planting was underway in many fields across the state. Fields not yet planted were undergoing cultivation, herbicide applications. Sugarbeets continued to show vigorous growth. Weed control was continued in sugarbeet fields. Optimal weather conditions contributed to excellent growth of wheat, oats, barley. Some growers were irrigating small grain crops. Herbicides, fertilizers were applied as necessary. Dryland grains were beginning to show slight stress for lack of moisture. Some small grain fields were greenchopped for silage. Wheat and barley fields were beginning to show head development. Alfalfa hay and seed fields were thriving; some growers were applying herbicides, insecticides. Alfalfa for hay was being cut, baled. Some alfalfa was greenchopped and bagged. Warm, sunny weather accelerated growth, pollination in orchards, vineyards. Many growers were already irrigating vineyards, due to lack of soil moisture. Most apricot, freestone peach, nectarine, plum trees had set fruit. Growers applied fungicides, herbicides. Mowing, insect control activities continued. Grape vineyards were leafing, herbicides were being applied. Grapefruit picking was active in the desert areas. The harvest of navel, valencia oranges continued. Good quality was observed. Lemon, tangerine, satsuma harvests were active. Strawberries were blooming in

the San Joaquin Valley; harvest was active in San Diego, Ventura counties. Almonds were treated for brown rot, shot hole fungus. Pollination of early almond varieties may have been less effective than normal due to cool, wet weather during bloom. Warmer weather aided pollination of later varieties. Warmer weather has stimulated the planting of vegetables outdoors, both under hot caps, in the open. Spring vegetables were thriving. Hot caps or plastic covers were still in use in many areas. With ideal weather conditions, early planted squash varieties were showing visible progress. Yellow squash were emerging. Cucumber planting was also progressing rapidly. Garlic, onions were progressing normally. Planting of fresh, processing tomatoes continued, using both direct seeding, transplants. Fumigation of tomato beds was underway and fields planted, earlier were emerging. Planting of sweet corn continued. Growers were thinning, weeding emerged fields. Peppers, carrots, eggplant, squash, onions, beans, melons were being planted. Bed preparation for summer vegetable planting continued. Harvesting of broccoli, spinach, radicchio, asparagus was in full swing. Leaf lettuce, collard greens, parsley were being harvested for farmers' markets. Additional vegetables harvested include: Carrots, cabbage, cauliflower, head, romaine lettuce, turnips, daikon, cilantro, mustard greens, green onions, lemon grass, radishes, parsley. Some livestock operations were limiting visits as a precautionary measure until disease problems in Europe are resolved. Rangeland conditions varied from good to excellent. Some pastures were being mowed. Foothill springs were flowing. Cattle were making good weight gains due to the increased volume, nutrient values of range, pasture grasses. Sheep were grazing some alfalfa fields. Milk cows were producing under ideal weather conditions. Bees were active. Beekeepers continued to move hives from almonds, stone fruit orchards to citrus orchards.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 3% very short, 28% short, 67% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 13% very short, 36% short, 50% adequate, 1% surplus. Cloudy skies, windy weather were accompanied by widely scattered rain showers which were not sufficient to improve soil moisture supplies. Planting progress continues to lag behind both 2000 avg.. Spring barley 15% seeded, 28% 2000, 32% avg. Dry onions 25% planted, 50% 2000, 51% avg. Sugar beets 7% planted, 12% 2000, 15% avg. Spring wheat 11% planted, 14% 2000, 20% avg. Cows 59% calved, 65% 2000, 68% avg. Ewes 52% lambled, 48% 2000, 47% avg.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.0. Topsoil 25% adequate, 75% surplus. Subsoil moisture, 55% adequate, 45% surplus. Percentage of nitrogen fertilizer supplies is 100%. Green peas are 8% planted, 21% 2000, 11% 5 yr avg.. Pasture feed 8% poor, 27% fair, 65% good. Barley 14% poor, 40% fair, 46% good. Winter Wheat 10% poor, 40% fair, 50% good. Rye 15% poor, 40% fair, 45% good. All hay 10% short, 90% adequate. Continued rains have delayed spring tillage, planting of early crops. Cool temperatures have delayed small grains, pasture growth.

FLORIDA: Heavy but spotty showers brought abundant rain to many localities. Rain at major stations from about 0.50 in. at West Palm Beach to almost 4.00 in. at Tampa. Palmetto-Ruskin region received from 6.00 to over 9.00 in., light hail falling in a few localities. Immokalee area reported from 0.50 to over 5.50 in.; Homestead, about 0.33 in.; Hastings, about 1.00 in.; Lake Alfred, over 4.00 in. Temperatures at major stations averaged from 6° below normal at Tallahassee to 2° above in Miami,

