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ALABAMA: Warm than normal weather, combined with recent rain fall during the month of December had winter grazing in most areas of the state in decent condition. Soil conditions improved with these latest rains, but farmers and ranchers still hoped for more moisture during the remaining winter months. Hay supplies remained tight. However, most livestock producers felt they had ample feedstuffs to maintain their current herd sizes, and stopped selling cattle. The price of feed inputs such as cottonseed remained high.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARKANSAS: The first few weeks of December 2007 were unseasonably warm, particularly the week before Christmas, with precipitation above normal for the majority of the state. During the month of December, rainfall amounts ranged from approximately 1.5 inches to 8.0 inches, which left precipitation amounts in the north central portion of the state as much as 3 inches above normal. Although temperatures dropped slightly below normal towards the end of the month, the 2008 winter wheat crop was reported in mostly good condition. Pasture conditions throughout the state were in good condition and hay supplies were still ample. Some producers were feeding alternative feeds but only as a supplement to hay rations.

CALIFORNIA: California entered its rainy season at the beginning of December. Cold fronts moved throughout the state during the month. Grape growers continued to prune, tie vines, fertilize and apply insect and weed treatments. Stone fruit growers were also busy pruning, fertilizing, irrigating, and taking measures to control insects and weeds. Strawberries grew well in Fresno County and blueberry bushes continued to be planted. Planted winter forage crops benefited from the rainfall. Spring alfalfa emerged with a few fields being irrigated and treated to control weeds. Spring sugar beet fields developed in various stages with some being fertilized, irrigated, cultivated and treated to control insects, weeds and diseases. Harvest of vegetable crops continued despite the cool weather. Lots of ground area was bedded up for future planting. Citrus growers applied treatments to orchards in order to control fungus, insects, and weeds. Some citrus growers topped trees, also. Range conditions improved with December precipitation. Livestock received nutrient supplements in areas with ample pasture. Sheep grazed on abandoned fields and retired farmland. Fall beef cattle calving continued, as well as lambing, and kidding. Shipments of out-of-State bees continued to be moved into central California for the upcoming almond pollination season.

COLORADO: Colorado experienced above average amounts of snow in December. Producers received several, smaller snow storms compared with the devastating blizzards of last year. The winter wheat is in good condition due to the good moisture levels. Currently, the mountain snowpack in the northern regions is slightly below average, while the rest of the state is well-above average. Overall, mountain snowpack is currently 123% of average at this time. Average temperatures during December were slightly below normal.

DELAWARE: Hay supplies 100% very short, feed supplies 70% very short, 30% short. Livestock are in fair condition. Soil moisture was rated adequate to surplus. Small grains are maturing rapidly due to warm weather. Winter activities include working on farm equipment, going to agricultural conferences and getting ready for 2008 season.

FLORIDA: Sugarcane, cotton harvest continued throughout December. Harvest of peanuts nearly finished beginning of month. Locally grown pecans remained active, Starke County for holiday season. Rainfall end of month improved soil moisture condition of small grain fields. Vegetable growers continued to plant, harvest, irrigate crops. Some field activities interrupted by rain, middle of month, most harvesting on schedule to meet holiday demands. Some central peninsula counties, Hillsborough, did not receive adequate rainfall. Lack of rain, warm weather caused need for more irrigation and early harvest of strawberries, Plant City. Vegetables marketed

during month cabbage, strawberries, cucumbers, eggplant, snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, escarole, endive, lettuce, okra, peppers, radishes, squash, tomatoes, zucchini, broccoli. All major citrus packinghouses open during month, running at full capacity. Packing for fundraising programs was in full swing, first half of month. Harvested varieties Fallglo, Sunburst tangerines; early, Ambersweet, Navel oranges; grapefruit; a few tangelos. All processing plants open, running fruit, accepting field run or direct to processor fruit, packinghouse eliminations. Fruit sizes reported as small on all varieties, fruit sets higher than average. Overall, quality was good on varieties picked for fresh market. Grove activity mowing, spraying, fertilizing, young tree care. Some hedging, topping observed on east coast, southern area. Various methods used to control greening, deal with its effects. Pasture condition throughout State very poor to excellent, most fair due to drought, cold; cattle fair to good. At month's end, pasture in Panhandle, north very poor to good due to drought, cold, mostly fair. Stock pond water levels low. Southwest pasture condition mostly good. Statewide cattle condition very poor to excellent, mostly fair.

