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# Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

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**ALABAMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 1% short, 58% adequate, and 41% surplus. Corn 51% planted, 69% 2008, 67% avg.; 32% emerged, 38% 2008, 37% average. Cotton 0% planted, 3% 2008, and 11 % average. Percent of feed obtained from pastures 78%, N/A 2008, and N/A average. Winter wheat 33% headed, N/A 2008, and N/A average. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 28% fair, 62% good, and 8% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 6% poor, 26% fair, 55% good, and 13% excellent. Pasture and range condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 21% fair, 68% good, and 10% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 7% short, 81% adequate, and 12% surplus. Thunderstorms and high winds that occurred last week continue to delay fieldwork for producers in the state of Alabama. Many pastures and soils were still wet from rains over the past few weeks causing worry for some producers in getting their crops planted in an opportune manner. The US Drought Monitor from April 14, 2009 indicated that the state was once again 100 percent free from drought, which is an 80.1 percent decrease from approximately one year ago. The rains that have occurred have caused small grains to be in fair to good condition. As of April 16th, no cotton has been planted because of the wet soil. Dry weather in the southeastern part of the state has resulted in fair to good conditions for the corn crop. Windy and rain conditions setback producers 7 days from spraying peaches for Plum curculio. Cattle are in fair to good condition with the new growth in winter annuals, but pastures and hay fields have slowed due to the cool temperatures.

#### **ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE**

**ARIZONA:** Temperatures were below normal at most of the reporting stations across the State for the week ending April 19. Precipitation was reported at 4 of the 22 reporting stations. Cotton planting is complete on 35 percent of the acreage across the State. Small grains are headed on at least 60 percent of the acreage. Alfalfa harvest remains active on over three-quarters of the State's acreage. Alfalfa conditions are mostly good to excellent. Range and pasture conditions across the State are mostly fair.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil moisture 1% short, 50% adequate, 49% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% short, 63% adequate, 35% surplus. Corn 55% planted, 42% 2008, 78% avg.; 27% emerged, 25% 2008, 57% avg. Soybeans 6% planted, 4% 2008, 11% avg.; 1% emerged, 0% 2008, 0% avg. Sorghum 3% emerged, 0% 2008, 11% avg. Rain showers last week affected crop progress as wet fields limited row crop plantings and cool temperatures at night slowed crop emergence. Corn producers were able to plant an additional 12% of the crop last week, 13% ahead of 2008 but 23% behind the five-year average. Corn emerged jumped ahead of last year's progress for the first time this year but remained 30% behind the five-year average. Cotton farmers started planting last week. Rice planted increased 10%, 10% ahead of last year but 14% behind the five-year average. Sorghum growers planted 12% of the crop last week, 10% ahead of last year but 18% behind the five-year average. Soybean farmers only planted an additional 2% of the crop as the focus remained on getting the corn and rice crops in the ground. The rice, sorghum, and soybean crops were just beginning to emerge last week. Winter wheat 21% ahead of last year but 4% behind the five-year average. Winter wheat was in mostly fair to good condition, as reports of leaf blotch and stripe rust were observed in some areas. Livestock were in mostly fair to good condition. Pasture and range and hay crops were also in fair to good condition, with some reports of slow forage growth due to the cooler nighttime temperatures.

**CALIFORNIA:** Some dryland grain fields were showing poor development due to lack of rainfall. Oat, barley, wheat maturity dwindled due to below normal temperatures, overcast conditions.