West Palm Beach. Daytime highs 70s, 80s. Nighttime lows 40s, 50s, 60s. Tallahassee, Jacksonville reported at least one low in 30s with some light frost occurring in some low lying areas of Panhandle, northern Peninsula. Moisture in Panhandle, northern Peninsula mostly adequate with scattered areas of surplus. Moisture in rest of State very short to short with scattered areas of adequate moisture. Farmers starting field preparations for spring planted crops. Farmers actively planting corn, tobacco. Winter forages starting to head out. Permanent pastures greening up. Sugarcane harvest winding down with mills closing for season. Nitrogen fertilizer supplies reported at 94% of normal. Heavy rains flooded some watermelons, Palmetto-Ruskin region with damages currently being assessed. Cool temperatures, northern areas, not low enough to cause major vegetable damage. Vegetables available: Tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, potatoes, sweet corn, strawberries, snap beans, cucumbers, squash, eggplant, lettuce, radishes, escarole, endive, parsley. Rain, thunderstorms on two or more days. Some citrus areas got 3.00 to 5.00 in. Abundant new growth, most bloom over. Early, mid orange harvest over. Valencia movement increasing. Grapefruit harvest active all areas. Temple, Honey tangerines picking slowing as supplies run low. Caretakers cutting cover crops, hedging, topping, cutting up limb debris. A few burn permits now being issued. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 50% poor, 40% fair, 5%. good .Cattle 45% poor, 35% fair,20% good. Panhandle: cool temperatures, light frost holding back grass growth; Rainfall of past two weeks starting to fill stock ponds. North: light frost set back warm season pastures. West Central counties: pasture, cattle poor to fair; Grass growth slow; Streams, ponds filling. Southwest: pasture beginning to grow following rain. Statewide, cattle feed poor to good.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for field work 3.0. Soil moisture 1% very short, 3% short, 65% adequate, 31% surplus. Corn 4% very poor, 7% poor, 55% fair, 34% good; 32% emerged, 50% 2000, 20% avg. Hay 4% very poor, 13% poor, 37% fair, 43% good, 3% excellent. Sorghum 0% planted, 3% 2000, 1% avg. Tobacco 2% poor, 41% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent; 9% transplanted, 21% 2000, 27% avg. Wheat 73% jointing, 76% 2000, 85% avg.; 41% boot, 53% 2000, 44% avg. Onions 6% very poor, 13% poor, 40% fair, 40% good, 1% excellent. Watermelons 2% very poor, 17% poor, 67% fair, 14% good; 19% planted, 33% 2000, 36% avg. Apples 1% very poor, 1% poor, 31% fair, 66% good, 1% excellent; 1% blooming, 15% 2000, 16% avg. Peaches 1% poor, 4% fair, 68% good, 27% excellent; 88% blooming, 76% 2000, 83% avg. The State received plenty of rainfall during the week. Soil moisture levels were adequate to surplus, according to the State Agricultural Statistics Service. Fieldwork was slowed by the rain. Cold temperatures early in the week damaged peaches in north state. Soil temperatures were still too low to plant corn in north state. Nitrogen supplies have been available, but the amount used is limited due to the high cost. Growers were applying weed control in pastures, hay fields. Wet fields in south state have delayed the planting of corn, transplanting tobacco. Recent winds have caused some damage to the corn, onion crop. Central state peaches are in good shape, but some growers are having a problem with scale insects. Other activities include: Preparing land for vegetable, cotton planting. Spraying pecan trees, the routine care of livestock, poultry continued.

HAWAII: No data available:

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 3.5. Topsoil 4% very short, 22% short, 63% adequate, 11% surplus. Scattered rain showers were received throughout most of the state. Spring field work is progressing slowly. The majority of the states winter wheat was reported in good condition. Calving is 81% complete, lambing is 88% complete. Hay, roughage 2% very short, 35% short, 55% adequate, 8% surplus. Irrigation water 2% excellent, 3% good, 43% fair, 33% poor, 19% very poor. Nitrogen Fertilizer 95% of normal. Onions 35% planted, 35% 2000, 41% avg. Potatoes 0% planted, 1% 2000, 1% avg. Oats 2% planted, 2% 2000, 5% avg. Dry Peas 6% planted, 1% 2000, 5% avg. Spring Wheat 8% planted, 19% 2000, 17% avg. Barley 11% planted, 12% 2000, 12% avg. Sugar beets 6% planted, 9% 2000, 16% avg. Activities: Preparing ground for planting potatoes, sugarbeets, spring wheat, spring barley, oats, onions, lentils, and dry peas. Repairing irrigation systems.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Topsoil 5% short, 83% adequate, 12% surplus. Oats 10% seeded, 56% 2000, 30% avg.

Farmers were busy last week seeding oats, applying corn herbicides, spreading manure, fertilizer. Central farmers were also starting to apply anhydrous as soils dried late last week. The cooler than normal weather during the month of March has prevented soils from warming as much as farmers would like, topsoils have remained moist despite the lower than normal precipitation received during March. The cooler soil temps, moist soils have delayed oat seeding, prevented early planting of corn. The condition of the wheat crop has held steady as the crop is coming out of dormancy. Concerns were expressed with low germination tests of soybean seed, hoof, mouth disease control plans and the increased cost of anhydrous. The cost of anhydrous, at 400 plus dollars per ton, has farmers talking about switching to other forms of nitrogen. Other activities being completed last week included: Pruning fruit trees, spraying harmony on wheat, caring for newborn calves, sheep, constructing waterways, installing field tile.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil 6% very short, 18% short, 69% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 7% very short, 20% short, 68% adequate, 5% surplus. Temperatures warming up, but precipitation minimal last week. Precipitation is about 5 inches behind normal thus far this year. Soils are drying out rapidly. Many farmers were in the fields, tilling soils, spreading fertilizer. Nitrogen 91% of normal, very expensive. Winter wheat mostly good condition, growth is slow. Wheat 3% poor, 21% fair, 64% good, 12% excellent. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Hay supplies mostly adequate. Calving, lambing active. Major activities: Tilling soils, hauling grain to market, spraying, spreading lime, equipment cleaning, repair, top dressing wheat, spreading manure, purchasing inputs, cleaning fence rows, ditching, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Planting will not begin for at least two weeks in most areas of the state. The ground is either still frozen, or too wet, muddy for general fieldwork. Spring preparations are being made, including limited applications of anhydrous ammonia. Percent of normal nitrogen fertilizer supplies 84%. Several reporters commented supplies are available, but expensive, so many producers are limiting applications.