GEORGIA: The state experienced considerable temperature variability during the month of December, alternating between warm and cold weather. Some much needed rainfall was received in December, especially in the last week of the month. Crop conditions remained stable during December. Rains helped wheat stands emerge and spurred winter grazing growth. Winter wheat, that had emerged, was progressing well. Farmers irrigated regularly to alleviate the continuing drought conditions. Pastures were in generally poor to very poor condition. Ponds used for livestock continued to dry up. Affected producers were seeking alternative water sources. Other activities included harvesting cotton, planting wheat, feeding hay to livestock, and the routine care of poultry and livestock.

HAWAII: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Soil moisture remained mostly adequate to surplus. Banana orchards were in fair condition. Trees were recovering from leaves shredded by previous periods of gusty winds. Banana bunchy top virus remained isolated in some areas of the Big Island. Papaya orchards were in variable condition. Normal field activities were resuming. Weeds were a problem in some orchards. Vegetables were in improved condition. Fields were drying-out from previous rains, but crop progress was slowed by cloudy skies that prevailed for most of the week. Trade weather continued for most of the week. An old shearline added to showers that were brought in by the trade winds. In general, most showers were light and concentrated in windward areas. Days became sunnier as the week progressed with Sunday being a relatively warm day. On January 2, 2008, the State Department of Agriculture determined that the Waimanalo reservoir had sufficiently recovered from previous low levels and rescinded earlier water conservation measures. Users of the Waimanalo irrigation system will be asked to conserve water use by reducing their normal consumption by 10 percent. This action follows similar water restriction downgrades by the County of Hawaii on December 27 and by the County of Maui on December 20.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 0.5. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 19% short, 75% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay and roughage supply 1% very short, 12% short, 87% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 13% fair, 81% good, 6% excellent. Snow is reported throughout most of Idaho. Calving is at 2% and lambing at 1% complete. Cattle are reported in good condition.

ILLINOIS: Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 9% short, 80% adequate, 5% surplus. Temperatures across Illinois for the month of December were average. Soil moisture levels have improved due to the recent rains and snowfall. Precipitation for the month averaged over 1 inch above normal. Hauling grains and planning for 2008 plantings are keeping producers busy. Sale prices for land and cash rent prices continue to increase as farmers make rental arrangements.

Livestock is doing well and favorable weather conditions have aided the development of this year's winter wheat crop. As of January 6 the condition of the wheat crop 2% poor, 20% fair, 62% good, 16% excellent.

INDIANA: Weather during December can be described as warm and wet. The average state temperature was 32.3o which was 1.1o above normal. Total precipitation averaged 5.07 inches which was 2.01 inches above normal. The winter wheat crop is reported to be in mostly good condition across the state. Most of the northern and central portions of the state had adequate snow cover to protect the wheat against the freezing temperatures that came at the end of the month. Only a minimal amount of field work was accomplished during December due to wet soil conditions throughout most of the month. Some fertilizer and manure was spread as field conditions permitted. Livestock are in mostly good condition with only some stress being reported from the cold temperatures at the end of the month. The short hay supply and high prices are a concern for many livestock producers. Other activities included financial planning, pricing inputs, preliminary tax preparation, reviewing leases with landlords, spreading fertilizer and manure, moving grain to market, cleaning and storing equipment and taking care of livestock.

IOWA: The average depth of snow cover for the month of December was 7 inches, well above last year's average of no snow cover. Frost penetration averaged 9 inches compared to last year's 2 inches. Soil moisture 0% very short, 5% short, 78% adequate, 17% surplus. Grain movement for the state 27% none, 32% light, 36% moderate, 5 percent heavy. Hay and roughage supplies 19% short, 77% adequate, 4% surplus. Quality of hay and roughage supplies 8% poor, 42% fair, 50% good. Utilization of stubble fields for grazing rated 45% none, 33% limited, 15% moderate, 7% extensive. Hog and pig losses in December were 19% below average, 79% average, 2% above average. Cattle and calf losses 21% below average, 75% average, and 4% above average.