Cutting of winter forage, other small grains for silage continued. Growers will be planting lima, freezer beans in the upcoming weeks. Rice fields were in all stages unplowed, plowed once, applying water, and other intermediate cultivations. Also rice fields were rolled, flooded, and a few fields were planted. The second cutting of alfalfa fields was in progress in the San Joaquin Valley. Corn fields continued to be planted. Cotton planting was underway. Potatoes continued to be harvested. Sweet potato transplanting, hot bed digging continued in Merced. Grape tying continued while vines leafed out. Spraying for mildew was necessary for some vineyards. Fruit tree bloom was mostly complete in the Sacramento Valley. Persimmon-stem elongation continued. Kiwis in the Sacramento Valley leafed out. Irrigation was necessary for most orchards throughout the state. Strawberry harvest began in the San Joaquin Valley. Early varieties of blackberries were starting to bloom in Tulare County. Cold temperatures caused some frost damage on pomegranate, kiwifruit, table grapes in the San Joaquin Valley. Late varieties of Navel oranges continue to be packed. Exports of Navel and Valencia oranges, lemons, tangelos continued. The Valencia orange harvest gained speed with good maturity, fruit quality. Almonds grew in size on the trees throughout the state. Scouting for ants in orchards began. Walnut-blight pesticide applications continued but were dictated by weather conditions. Orchards were flamed for weed control. Close monitoring of reservoir water supplies continued. The rate of harvest began to increase for head lettuce in Monterey County. In Kern County, lettuce was showing good progress; harvest was expected to begin soon. Potatoes, corn, and tomatoes were planted in San Joaquin County, where asparagus continued to be harvested. The harvest of asparagus in Merced County also progressed, while fresh market and processing tomatoes continued to be planted. Ground preparation and planting of tomato transplants, seed tomatoes continued in Sutter County. Winds in Fresno County damaged tomato plants, causing some to be replanted. Broccoli seed bloomed. Onions, garlic, carrots were irrigated, fertilized. Spring roadside stands in Tulare County were busy with very good quality. Spring vegetables, such as broccoli, cauliflower, mixed lettuce, beet greens will be available through the end of April. Early squash, zucchini were blooming and setting fruit, allowing for a limited harvest to begin. Pole cucumbers were kept under hot caps for another week due to wind, cold temperatures at night. Cattle and sheep were grazing Sutter Butte's rangeland. Central valley range conditions had not improved as grasses had reached maturity in many areas. Further south, rangeland and pasture were reported to be in fair condition. Supplemental feeding of hay and nutrients continued. Low milk prices combined with high feed prices and drought concerns continue to be a problem for dairymen. Early indications of honey production per colony appeared to be up compared with last spring.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for field work 4.0. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 20% short, 65% adequate 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 29% short, 52% adequate 8% surplus. Spring barley 34% planted, 43% 2008, 50% avg.; 19% emerged, 9% 2008, 19% avg. Dry onions 60% planted, 69% 2008, 75% avg. Sugarbeets 26% planted, 32% 2008, 47% avg. Summer potatoes 14% planted, 18% 2008, 25% avg. Spring wheat 27% planted, 33% 2008, 39% avg.; 12% emerged, 8% 2008, 12% avg. Winter Wheat 3% pastured, 1% 2008, 1% avg.; 24% jointed, 27% 2008, 32% avg. Colorado enjoyed some much needed moisture over the past week. A spring rain/snow storm brought measurable amounts of precipitation to the majority of the State. Mountain snowpack increased 10 percent to 111 percent of the average. Temperatures were rated at or slightly below average for the week.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil moisture 5%

short, 85% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 27% short, 65% adequate, 7% surplus. Hay supplies 8% very short, 23% short, 69% adequate. Pasture condition 3% very poor, 7% poor, 17% fair, 72% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 15% fair, 63% good, 17% excellent. Barley condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 13% fair, 69% good, 13% excellent; 100% emerged, 44% 2008, 35% avg. Corn 5% planted, 16% 2008, 11% avg.. Winter wheat 100% emerged, 100% 2008, 100% avg.; 0% headed, 3% 2008, 2% avg. Cantaloupe 0% planted, 1% 2008, 1% avg. Cucumbers 0% planted, 1% 2008, 1% avg. Green Peas 79% planted, 86% 2008, 66% avg. Potatoes 64% planted, 76% 2008, 59% avg. Snap Beans 2% planted, 2% 2008, 8% avg. Sweet Corn 3% planted, 10% 2008, 12% avg. Tomatoes 1% planted, 1% 2008, 1% avg. Apples 22% bloomed, 40% 2008, 34% avg. Peaches 48% bloomed, 97% 2008, 75% avg. Strawberries 24% bloomed, 43% 2008, 26% avg. Wet cool weather has generally delayed season for all crops. Early season strawberries and vegetables are behind 1-2 weeks. Corn planting progress is very slow, with farmers becoming anxious to get the crop in. Wet weather has hampered most field operations."