KANSAS: Days suitable for field work 2.8. Topsoil 1% very short, 5% short, 84% adequate, 10% surplus. Wheat 3% excellent, 30% good, 41% fair, 17% poor, 9% very poor. Some fertilizing, limited field activity.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil 1% very short, 12% short, 77% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 20% short, 72% adequate, 7% surplus. Pasture feeds 2% very poor, 19% poor, 36% fair, 38% good 5% excellent. Temperatures were below average throughout the state delaying seeding, fruit bloom. Land prepared for planting at 30%. Tobacco beds were being seeded, some farmers were preparing to plant corn. About 47% of tobacco transplants have been seeded. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 52% good, 15% excellent. Producers reported 4% loss in winter wheat, 3% loss in barley acreage due to winter kill. Alfalfa loss was 6%, red clover 7%. Cattle are mostly in good condition with adequate hay supplies. Farms with livestock still on winter feed 88%, only 20% roughage gotten from pastures.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.1. Soil moisture 1% short, 42% adequate, 57% surplus. Corn 49% planted, 60% 2000, 68% avg.; 7% emerged, 56% 2000, 39% avg. Corn planted was limited due to wet conditions. Cooler conditions slowed rice planting, growth. Spring plowing 33% plowing, 71% 2000, 60% avg. Sugarcane 1% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 33% good, 27% excellent. Sugarcane farmers continued to apply herbicides, began applying fertilizer to their crop. Wheat 1% very poor, 9% poor, 51% fair, 26% good, 13% excellent; 9% headed, 83% 2000, 46% avg. Livestock 2% very poor, 8% poor, 41% fair, 42% good, 7% excellent. Vegetables 1% very poor, 15% poor; 54% fair, 26% good, 4% excellent. Pasture 3% very poor, 16% poor, 42% fair, 32% good, 7% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.4. Topsoil 1% short, 44% adequate, 55% surplus. Subsoil moisture 83% adequate, 17% surplus. Sweet corn is 5% planted, 3% 2000, 1% for the 5 yr avg. Green peas are 15% planted, 30% 2000, 22% 5 yr avg. Tobacco beds 84% planted, 27% 2000, 30% avg. Pasture feed 13% poor, 26% fair, 49% good, 12% excellent. Barley 1% poor, 20% fair, 69% good, 8% excellent. Winter

Wheat 1% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 62% good, 7% excellent. Rye 1% very poor, 15% poor, 19% fair, 65% good. All hay 1% very short, 4% short, 82% adequate, 13% surplus. Continued rains have delayed spring tillage, planting of early crops. Cool temperatures have delayed small grains, pasture growth.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Cool temperatures limited farm activities to manure application, fertilizer application, preparing equipment for spring planting. Maple tree tapping well underway with syrup quality very good. Winter wheat crops looked good despite cool weather.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.0. Weather conditions remain very cool, wet. Snow cover still exists across the majority of the state. Spring field work will be much later than 2000.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.1. Soil moisture 3% short, 60% adequate, 37% surplus. Corn 44% planted, 65% 2000, 43% avg.; 13% emerged, 50% 2000, 21% avg.; 27% poor, 24% fair, 41% good, 5% excellent. Rice 1% planted, 1% 2000, 3% avg. Sorghum 3% planted, 3% 2000, 2% avg. Soybeans 8% planted, NA 2000, NA avg. Watermelons 25% planted, 26% 2000, 18% avg. Blueberries 3% very poor, 9% poor, 37% fair, 37% good, 14% excellent. Cattle 3% very poor, 12% poor, 34% fair, 43% good, 8% excellent. Pasture 3% very poor, 17% poor, 37% fair, 33% good, 10% excellent. Wheat 59% jointing, 80% 2000, 70% avg.; 1% heading, 21% 2000, 8% avg.; 3% very poor, 8% poor, 40% fair, 35% good, 14% excellent. Cool weather has delayed the progress of winter wheat across many parts of the state. Rain continues to hamper the planting of row crops in some parts of the state.