KANSAS: The State experienced below normal temperatures for the month of December, which was accompanied by rain, snow, and ice storms throughout the state. Much of the State received freezing rain or heavy snowfall at some point during December. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 9% short, 77% adequate, 9% surplus. Wheat condition 7% very poor, 16% poor, 30% fair, 43% good, 4 % excellent. Wind damage to the wheat crop across the state was 92% no damage, and 8% having light wind damage. Freeze damage has been rated at 88% with no damage, 10% with light damage, 2% of the wheat has moderate freeze damage. Feed grain supplies 5% short, 88% adequate, 7% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 10% short, 86% adequate, and 4% surplus.

KENTUCKY: The first week of December experienced below normal temperatures and above normal rainfall. Two Alberta Clippers systems entered the northern half of Kentucky early in the week followed by a warm front from Texas that entered the state later in the week. Temperatures warmed up from the 30s to the 60s by week's end. Temperatures for the week averaged 37 degrees across the state, which were 3.4 degrees below normal and 5 degrees cooler than last week. The Clippers provided a mix of winter precipitation and rain as the warm front caused numerous showers. Rainfall for the period totaled 1.17 in. statewide, 0.13 in. above normal. Above normal temperatures with above normal precipitation was experienced the second week of December. Temperatures approached 70 degrees for many locations on Tuesday. By Thursday temperatures for many locations had returned to seasonal normal but continued a downward trend into the weekend when a winter storm moved through the Ohio River valley. Temperatures for the period averaged 44 degrees across the state, which were 8 degrees above normal and 7 degrees warmer than the previous week. Precipitation for the week totaled 3.71 in. statewide, 2.75 in. above normal. Since the first of December some western and central locations had received nearly 10 in. of rainfall. The third week of December experienced above normal temperatures and near normal rainfall. Early in the week seasonal temperatures warmed into the low 50s by mid-week. Slightly warmer conditions finished up the week. Temperatures for the week averaged 40 degrees across the state, which were 6 degrees above normal and 4 degrees cooler than the previous week. The week started off dry but turned wet by week's end. Precipitation for the week totaled 0.86 in. statewide which was normal. Above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation were experienced the fourth week of December. Temperatures the last week of 2007 started warmer than normal. Then seasonal temperatures continued through the weekend. Temperatures for the week averaged 38 degrees across the state, which were 4 degrees above normal and 2 degrees cooler than the previous week. Precipitation for the week totaled 0.70 in. statewide, which was 0.18 in. below normal. During December farming activities moved indoors. With the excellent grain prices experienced this fall, farmers have been

actively marketing their corn and soybeans. Tobacco producers continued to strip their burley tobacco as December rains made stripping favorable. Tobacco was delivered to Tobacco Contract Stations. Wet weather during December at times taxed operators that keep their cattle on pasture year round.

LOUISIANA: Harvesting of sugarcane was finished by the 1st week of December. Sugarcane producers were approximately two weeks behind due to poor harvesting conditions. The state averaged 3.94 inches of rain over the last 4 weeks. Citrus producers were spraying to control diseases. Strawberries were being harvested. Livestock producers were fertilizing winter pastures and feeding hay. Crawfish producers were putting out traps. Early reports have indicated that this will be a very good year for crawfish producers. Other activities included repairing and cleaning equipment.

MARYLAND: Hay supplies 28% very short, 48% short, 24% adequate. Livestock are in good condition. Winter grains are in good condition. Soil moisture was rated adequate to surplus. Farmers are feeding livestock, working on equipment and attending agricultural conferences.

MICHIGAN: The precipitation for the past four weeks ending January 6 varied from 0.86 inches northwest Lower Peninsula to 2.54 inches southeast Lower Peninsula. Field activities were slow due to the recent snowfalls. Farmers were hauling corn and soybeans from home storage to market and fixing equipment. The warmer than normal fall season allowed the "late planted" wheat to get a good start before winter conditions set-in. Moderate snowfall provided good insulation for the dormant crop. However, the recent warm up and snow melt could have an adverse affect on the winter wheat crop. Sugarbeet processing was approximately 65% complete.