**FLORIDA:** Topsoil moisture 24% very short, 45% short, 27% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 25% very short, 41% short, 31% adequate, 3% surplus. Potato harvest active. Palatka some potato fields eroded due to heavy rain. St. Johns County potatoes good condition. Big Bend, Panhandle Growers still preparing fields, planting corn, tobacco, peanuts. Minor flooding, Panhandle low areas. Strawberry harvest ended Hillsborough County, continued Washington, Bradford counties. Columbia County some frost damage to beans, peppers, tomatoes. Suwannee Valley about 15% squash killed by frost. Hardee County blueberries experienced severe frost damage. Cutting watermelons, southern Peninsula. Tomato, sweet corn, bean, squash harvest wrapping up, Dade County. Other vegetables marketed blueberries, snap beans, cabbage, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, collard greens, peppers, radishes, squash, tomatoes, specialty items. Due to dry conditions, citrus trees ranged from poor in groves with less maintenance and little irrigation to good in well-cared-for groves. Next year's fruit progressed to about pea size. Some newly formed fruit falling off trees, adjusting for amount they can carry. Caretakers applied nutritional sprays to assist trees in holding fruit for next season. Valencia crop harvest increased to over 6 million boxes for week. Honey tangerine harvest about over for season after dropping to 5,000 boxes harvested last week. Grapefruit harvest remains strong with majority of colored, white going processed. Pasture feed 10% very poor, 30% poor, 44% fair, 15% good, 1% excellent. Cattle condition 4% very poor, 20% poor, 40% fair, 35% good, 1% excellent. Panhandle pasture condition poor to excellent, warmer temperature. Pasture condition poor due to flooding. Cattle condition poor to excellent. North pasture condition poor to good, most fair. Cool season pasture seasonally finished. Permanent pasture very poor to poor due to damaging frost. Poor forage growth due to cool nighttime temperatures. Flooding affected some pasture. Supplemental hay feeding active. Central pasture very poor to good. Loss of forage production, due to drought, drying winds. Cattle condition very poor to good. Southwest pasture condition very poor to good, most fair. Most rangeland producing adequate forage for cattle, some pasture showing damage from frost. Statewide cattle condition very poor to excellent, most fair to good.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 1% short, 58% adequate, 41% surplus. Soil moisture conditions 0% very short, 1% short, 58% adequate, and 41% surplus. Corn 5% very poor, 18% poor, 40% fair, 34% good, 3% excellent; 73% planted, 83% 2008, 82% avg.; 60% emerged, 64% 2008, 68% avg. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 4% poor, 31% fair, 56% good, 9% excellent; jointing 97%, 99% 2008, 97% avg.; boot 85%, 86% 2008, 85% avg.; 53% headed, 55% 2008, 63% avg. Range and pasture 2% very poor, 7% poor, 34% fair, 50% good, 7% excellent. Hay 2% very poor, 6% poor, 45% fair, 41% good, 6% excellent. Onions 0% very poor, 0% poor, 21% fair, 79% good, 0% excellent. Peaches 0% very poor, 14% poor, 33% fair, 53% good, 0% excellent. Watermelons 2% very poor, 27% poor, 44% fair, 25% good, 2% excellent; 66% planted, 81% 2008, 75% avg. Soybeans 0% planted, 1% 2008, 1% avg. Sorghum 4% planted, 17% 2008, 10% avg. Apples 48% blooming, 54% 2008, 61% avg. Onions 7% harvested, 6% 2008, 10% avg. Peanuts 0% planted, 0% 2008, 1% avg. Tobacco transplanted 25%, 48% 2008, 55% average. Tornadoes in Hancock County caused some agricultural damage, pecan growers lost trees and there were livestock losses as well. More rainfall caused further delays in preparing fields and pecan spraying. In some areas, wet conditions have restricted

fertilizer applications to pastures, slowed cutting small grains and prevented corn planting. Diseases spread in wheat, primarily powdery mildew.