MISSOURI: Topsoil 5% very short, 16% short, 68% adequate, 11% surplus. Most farmers have been waiting for muddy fields to dry, warm weather to come before beginning fieldwork. Corn 1% planting. Bootheel leads with 7% corn planted, while virtually all other areas are still too wet for spring fieldwork. Wheat 50% or more good to excellent across the State. Pasture, range is 12% very poor, 26% poor, 39% fair, 21% good, 2% excellent. Warm weather is needed to stimulate pasture growth. Most cattle are still dependent on hay for feed. Most significant areas of excess moisture are in the northern third of the State with about 20% or more surplus.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork was 3.9. Topsoil 23% very short, 33% short, 42% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 44% very short, 30% short, 25% adequate, 1% surplus. Fieldwork started in a few areas of state. Some fields still snow covered or have frost in ground. Producers concerned about having enough moisture, spring rains for planting. Fieldwork in progress was rated 82% none, 14% just started, 4% underway. Spring wheat seeding 1% complete, 3% 2000. Barley 1% seeding, 2% 2000. Oat 1% seeding, 1% 2000. Winter wheat 6% very poor, 12% poor, 64% fair, 16% good, 2% excellent. Wind damage to winter wheat 39% none, 52% light, 7% moderate, 2% heavy. Winter wheat emergence 57% is still dormant, 38% greening and 5% is green and growing. Warmer weather needed for emergence. Producers are supplemental feeding livestock due to pastures having little grass or water available. Producers are searching for hay, are concerned about the lack of water in ponds, reservoirs. Concerns about shortage of water for livestock due to lack of winter precipitation. Livestock receiving supplemental feed was 96% for cattle, calves, 97% for sheep, lambs. Calving 62% complete, lambing 45% complete.

NEBRASKA: Topsoil moisture supplies were mostly adequate while subsoil was rated short to adequate. Temperatures for the week averaged near normals in the Panhandle while the remainder of the State was 4 to 7° below normals. Precipitation ranged from traces to near an inch. Nitrogen fertilizer 87% of normal. Winter wheat 2% very poor, 6% poor, 39% fair, 46% good, 7% excellent. Oats 5% sown, 66% 2000, 20% avg. Hay, forage short to adequate. Pasture, range feed 15% very poor, 24% poor, 40% fair, 20% good, 1% excellent. Calving 71% complete with average to above average losses.

NEVADA: Unseasonably warm weather was predominant across the State, with light rains midweek. Precipitation totaled .18 inch in Elko, .08

inch in Winnemucca, but a trace or less in Reno, Las Vegas. Water content of the snow pack fell to about 50% of normal for most of state, was below normal for all watersheds. Surface irrigation water allotments are projected to be cut for several districts. Agricultural Summary Farm, ranch activity flourished under fair weather conditions. Onion planting was completed, irrigation was underway. Field preparations, spring grain seeding made good progress. Fall seeded grains, garlic were in mostly good condition. Warmer weather promoted greening of ranges, dormant hay fields, while accelerating early snow melt. Calving, working of livestock continued in full swing with progress well along. Farm flock lambing was underway, while range flock managers prepared for lambing. Hay marketing remained active, as did potato processing. Main farm and ranch activities: Calving, grain planting, alfalfa hay shipping, irrigating onions, field preparations.

NEW ENGLAND: Temperatures slightly below average for the week. Maple sugaring activities still active throughout the region, but up to two weeks behind schedule. Heavy snow accumulations have made it difficult to reach taps. Farmers continue to tend livestock, repair machinery, bring tractors, trucks, implements out of storage in preparation for the spring planting season. Manure spreading by dairy farmers continues in southernmost areas, however deep snow has prohibited field entry in other areas. Garden centers gearing up for spring.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 1.7. Topsoil 100% surplus. Percent normal nitrogen fertilizer supplies 69.8. Outdoor activities were limited, as excessive rainfall, wet field conditions have hampered planting, field preparation. Some areas in the northwestern portion of the state are still waiting for snow to melt from recent winter storms. Other agricultural activities included: Seed, fertilizer purchase, repair of farm equipment. Some producers in southern counties have begun planting spring lettuce, spinach, cabbage, endive, other leafy greens as weather permits. Some fruit growers have reported that blueberries are beginning to show green. Orchards are pruning their trees in preparation for the growing season.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 6.1. Topsoil 1% very short, 20% short and 79% adequate. Despite some rather warm temperatures at the end of the week, much of the eastern plains were kept unusually cool by extended periods of cloudy skies. Readings in the east ranged from 4 to as much as 11° cooler than normal for their weekly average temperatures. The drizzle, light rain in the east produced only scant precipitation, under one-tenth inch in most cases. Farmers once again spent the week preparing fields, planting various crops. It was reported that there was 14% light wind damage, 10% light freeze damage. The total wheat 7% very poor, 7% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 4% excellent. Lettuce was reported in fair to excellent condition. Onions were listed in mostly good to excellent condition. Chile 40% planted. Alfalfa was listed in mostly fair to excellent condition. Ranchers continue to supplemental feed, are more that ready for the emerging spring forage. Cattle, sheep feeds were mostly poor to good. Pasture, range feed 9% very poor, 31% poor, 47% fair, 13% good.

NEW YORK: Snow covered most of the state, prevented any field work. Outside activities were made difficult by storms during the week that produced heavy rainfall after dropping more snow in many regions. Maple producers collected and boiled sap but in most areas warmer days were needed for good sap runs. Tapping trees, connecting tubing has been very slow due to deep snow in the wooded areas. Livestock producers cared for animals, continued spreading manure.