MINNESOTA: Temperatures during December averaged from 3.0 degrees below normal in the West Central District to 0.2 degree below normal in the North Central District. Temperature extremes included a low of -29 degrees at Hibbing, and a high of 40 degrees at Grand Marais and Canby. Precipitation averaged from 0.27 inch above normal in the West Central District to 0.97 inch above normal in the Northeast District. Greatest monthly precipitation of 2.45 inches was recorded in Duluth. Snow cover across the state ranged from approximately 4 inches in the south to 18 inches in the northeast corner of the state. Depth of frost ranged from 12 to 36 inches according to farmer reports. Reported feed supplies ranged from fully adequate to short. Grazing of livestock was generally prohibitive due to snow cover. Livestock conditions were generally good.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Soil moisture 2% very short, 12% short, 85% adequate, 1% surplus. Feed Grain 0% very short, 11% short, 89% adequate, 0% surplus. Wheat 100% emerged, - - 2007, -- 5 yr avg. The lack of sufficient rainfall has extended into the New Year for some Mississippi producers. Freezing temperatures have slowed the growth of winter forages and may cause some damage to winter wheat planted late in the season. Field conditions have been suitable for cool season vegetable crops and herbicides have been applied to limited acres of winter wheat to control weed growth. Overall, winter wheat is in good condition.

MISSOURI: December temperatures were near normal over most of the state, the exception being the northwest district, where readings were 2 to 4 degrees below normal. The month was wet with average precipitation of 4.05 inches, well above the long-term average of 2.67 inches. The state's winter wheat crop is judged to be in mostly good to excellent condition. Reporters in the major wheat counties indicated planted wheat acreage as above normal. However, one reporter also predicted that some wheat will be torn out and planted to another crop as farmers are encouraged by corn and soybean prices at or above all-time highs.

MONTANA: Topsoil moisture 24% very short, 6% last year, 46% short, 27% last year, 28% adequate, 66% last year, 2% surplus, 1% last year. Subsoil moisture 36% very short, 12% last year, 42% short, 47% last year, 21% adequate, 40% last year, 1% surplus, 1% last year. Winter wheat condition 2% very poor, 1% last year, 11% poor, 5% last year, 54% fair, 36% last year, 29% good, 47% last year, 4% excellent, 11% last year. Winter wheat wind damage 56% none, 48% last year, 38% light, 45% last year, 6% moderate, 7% last year, 0% heavy, 0% last year. Winter wheat freeze and drought damage 55% none, 54% last year, 36% light, 41% last year, 8% moderate, 5% last year, 1% heavy, 0% last year. Winter wheat protectiveness of snow cover 88% very poor, 61% last year, 7% poor, 12% last year, 3% fair, 13% last year, 2% good, 8% last year, 0% excellent, 6% last year. For the month ending December 31st, most areas of Montana experienced below normal precipitation. Swan Lake received the most accumulated moisture at 5.01 inches, and Thompson Falls had the second highest amount with 4.34 inches. Fields are very dry. Temperatures were above normal during the month. Jordan had the high of 67 degrees. Culbertson had the low of negative 20 degrees. Range and pasture

feed condition 16% very poor, 19% last year, 19% poor, 22% last year, 39% fair, 43% last year, 23% good, 12% last year, 3% excellent, 4% last year. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed 81%, 79% last year. Sheep and lambs receiving supplemental feed 84%, 83% last year. Livestock grazing 84% open, 82% last year, 11% difficult, 13% last year, 5% closed, 5% last year.

NEBRASKA: Wheat conditions 1% very poor, 4% poor, 35% fair, 56% good, 4% excellent. Hay and forage supplies 1% very short, 8% short, 89% adequate, 2% excellent. Cattle and Calves condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 17% fair, 78% good, 4% excellent. For the month of December 2007, unseasonably warm temperatures during the first few days quickly came to an end with the state's first major snowstorm and below zero temperatures. The second week saw more snow with the largest amounts accumulating in the Panhandle leaving more than a foot in some areas. The Southeast received a heavy ice storm that caused damage to trees and power lines in some areas. The winter weather left county roads snow and ice packed making the movement of grain difficult. Livestock producers were using more hay and other supplemental feeds since cattle were not able to utilize stock fields due to the snow cover. By the last week of the month, temperatures began to moderate. Depth of snow at the end of December averaged four and a half inches across the state, with the Northwest District reporting nearly nine inches. Temperatures averaged below normal the entire month. During the last week of the month, soil temperatures ranged from 28 in the Northwest District to 34 in the Northeast District.