**HAWAII:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7. The trade wind weather pattern that had been dominant for the past few weeks gave way to a more convective weather pattern during the latter part of the week. Precipitation was light to moderate over windward and mountain locations during the early part of the week but changed to light interior showers by Friday. Soil moisture levels were adequate in most areas. Banana orchards continued in fair to good condition. Harvesting is expected to be light to moderate. Most papaya orchards were in fair to good condition. Warmer temperatures allowed for improved fruit development. Head cabbage crop was in mostly good condition. Harvesting of sweet corn on Oahu fields was active with good ear size and quality.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for field work 4.2. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 4% short, 79% adequate, 17% surplus. Field corn 1% planted, 2% 2008, 6% avg. Winter wheat jointed 10%, 0% 2008, 9% avg.; boot stage 0%, 0% 2008, 1% avg. Onions 95% planted, 96% 2008, 88% avg.; 52% emerged, 15% 2008, 39% avg. Potatoes 5% planted, 11% 2008, 10% avg. Oats 33% planted, 42% 2008, 43% avg.; 18% emerged, 18% 2008, 19% avg. Dry peas 8% planted, 7% 2008, 38% avg.; 4% emerged, 1% 2008, 11% avg. Lentils 1% planted, 0% 2008, 22% avg. Calving complete 95%, 95% 2008, 96% avg. Lambing complete 94%, 93% 2008, 95% avg. Hay and roughage supply 0% very short, 30% short, 64% adequate, 6% surplus. Irrigation water supply 0% very poor, 0% poor, 7% fair, 76% good, 17% excellent. Sugarbeets 7% emerged, 5% 2008, 19% avg. Spring wheat 13% emerged, 7% 2008, 20% avg. Barley 31% planted, 38% 2008, 40% avg.; 4% emerged, 6% 2008, 16% avg. Range and pasture 0% very poor, 0% poor, 25% fair, 45% good, 30% excellent. Many farm operators used favorable weather to catch up on planting. Statewide, sugarbeet and onion planting increased from last week by 37 and 40 percent, respectively. Most crops plantings are closing on their five year average in the southern part of the state. Statewide, winter wheat condition remains mostly good.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.2. Topsoil moisture 27% adequate and 73% surplus. Oats 50% planted, compared to 34% 2008 and 68% for the five-year average. Winter wheat conditions stood at 1% very poor, 7% poor, 27% fair, 56% good, and 9% excellent. Alfalfa conditions stood at 2% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, and 7% excellent. Pasture conditions 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 62% good, and 11% excellent. Red clover conditions 1% very poor, 1% poor, 24% fair, 57% good, and 17% excellent. Planting activities across Illinois were limited this past week, due to cool, damp conditions. Fields across the state are saturated. Seed deliveries and equipment maintenance are the major producer activities. Temperatures averaged 50.3 degrees, 3.2 degrees below normal across the state. Statewide precipitation averaged 1.11 inches, 0.16 inch above normal.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.0. Topsoil moisture 37% adequate, 63% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% short, 57% adequate, 41% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 25%, 25% 2008, 41% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 56% good, 20% excellent. Pasture condition 4% very poor, 11% poor, 31% fair, 44% good, 10% excellent. Temperatures ranged from 10 above normal to 60 below normal with a low of 25o and a high of 79o. Precipitation averaged from 0.24 inches to 2.02 inches. Another cool, wet week kept field work to a minimum around the state. A limited amount of light tillage work, fertilizer applications and pre-plant chemical burndown applications were accomplished late in the week before weekend rain showers again halted field work. Most of the oat acreage has been planted at this time. Some new alfalfa fields have also been seeded. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Calving continues on many livestock operations with a low death rate being reported. Hay supplies are reported to be mostly adequate at this time. Feeding of hay has slowed due to improving pasture conditions. Other activities included hauling grain to market, preparing planting and tillage equipment, taking care of livestock, cleaning fence rows and completing paper work at local FSA offices.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Top soil moisture 8% short, 78% adequate, and 14% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% short, 79% adequate, and 18% surplus. Fertilizer applied, including fall application, 74% complete, 73% average, 60% last year. Oats 70% seeded, 60% average, last year 13%. Pasture and range condition 3% very poor, 18% poor, 41% fair, 32% good, 6% excellent. Corn 6% planted, 10% average, 0% last year. Lots of field activities, including fertilizer and