NORTH CAROLINA: Statewide rainfall continued this week in state. The wet weather was accompanied by well below normal temperatures. Many parts of the State had light to moderate frost at mid-week. The frost damage has not been fully assessed for those areas with bearing acres of peaches, apples. The wet weather pattern throughout the entire month of March has improved topsoil moisture which is presently rated 0% very short, 2% short, 51% adequate, 47% surplus. Though moisture has been plentiful, many areas remain below normal for the year. Early planting activities have been put on hold as days suitable for field work were limited to an estimated 3.3. However, cabbage, Irish potato producers have managed to stay close to their 5-yr avg in regards to planting. The predominate activities for most farmers were indoors again this week. Those activities include: Tax preparation, equipment maintenance,

greenhouse work. Other activities were: Conservation practices, limited top-dressing small grains, very isolated field preparation. Nitrogen supplies for the State are still typical compared to 2000 past, however the price of nitrogen, which has been reportedly double for some areas, has farmers concerned.

NORTH DAKOTA: Normal to slightly below normal temperatures during March slowed the snow meltdown, leaving wet, muddy fields with limited snow cover. The average snow cover for the state was 0.8 inches, down from 7.2 inches on March 4, 2001. There was no snow cover on March 26, 2000. Hay 3 % very short, 11% short, 81% adequate, 5% surplus. Grain, concentrate 1% very short, 4% short, 82% adequate, 13% surplus. Producers reported giving supplemental feed 99% of their cattle, 99% of their sheep, unchanged from 2000. Calving 45% complete while lambing was 62% complete. Shearing was 74% complete. Cattle, cow 0% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 69% good, 6% excellent. Calf 0% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 72% good, 7% excellent. Sheep 1% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 68% good, 9% excellent. Lamb 1% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 67% good, 10% excellent. Pastures, ranges were estimated to be 55% open but 100% were still dormant. Road 95% open, 4% difficult, 1% closed. Roads 1% drifted, 2% icy, 20% muddy, 77% dry. Nitrogen fertilizer 86% of normal as available to producers. Farmers are lining up seed, fertilizer supplies for spring planting. The northeast, east central regions of the state remain very wet, the start of spring fieldwork could be delayed.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil 2% very short, 16% short, 73% adequate, 9% surplus. Winter wheat 1% jointed.; 9% in 2000. Tobacco beds 20% seeded.; 31% in 2000. Tobacco beds having 4% plants up.; 6% in 2000. Oats 8% planted, 21% in 2000. Pasture 7% very poor, 10% poor, 40% fair, 37% good, 6% excellent. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 5% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 9% excellent. Reporters estimated that the percentage of normal nitrogen fertilizer available to producers is at 88% of normal. Activities throughout the state include: Applying fertilizer, nitrogen to corn, anhydrous ammonia to fields; plowing, chiseling, discing, hauling manure, grain, wheat top dressing, spring tillage work, equipment maintenance, preparation, sowing oats, alfalfa seedings, planting grasses, legumes, transplanting tomato, cabbage plants. Livestock producers reported good to excellent conditions. Lambing, calving are good very well. Some livestock producers are worried about foot, mouth, mad cow disease, the bad publicity for livestock producers in state.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil 76% adequate, 24% surplus. Subsoil moisture 77% adequate, 23% surplus. Wheat 24% jointing, 20% last week, 83% 2000, 65% avg. Oats 9% very poor, 28% poor, 48% fair, 14% good, 1% excellent; 78% planted, 76% last week, 96% 2000, 98% avg.; 6% jointing, 2% last week, 44% 2000, 35% avg. Rye 14% very poor, 20% poor, 38% fair, 27% good, 1% excellent; Corn 38% seedbed prepared, 36% last week, 61% 2000, 62% avg.; 6% planted, 5% last week, 13% 2000, 11% avg. Sorghum 25% seedbed prepared, 23% last week, 19% 2000, 18% avg. Soybeans 18% seedbed prepared, 16% last week, 49% 2000, 33% avg. Peanuts 20% seedbed prepared, 16% last week, 26% 2000, 27% avg. Cotton 43% seedbed prepared, 35% last week, 52% 2000, 38% avg. Livestock 6% very poor, 12% poor, 44% fair, 36% good, 2% excellent; Pasture, Range 12% very poor, 31% poor, 32% fair, 23% good, 2% excellent; Cattle auctions reported average marketings for the week. The price for feeder steers less than 800 pounds increased from last week, averaged \$94.80 per cwt. The price for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds also increased, averaged \$88.50 per cwt.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 5% very short, 25% short, 64% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 17% very short, 19% short, 56% adequate, 8% surplus. Barley 37% planted, 70% 2000, 53% 5 yr. avg. Barley 19% fair, 77% good, 4% excellent. Spring Wheat 69% planted, 45% 2000. Winter wheat 10% poor, 22% fair, 64% good, 4% excellent. Range, Pasture: 19% very poor, 8% poor, 37% fair, 34% good, 2% excellent. Pct. of normal nitrogen fertilizer supplies: 98. Activities: Small grains planted statewide. Most areas winter wheat looked fair to good, few areas with poor conditions. Alfalfa grew, grass seed out of dormancy in the northeast. Klamath Basin field activities unusually quiet due to uncertainty of water supplies. Willamette Valley seeded grain crops, started spring growth, fertilized. Hay fields, cover crops greened.