NEVADA: Several storm systems passed through the state during December but the events were generally not extreme. Precipitation totals and temperatures averages were near normal. Snow began to accumulate in the mountains. Supplemental feeding of range livestock was common. Potato processing was ongoing. Onion sorting and shipping continued.

NEW ENGLAND: New England experienced near-record snowfall in December, 2007. Average high temperatures ranged from low 30s to low 40s north to south. Average low temperatures ranged from the single digits in northern Maine to the mid 20s in the south; slightly below average for the region. Total precipitation for the month was well above average in all areas. December began with below average temperatures across New England. Northern states experienced a snow storm on December 3, accumulating between 5.3 and 12.1 inches. The south saw mostly rain, averaging 0.5 inches of rainfall and a light dusting of snow. Snowstorms between December 11 and 13 brought heavy snow to the region and totals ranged from 5.4 to 11.9 inches. Another storm moved through New England on December 16 accumulating between 4.0 and 11.9 inches south to north. Northern Maine picked up an additional 8.0 to 9.0 inches of snow on December 17. Higher elevations of Vermont and New Hampshire experienced record breaking low temperatures in the negative teens on December 18. More snow moved through the area on December 20 bringing between 0.6 and 10.9 inches to the region. New England was given a break from the snow when unseasonably warm temperatures along with heavy rains and wind arrived on December 23 and 24. Temperatures remained above average throughout the rest of the month. December 31 brought another large snow storm to New England where totals ranged from a dusting in the south to 3.4 to 10.1 inches of snow in the North.

NEW JERSEY: Some farmers finished their 2007 season harvesting their remaining corn and soybean fields during the first few days of December. Where field conditions permitted, farmers continued to plant small grain crops. Temperatures were mostly below normal for the first week of December across most of the state. By the second week of December temperatures rose to near normal, and remained there till the end of the month, in most localities. Precipitation was near or above normal for December in most areas. There was over 4.0 inches of snow in Atlantic City on December 5, 2007.

NEW MEXICO: The week began with cold but dry conditions across all but the far southwest where mild temperatures lingered. Warmer temperatures prevailed statewide Thursday into Friday before a storm invaded the northwest and northern mountains for the weekend. Heavy snow fell throughout the weekend in Chama while a mixture of rain and snow was reported over the rest of northwest New Mexico. Rain showers Sunday in the mid Rio Grande Valley changed to snow showers in the northeast highlands from Las Vegas to Raton.

NEW YORK: Cold, snowy weather hindered outside activities and daily chores. Producers were kept busy clearing snow and ice. Major activities included caring for livestock, spreading manure, grading and packing potatoes, onions, apples and cabbage. Winter meetings and trade shows were well attended.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 4, the last week of the month, compared to 6.0 days from the week ending December 16. Soil moisture 12% very short, 14% short, 70% adequate, 4% surplus. Activities during the week included tending to livestock and general

farm maintenance. North Carolina received rain throughout the month of December, yet much of the state is still under severe drought. Temperatures were well above normal for the month with average temperatures ranging from 37 to 53 degrees. Total precipitation for the month was between 2.17 and 5.89 inches.

NORTH DAKOTA: Average snow cover was 3.2 inches on January 6. Hay and forage supplies 1% very short, 8% short, 81% adequate, 10% surplus. Snow cover protection for alfalfa 69% poor, 26% adequate, 5% excellent. Snow cover protection for winter wheat 57% poor, 32% adequate, 11% excellent. Cattle conditions 1% poor, 14% fair, 71% good, 14% excellent. Sheep conditions 2% poor, 14% fair, 65% good, 19% excellent. County and secondary roads 97% open, 2% difficult, 1% closed. Five percent were drifted, 6% icy, 2% muddy, 87% dry. Above normal temperatures during December in the western and south central districts were contrasted with near to below normal temperatures across the rest of the state. Above normal temperatures in the western parts of the state allowed livestock to continue to graze.