chemical applications, tiling and waterway repairs, drilling oats, disking corn stalks, and planting corn.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for field work 1.7. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 6% short, 68% adequate, and 25% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 12% short, 73% adequate, and 14% surplus. Fifty-four percent of the wheat has jointed, 38% last year, 69% 5-yr avg. Wind damage to wheat was rated 67% no damage, 26% light damage, 6% moderate damage, 1% severe. Freeze damage was rated 58% no damage, 29% light damage, 10% moderate damage, 3% severe. Insect infestation in wheat rated 83% none, 14% light, 2% moderate, and 1% severe. Disease infestation in wheat rated 80% none, 17% light, and 3% moderate. Range and pasture condition 5% very poor, 12% poor, 36% fair, 43% good, 4% excellent. Feed grain supplies 7% short, 91% adequate, and 2% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 11% short, 82% adequate, and 7% surplus. Stock water supplies are 8% short, 80% adequate, and 12% surplus.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for field work 2.2. Topsoil moisture 2% short, 49% adequate, 49% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 7% short, 68% adequate, 24% surplus. Tobacco transplants 89% seeded, 65% emerged. Condition of transplants 1% very poor, 2% poor, 23% fair, 56% good, 18% excellent. Average height of Alfalfa 10 inches. Wheat condition 2% poor, 24% fair, 50% good, 24% excellent. Wheat winter kill 2%. Pasture condition 3% very poor, 11% poor, 35% fair, 45% good, 6% excellent. Cool weather and wet conditions prevented the majority of field work.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Soil moisture 73% adequate and 27% surplus. Corn 99% planted, 100% 2008, 99% avg.; 85% emerged, 94% 2008, 89% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 43% fair, 48% good and 4% excellent. Sorghum 17% planted, 57% 2008, and 50% avg. Soybeans 17% planted, 27% 2008, and 16% avg. Wheat 97% headed, 96% 2008, 88% avg.; 1% very poor, 3% poor, 28% fair, 60% good, 8% excellent. Spring plowing 91% plowed, 80% 2008, 82% avg. Sugarcane 1% very poor, 11% poor, 35% fair, 48% good, 5% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 59% good, 6% excellent. Vegetable 0% very poor, 7% poor, 38% fair, 53% good, 2% excellent. Range and pasture 0% very poor, 5% poor, 36% fair, 54% good, 5% excellent. Hay 1st Cutting 6%, 13% 2008, and 8% avg.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 12% short, 69% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 23% short, 65% adequate, 12% surplus. Hay supplies 7% very short, 12% short, 80% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 15% fair, 67% good, 17% excellent. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 38% good, 36% excellent. Barley 0% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 46% good, 27% excellent; 100% emerged, 43% 2008, 13% avg.; 0% headed, 0% 2008, 0% avg. Corn 6% planted, 7% 2008, 8% avg.; 0% emerged, 0% 2008, 0% avg. Soybeans 0% planted, 0% 2008, 0% avg. Winter wheat 100% emerged, 100% 2008, 100% avg.; 1% headed, 0% 2008, 1% avg. Cantaloup 0% planted, 6% 2008, 8% avg. Cucumbers 0%, 9% 2008, 9% avg. Green Peas 59% planted, 71% 2008, 52% avg. Potatoes 52% planted, 78% 2008, 55% avg. Snap Beans 9% planted, 9% 2008, 4% avg. Sweet corn 13% planted, 22% 2008, 15% avg. Tomatoes 14% planted, 14% 2008, 20% avg. Watermelons 0% planted, 4% 2008, 10% avg. Apples 4% bloomed, 26% 2008, 16% avg. Peaches 29% bloomed, 40% 2008, 35% avg. Strawberries 49% bloomed, 49% 2008, 36% avg. Wet cool weather has generally delayed season for all crops. Early season strawberries and vegetables are behind 1-2 weeks. Corn planting progress is very slow, with farmers becoming anxious to get the crop in. Wet weather has hampered most field operations."