Grass seed fields mostly good condition. Some older stand perennial ryegrass taken out. Field work in hop yards started. In Rogue River Valley, fields prepared for seeding forage crops, field crops. Spring digging, shipping of bare root plants, balled, burlapped plants, container plants proceeding at hectic rate with average 16 hour workday. Every nursery has semi trucks waiting to be loaded. Greenhouses busy moving annuals, perennials to garden centers. Christmas Tree growers planting new trees, hoping for wet spring. In Umatilla county, producers planted potatoes, onions. In Willamette Valley, most fields too wet to get much work done. Greenhouses very busy getting summer vegetable starts ready. Jackson county reported onions, cucumbers, sweet corn seeded as well early peas. In Josephine county, greenhouses prepared for planting, reported perennial vegetables were well. Berries in early growth stages in Willamette valley, South Coast, Rogue River Valley with some early varieties in bloom. Pears began to bloom in Washington county while peaches were in full bloom or past in Jackson county. D'Anjou pears had tight clusters in lower valley. Hazelnuts were in bloom in Josephine county, had good catkin set in Clackamas county, lost catkins in Washington county. Eastern filbert blight spray applied in Yamhill county. Range, pasture feeds reported fair to good over much of western state with good to excellent conditions reported along southern state coast. Eastern state range, pastures vary considerably. Grass in Eastern state greening but most areas report there has not been enough advancement to provide feed for livestock. In some parts of western state pastures began to provide increasing forage. Most areas indicated supplemental feeding necessary. Livestock in good condition over most of state. Calving proceeded very well in eastern state, the warm dry weather contributed to fewer problems, low calf losses. Many areas around state express concern over potential water supply shortages. Spring lambs looked good in south western state.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for field work 1.4. Soil moisture 7% short, 49% adequate, 44% surplus. Spring plowing 7% complete, 17% 1999, 9% avg. Tobacco beds planted 8% complete, 13% 1999, 36% avg. Wheat crop 5% poor, 30% fair, 61% good, 4% excellent. Activities include: Spring plowing; planting oats, tobacco; fixing fences; machinery maintenance; ordering supplies; storing equipment; cleaning barns; marketing Easter lambs; spreading lime, fertilizers; hauling, spreading manure; caring for livestock; spraying herbicides; pruning fruit trees.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 4.0. Soil moisture 3% short, 69% adequate, 28% surplus. Barley 3% headed, 4% 2000, N/A avg.; 5% fair, 84% good, 11% excellent. Livestock 1% poor, 23% fair, 53% good, 23% excellent. Oats 10% headed, 13% 2000, 17% avg.; 1% poor, 27% fair, 65% good, 7% excellent. Rye 15% headed, 20% 2000, 22% avg.; 1% poor, 19% fair, 76% good, 4% excellent. Sorghum 1% planted, 3% 2000, 2% avg. Soybeans 1% planted, 1% 2000, N/A avg. Winter Grazing 2% poor, 22% fair, 57% good, 19% excellent. Winter Wheat 10% headed, 6% 2000, 12% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 12% fair, 80% good, 4% excellent. Corn 27% planted, 48% 2000, 43% avg.; 100% fair. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 1% poor, 30% fair, 64% good, 4% excellent. Tobacco 5% transplanted, 5% 2000, 5% avg. Grain hay 6% harvested, 8% 2000, 9% avg. Peaches 10% very poor, 15% poor, 37% fair, 32% good, 6% excellent. Apples 97% fair, 3% good. Snapbeans, Fresh, 25% planted, 26% 2000, 29% avg. Cucumbers, Fresh, 22% planted, 21% 2000, 28% avg. Watermelons 26% planted, 35% 2000, 36% avg. Tomatoes, Fresh, 30% planted, 30% 2000, 21% avg. Cantaloups 10% planted, 17% 2000, 12% avg. Freeze damage 59% none, 32% light, 6% moderate, 3% heavy.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for field work: 0.8. Topsoil 4% short, 78% adequate, 18% surplus. Subsoil moisture: 1% very short, 13% short, 76% adequate, 10% surplus. Winter rye 37% fair, 50% good, 13% excellent. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 14% poor, 33% fair, 49% good 3% excellent. Cattle: 2% poor, 24% fair, 61% good, 13% excellent. Sheep 0% very poor, 2% poor, 24% fair, 59% good, 15% excellent. Cattle death losses since for March: 14% below avg.; 79% avg.; 7% above avg.. Calf deaths 15% below avg.; 74% avg.; 11% above avg. Sheep, lamb deaths 14% below avg.; 79% avg.; 7% above avg.. Winter wheat breaking dormancy: 30%. Winter rye breaking dormancy: 5%. Range, pasture 6% very poor, 10% poor, 35% fair, 43% good, 6% excellent. Calving completed 37%. Lambing completed: 59%. Cattle moved to pasture 2%. Expected date to start field work: April 15. Percentage of winter wheat hit by winter kill: 15%. Percent of normal nitrogen fertilizer supplies 85%. Feed Supplies: 8% very short, 25%