OHIO: Average December 2007 temperature 32.9 degrees, 1.2 degrees above normal. Precipitation averaged 4.94 inches, 2.03 inches above normal. Winter wheat reported in good to excellent condition. Winter wheat plantings completed earlier than normal due to excellent fall planting conditions resulting in good crop emergence. Cattle condition reported mostly good. Hay inventories short due to summer drought.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil moisture 7% very short, 33% short, 57% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 32% short, 58% adequate, 1% surplus. Wheat 10% very poor, 17% poor, 38% fair, 32% good, 3% excellent. Rye 8% very poor, 9% poor, 27% fair, 54% good, 2% excellent. Oats 18% very poor, 16% poor, 47% fair, 13% good, 6% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 6% poor, 34% fair, 51% good, 8% excellent. Pasture, Range 4% very poor, 13% poor, 40% fair, 38% good, 5% excellent. Livestock remained in mostly fair to good condition. Livestock marketings were average. In areas that remained without power for several days, loss of value in livestock was reported due to the closing of sale facilities and being unable to transport livestock to markets.

OREGON: High temperatures during the month of December ranged from 48 degrees in Lakeview up to 70 degrees in Hermiston. Low temperatures ranged from -10 degrees recorded in Burns, up to 30 degrees recorded in Bandon and Roseburg. Monthly average temperatures for the State varied mostly from the mid 20's to the mid 40's. Total precipitation, including rain or melted snow/ice, ranged from a high of 19.3 inches recorded in Detroit Lake to a low of just 0.08 inches in Redmond. The stations receiving the highest snowfall during December were Crater Lake with 76.7 inches and Government Camp with 48.0 inches. Chemult, Howard Prairie, and Odell Lake also received above 20 inches of snowfall and only 11 of the 41 stations did not receive any at all. According to the ODA Story of the Week, released in mid December, every licensed gas station in the State will be required to offer 10-percent ethanol blended fuel. This phased implementation is a result of Oregon's Biofuel Mandate that was signed into law in 2007 and will begin by requiring 9 counties in Northwest Oregon (Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington, Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, Yamhill, Polk, and Marion) to offer the blended fuel by January 15, 2008. All other counties west of the Cascades will follow by April 15th, and by September 16th, all counties throughout the State will be offering 10-percent ethanol blended fuel. An existing large scale ethanol production plant in Boardman, along with one scheduled to be built in Clatskanie, could potentially supply the State with the majority of its anticipated ethanol needs, thereby reducing dependence on non-local production. Precipitation levels for Crook/Deschutes counties were below normal for the month of December, while Malheur received slightly above average moisture. Snowpack levels in central Oregon appeared to be normal with the adequate amount of snowfall received in the mountains. Cold, wet, and windy weather conditions in areas kept agricultural activity to a minimum, as is normal for December. Nurseries and greenhouses were busy supplying Christmas trees and greenery for the holidays. No negative impacts were visible on crops such as grass seed, vegetable seed, and oats and peas, despite periodic ground freezes in some areas. The dry land wheat in north central counties went into the winter with a little less than ideal growth due to cooler soil temperatures. Acres planted were fairly steady for winter wheat in those dry land areas and growers are likely to monitor prices and soil moisture levels to make spring wheat planting decisions. There were some acreage increases in irrigated areas due to high wheat prices and early concerns about irrigation availability since wheat does not require water as far into the summer as competing crops do. There were also reports of previous grass seed fields in the Willamette Valley converting to wheat. Hay supplies continued to be limited and demand high, causing farmers to pay more for higher quality forage.

PENNSYLVANIA: Principal farm activities during the month of December included finishing off the corn and soybean harvests, attending organizational meetings, repairing barns and fences, spreading manure, and making final preparations for the winter weather. The Keystone state has experienced above normal temperatures during the month of December. Pennsylvania temperatures averaged 8 degrees above normal. The average high temperature for the month was 40.6 degrees and the average low was 28.7 degrees. December 23rd was the warmest day of the month coming in at 62 degrees. The lowest temperature of the month was 16 degrees on December 6th. The precipitation total for the month was 5.11 inches, which is 1.89 inches more than normal. On December 15th to 16th we received 1.33 inches of precipitation which was the highest total of measurable precipitation within a 24 hour period. This year the state has received more snow than last year. So far the state average for snowfall is 2.8 inches which is 1.7 inches below normal.

SOUTH CAROLINA: A cold front crossed the state early during the first week of December with only brief sprinkles and gusting northwest winds. The South Carolina Forestry Commission and rural fire departments responded to increased numbers of woods fires. The week's coldest morning was Thursday before a warming trend was observed through the weekend. Areas of dense fog were reported late in the week during early morning hours. On Sunday afternoon, high temperatures climbed to near the 80-degree mark. The state average temperature for the period was three degrees above normal. The state average rainfall for the first week was 0.0 inches. Record warmth was observed during the second week of the month. On Tuesday and Wednesday, numerous stations reported record high temperatures for the 11th and 12th. Charleston set a date record on Friday with 80 degrees. Saturday's precipitation, ahead of a sharp cold front was the heaviest since the rains that fell late in October. Central locations received between one and a half to three inches of soaking rains from thundershowers. Clearing was observed Sunday with much colder temperatures and gusting northwest winds peaking at 45 mph over Charleston. The state average temperature for the period was twelve degrees above normal. The highest official temperature reported was 83 degrees at Givhans on December 10, and at Orangeburg on December 11 and 12. The state average rainfall for the week was 1.4 inches. The season's coldest airmass settled into the state during the third Monday in December. Tuesday morning's low temperatures were the lowest in ten months. Cheraw reported 15 degrees, Dillon 19, and Allendale 20. A sharp change followed mid-week with milder conditions and areas of rainfall moving in from the southwest. Drenching rains fell over the southernmost counties Thursday evening into Friday morning. Winter 2007-08 began Saturday on a mild note and with unsettled conditions. Off and on showers accompanied northeast winds of between 15 and 20 mph. The week ended with rain showers exiting ahead of a cold front and clearing skies. The state average temperature for the period was near normal. The lowest official temperature reported was 14 degrees at Lake Bowen on the morning of December 18. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 4.21 inches at Pritchardville ending at 7:00 a.m. December 21. The state average rainfall for the period was 1.3 inches. During the last week of the month, temperatures on Monday morning fell to around freezing with areas of frost being observed. Christmas Day, Tuesday dawned under overcast skies, mild temperatures, and areas of rain moving south to north over the westernmost counties. By evening, thunderstorms were occurring over central sections with embedded heavy rains. The Greer NWS office reported sleet late Tuesday night into early Wednesday morning. A series of low-pressure systems continued a west to east motion across the state Thursday into the weekend with scattered showers and thunderstorms. Afternoon high temperatures over coastal counties on Saturday and Sunday warmed into the middle 70's. The week ended with rain exiting ahead of a cold front and clearing skies. The state average temperature for the last week of the year was seven degrees above normal, and average precipitation for the period was 2.3 inches. Even with the heavy rains that occurred, annual precipitation totals were near record lows for the year. Small grains and winter grazings were greatly helped by the moisture received late in the month. Hay stocks remain very short.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Average snow depth (inches) 3.4. Winter wheat snow cover 78% poor, 21% adequate, 1% excellent. Winter wheat 2% very poor, 4% poor, 40% fair, 46% good, 8% excellent. Alfalfa snow cover 45% poor, 44% adequate, 11% excellent. Feed supplies 1% very short, 9% short, 82% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 14% very short, 14% short, 68% adequate, 4% surplus. Calf deaths 15% below average, 82% average, 3% above average. Cattle condition 1% poor, 12% fair, 68% good, 19% excellent. Sheep, lamb deaths 11% below average, 89% average. Sheep condition 1% poor, 10% fair, 71% good, 18% excellent. Road conditions--county 100% open. Road conditions--township 97% open, 2% difficult, 1% closed. Overall

temperatures in December were below normal, but some western areas without snow cover saw near to above average temperatures. The western part of the state continues to be short of moisture.

TENNESSEE: Temperatures across the State were generally above normal, while precipitation amounts averaged below normal for the month. Some areas did get some much needed rain which has helped replenish water supplies for livestock producers. Cattle were rated in good-to-excellent condition. Hay supplies were rated as 70 percent very short-to-short. The winter wheat crop was rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition.