short, 63% adequate, 4% surplus. Stock Water 0% very short, 9% short, 81% adequate, 10% surplus. Major activities for producers in March included: Caring for new born calves, lambs, repairs, maintenance of farm machinery, waiting for warmer weather to dry up fields, livestock yards. Nitrogen supplies are plentiful, but producers are concerned with the higher costs of nitrogen, other fertilizers.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 1% very short, 3% short, 82% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 14% short, 77% adequate, 8% surplus. Wheat 2% poor, 25% fair, 62% good, 11% excellent; 33% jointed, 54% 2000, 46% avg.; 87% top-dressed, 94% 2000, 72% avg. Apples 50% budding or beyond, 92% 2000, 69% avg.; 3% blooming or beyond, 33% 2000, 25% avg. Peaches 74% budding or beyond, 94% 2000, 85% avg.; 32% blooming or beyond, 74% 2000, 64% avg. Pastures 3% very poor, 16% poor, 34% fair, 44% good, 3% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 6% poor, 33% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent. Hay Stocks 4% very short, 18% short, 69% adequate, 9% surplus. Below freezing temperatures during the first half of last week caused only limited damage to the peach, apple crops. Peach damage was thought to be mostly light to moderate, while very little to no damage was reported to the apple crop. Cool temperatures have delayed overall tree development, kept the damage from being more severe. The State's strawberry crop was also in danger last week but many large growers were able to irrigate their plants, protect them from the freezing temperatures. The extent of any damage is unknown at this time. Other agricultural activities taking place last week included: Fertilizing wheat, pastures, hay fields. Cotton growers were also busy preparing their fields for planting.

TEXAS: Widespread rains crossed the state periodically during the week. Portions of state saw snow flurries during the same period while the remainder of state received additional rainfall. As a result of the widespread rains, land preparation, planting was placed on hold until drying could occur. Planting deadlines were becoming critical for some crops, growers were becoming uneasy about continued setbacks. Growth in small grains continued however, slowed as temperatures remained cool to cold across the state. Supplemental feeding remained active in many locations however, pasture grazing continued to be more available in most areas of the state. Damage to pastures resulting from trampling continued in many locations. Sickness in livestock remained constant as wether conditions were generally unfavorable, some deaths were reported from grazing on wild mustard. Field Crops: Small Grains: Growth progress continued in most locations across the state however, minimal progress continued in varied locations across the Plains as conditions were wet, cold. Fertilization remained active in some locations during early week, problems with rust became more active in some locations. State-wide wheat 64% of normal compared with 37% 2000. Corn: Planting, land preparation was suspended as conditions became too wet early in the week. Emergence of earlier planted fields continued in the same locations with some good stands being observed. Seed rotting remained a problem in some wetter locations, concerns escalated over further delays in planting in some portions of Central state. Planting will begin on the Plains whenever adequate drying occurs. Corn Emerged Published, 20%, 46% 2000, 28% Average. Cotton: Land preparation was halted across most portions of the state as additional rainfall was received in most areas. Planting in southern locations was also stalled as soil moisture was high, soil temperatures were too low. Sorghum: Planting, land preparation was slow or stalled as rains crossed the state. Emergence of earlier planted fields continued, good stands were reported. Peanuts: Land preparation was discontinued across the state as the result of further rain fall, planting in southern locations was also halted as additional rainfall was received. Rice: Planting was active in early week but, limited to areas where adequate drying had occurred. Rice Emerged, Published 2%, 25% 2000, 8% Average. Soybeans: Planting was active in isolated southern locations during early week but, stalled later as additional rainfall was received. Commercial Vegetables, Fruit, Pecans. Rio Grande Valley harvest of cool season vegetables remained active, onion harvest continued. Watermelons, cantaloupes made good progress. San Antonio-Winter Garden Harvest continued for spinach, cabbage in some locations. Carrot harvest was light, spring onions made good progress. Watermelon, cantaloupe planting continued but, earlier planted fields had to be watered in some locations where the rains missed. Land preparation was slow as rains were received in some locations. State additional rainfall was received across the area which further delayed any additional planting or land preparation. Potatoes have rotted in the fields from excessive moisture in some locations. High Plains