TEXAS: Fluctuating temperatures were observed during the month of December with very little rainfall. Small grains continued to struggle due to lack of rainfall. Cotton harvest was completed in the Panhandle, Edwards Plateau, and Trans-Pecos. Grain sorghum was complete in Northern High Plains. Pecan harvest continued in the Cross Timbers, Blacklands, and South Central Texas. Citrus and vegetable harvest continued in the Lower Valley. Supplemental feeding of hay increased across most areas of the state as pasture conditions continued to decline due to lack of rainfall.

UTAH: This December has been one of the wettest on record with several snow storms throughout the month. One of largest agriculture counties, Box Elder, (northern Utah) reports lower precipitation than the state average. Snow pack on the Bear River Drainage is at 68 percent of normal so there is still much concern about irrigation water for the coming growing season. Good winter storms in both the mountains and the valleys have helped the water situation in the southern part of the state. Cold temperatures have been the norm throughout the state. Temperatures have dipped below zero in some areas. With fields covered with snow most of the month and cold weather little field work has been done. Because of the snow cover winter grains are expected to endure the cold temperatures. Wheat producers that have not already sold grain are starting to sell some at very good if not record prices. Hay supplies are short and expensive. Cattle and sheep are doing well on winter ranges. Major activities this time of year are taking care of cattle including feeding hay and treating any sick animals. In Box Elder County producers will begin calving in the next couple of weeks. The cow herd in Wayne County and surrounding counties is now about 33 percent calved out but due to subzero temperatures some new born calves have been dying or suffering other maladies from freezing.

VIRGINIA: The Commonwealth experienced a mild and relatively dry December. Topsoil moisture was adequate but producers have concerns about low sub soil moisture. Small grains look good; they are a few weeks less mature than in previous years due to farmers waiting for adequate moisture before planting. Hay is still in short supply with elevated prices. Other activities this month included repairing fences and equipment, hunting, soil sampling and making planting decisions for 2008.

WASHINGTON: On the western side of the state, gale force winds with gusts exceeding 65 miles per hour roared through the county on December 14, 2007 leaving a path of destruction across the rural landscape not seen since the historical Columbus Day storm of October 12, 1962. Initial reports from Christmas tree growers suggest the year was about average in both retail and wholesale trees. On the eastern side, moisture conditions improved during December in most areas. The winter wheat was in mostly good condition, but somewhat smaller due to drought conditions last fall. Elsewhere, cattle where in good shape and the cold weather does not appear to have been harmful.

WEST VIRGINIA: Topsoil moisture 5% short, 87% adequate, 8% surplus, compared with 1% short, 66% adequate, 33% surplus last year. Hay and roughage supplies 6% very short, 38% short, 56% adequate compared to 2% very short, 9% short, 80% adequate, 9% surplus last year. Feed Grain Supplies 30% short, 70% adequate compared to 6% short, 94% adequate last year. Winter Wheat conditions 11% poor, 49% fair, 40% good, compared to 2% poor, 31% fair, 65% good, 2% excellent last year. Cattle and calves 9% poor, 29% fair, 58% good, 4% excellent compared to 1% very poor, 5% poor, 12% fair, 75% good, 7% excellent last year. Sheep and lambs s 19% poor, 31% fair, 47% good, 3% excellent compared to 1% very poor, 3% poor, 16% fair, 72% good, 8% excellent last year. Farming activities included feeding livestock and general maintenance.

WISCONSIN: December temperatures for the state of Wisconsin ranged from 3 degrees below normal to 1 degree above normal. Average high temperatures were in the mid 20s to the low 30s. Average low temperatures ranged from 8 to 20 degrees. Precipitation ranged from 1.07 inches in Wausau to 3.62 inches in Madison. Most areas received above normal snow fall for December. At the end of the month, the entire state had snow cover. Central areas had the most snow, with as much as 30 inches in some areas.

WYOMING: Topsoil moisture 18% very short, 32% short, 51%

adequate. Sub soil moisture 35% very short, 44% short, 21% adequate. Stock water supplies 8% very short, 28% short, 63% adequate, 1% surplus. Average depth of snow coverage 3 inches. Winter wheat condition 34% fair, 66% good. Winter wheat wind damage 58% none, 42% light. Winter wheat freeze damage 99% none,

1% light. Cattle condition 3% poor, 32% fair, 63% good, 2% excellent. Sheep conditions 4% poor, 25% fair, 68% good, 3% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 3% very short, 26% short, 71% adequate.