land preparation was stalled as additional rainfall was received. Drying will be needed before progress in preparation or planting can resume. Pecans: budding out continued to move northward as temperatures permitted. Peaches: fruit setting continued in Southern locations and blooming continued to move northward. More effects of previous frost damage were noticed by some producers but, a good crop is expected. Range, Livestock: Weather conditions were again hard on livestock across the Plains as sudden drops in temperature, additional rainfall was experienced. Additional supplemental feeding was required as a result of these conditions in varied locations across the state. Pasture seeding, grass sprigging continued where possible. Health problems in livestock were still common, especially bloat and pneumonia, some death occurred as a result of grazing on wild mustard. Black Flies remained a constant problem for some producers. Water available for livestock continued to be short in some locations, pasture recovery remained slow where soil moisture remained inadequate.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 4. Topsoil 7% short, 87% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% short, 89% adequate, 6% surplus. Winter wheat: 2% poor, 16% fair, 73% good, 9% excellent; freeze damage 83% none, 14% light, 2% moderate, 1% severe. Spring wheat 30%: planted, 10% emerged. Barley: 19% planted; 4% emerged. 18% fair, 77% good, 5% excellent; freeze damage 87% none, 11% light, 2% moderate. Oats 16% planted; emerged 9%. Cows calved 58%. Sheep sheared on farm: 27%; on range 17%. Ewes lambed: on farm 40%; on range 17%. Range, Pasture feed 23% poor, 28% fair, 45% good, 4% excellent. Percent of normal Nitrogen fertilizer supplies 95%. Major farm, ranch activities included: Spring planting, shearing sheep, lambing and calving. Many counties have benefitted from winter snow and spring rain storms, improving soil moisture and helping rangelands green up. Nitrogen availability looks good, but higher costs compared to last year may cause cutbacks on use.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.3. Topsoil 1% very short, 9% short, 61% adequate, 29% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 33% short, 60% adequate, 3% surplus. Pasture 8% very poor, 18% poor, 34% fair, 36% good 4% excellent. Livestock 4% poor, 29% fair, 59% good, 8% excellent. Winter Wheat 5% very poor, 14% poor, 36% fair, 37% good, 8% excellent. Barley 3% very poor, 18% poor, 43% fair, 30% good, 6% excellent. Other Hay 3% very poor, 6% poor, 48% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 2% very poor, 2% poor, 41% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Tobacco Greenhouse 7% fair, 55% good, 38% excellent. Tobacco Plantbeds 2% poor, 16% fair, 58% good, 24% excellent. Apples 27% fair, 68% good, 5% excellent. Peaches 1% poor, 32% fair, 67% good. Tobacco Greenhouse 99% seeded, 97% 2000, 98% 5-yr avg. Tobacco Plantbeds 97% seeded, 98% 2000, 94% 5-yr avg. Summer Potatoes 92% planted, 87% 2000, 70% 5-yr avg. Nitrogen fertilizer supplies 100%. Temperatures for the week were several degrees below normal for most localities. Top soil moisture levels have improved due to rainfall this past week. Cool temperatures, wet conditions have delayed spring field activities. Small grains are reported as having good color, however growth is slower than normal. Fields, supplies are being readied for corn planting. Greenhouses are full of vegetable plants which are growing slower than normal due to the cooler than normal weather. Vegetable land is being worked, plastic mulch being laid. Tobacco greenhouses, plantbeds are looking good with no major problems being reported. Other activities for the week included: Fertilizer, lime spreading, potato planting, spring tillage, attending livestock, equipment auctions.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for field work averaged 4.3. Topsoil 2% very short, 23% short, 75% adequate. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 40% short, 53% adequate. The highest temperature state wide was 65° reported at Whitman Mission. The lowest temperature state wide was 19° in Omak. Temperatures have been close to ideal, recent rainfall is encouraging to agricultural producers who fear the worst about irrigation, energy supplies. Many parts of the western state are near 20 inches below normal season precipitation levels. Winter wheat was reported in good condition with a few reports of snow mold in dryland areas that will need replanting. Spring wheat, barley are beginning to be seeded. Early potato planting was underway. Pruning chores were nearly completed, early tree fruits were in bloom. Apple trees, cane fruits were starting to leaf out. Grapes survived the winter without any significant damage being reported. Spring calving, lambing was nearly completed in many areas of the state. Pasture feeds in the eastern part of the state were below average due to dry overwintering conditions. Western pastures, forage

fields grew rapidly from applications of chicken manure, fertilizer. Commercial daffodil flower growers reported excellent sales.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.8. Topsoil 7% short, 82% adequate, 11% surplus. Scattered showers and colder than normal temperatures made field activities difficult. Spring planting is behind schedule. Wheat 20% poor, 63% fair and 17% good. Hay 14% poor, 25% fair, 58% good, 3% excellent. Nitrogen fertilizer supplies were 94% normal. Intended Acreage Prepared for Spring Planting 9%, 40% 2000 and 28% 5-yr avg. Oats planted 0%, 20% 2000 and 16% 5-yr avg; Oats emerged 0%, 5% 2000 and 1% 5-yr avg. Tobacco beds seeded 48%, 60% 2000 and 54% 5-yr avg. Tobacco beds emerged 0%, 25% 2000 and 11% 5-yr avg. Apple condition 50% fair and 50% good. Peach condition 100% fair. Cattle 14% fair, 76% good, 10% excellent; Percent calved 75% and 75% 2000. Sheep 28% fair, 63% good, 9% excellent; Percent lambled 73% and 85% 2000. Hay & Roughage supplies 1% short, 80% adequate and 19% surplus. Feed Grain supplies 2% short, 81% adequate, 17% surplus. Activities: Calving, lambing and general maintenance.

WISCONSIN: The month was characterized normal temperatures and scattered snow and rainfall. Snow cover remains in the northern half of the state.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 3% very short, 42% short, 53% adequate, 2% surplus. Condition of winter wheat crop 11% very poor, 17% poor, 35% fair, 37% good. Winter wheat freeze damage 86% none, 14% light. Winter wheat wind damage 23% none, 39% light, 16% moderate, 22% severe. Barley planted 29%, 41% 2000, 35% average. Spring wheat planted 4%, 7% 2000, 11% average. Sugarbeets planted 3%. Nitrogen fertilizer available 99% normal. Producers were busy planting spring crops. Cattle condition 4% poor, 46% fair, 50% good. Calf condition 1% poor, 40% fair, 59% good. Spring calves born 59%, 60% 2000, 58% average. Calf losses 33% light, 64% normal, 3% heavy. Sheep condition 8% poor, 46% fair, 46% good. Lamb condition 1% poor, 22% fair, 77% good. Lamb losses 15% light, 84% normal, 1% heavy. Farm flock ewes lambled 65%, 67% 2000, 68% average. Farm flock sheep shorn 67%, 64% 2000, 71% average. Range flock ewes lambled 11%, 13% 2000, 9% average. Range flock sheep shorn 20%, 29% 2000, 27% average. Hay and other roughage supplies 26% very short, 57% short, 17% adequate. Range and pasture condition 13% very poor, 39% poor, 40% fair, 8% good. Ranchers were calving and lambing.