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 1% very short, 6% short, 57% adequate, 36% surplus. Subsoil 0% very short, 3% short, 67% adequate, 30% surplus. Range and pasture condition 4% very poor, 28% poor, 33% fair, 31% good, 4% excellent. Precipitation amounts ranged from .10 inches in the northeast Lower Peninsula to 1.46 inches in the southeast Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 2 degrees above normal in the western Upper Peninsula, northwest Lower Peninsula, and west central Lower Peninsula to 26 degrees above normal in the northeast Lower Peninsula. Above normal temperatures during the week enabled good progression in field preparation and planting of sugarbeets across much of the State. Winter wheat conditions were variable; significant winterkill was reported in some northwestern fields and other poorly drained fields across the State. Apple buds were noticeable and at silver tip in northwest orchards; coming out of silver tip in some west central orchards. Farm activities for the week included calving, topdressing winter wheat, spreading manure, pruning fruit trees and clearing brush.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil moisture 3%

very short, 15% short, 55% adequate, 27% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 13% short, 64% adequate, 19% surplus. Corn 15% land prepared, 2% 2008, 9% avg. Soybeans 3% land prepared, 1% 2008, 3% avg. Potatoes 7% planted, 1% 2008, 6% avg. April 21, 2009 is the approximate date full scale fieldwork will begin. Spring tillage and planting progressed across southeast Minnesota as daytime highs reached the low 70s and rainfall was minimal. Conversely, fieldwork was limited across the central and north as farmland remains saturated in many locations following a wet fall and a cool, wet start to spring. Other major farm activities included fertilizing, weed control and spring calving.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Soil moisture 2% short, 37% adequate and 61% surplus. Corn 84% planted, 85% 2008, 88% avg.; 61% emerged, 67% 2008, 74% avg.; 0% very poor, 6% poor, 38% fair, 52% good, 4% excellent. Cotton 0% planted, 1% 2008, 8% avg. Rice 17% planted, 29% 2008, 33% avg.; 4% emerged, 4% 2008, 11% avg. Sorghum 6% planted, 17% 2008, 28% avg. Soybeans 15% planted, 22% 2008, 39% avg.; 5% emerged, 7% 2008, 22% avg. Winter Wheat 96% jointing, 99% 2008, 98% avg.; 81% heading, 63% 2008, 68% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 20% fair, 57% good, 18% excellent. Hay (harvested-cool) 12%, 13% 2008, 13% avg. Watermelons 71% planted, 75% 2008, 64% avg. Blueberries 0% very poor, 1% poor, 57% fair, 40% good, 2% excellent. Cattle 2% very poor, 6% poor, 31% fair, 45% good, 16% excellent. Pasture 1% very poor, 5% poor, 18% fair, 60% good, 16% excellent. Continuous rainfall and cooler temperatures have halted fieldwork in several parts of the state. Some producers were able to plant corn and soybeans in the drier areas.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.7. Topsoil moisture 1% short, 51% adequate, and 48% surplus. Spring tillage 32%, 18% 2008, 56% normal. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 9% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, and 3% excellent. Cooler weather and rain across the state hampered fieldwork, some planting progress was made. Rainfall averaged 1.30 inches across the state.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for field work 3.7. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 28% last year, 10% short, 42% last year, 76% adequate, 30% last year, 13% surplus, 0% last year. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 40% last year, 26% short, 39% last year, 67% adequate, 21% last year, 3% surplus, 0% last year. Field tillage work in progress 65% none, 32% last year, 25% just started, 41% last year, 10% well underway, 27% last year. Winter wheat condition 2% very poor, 10% last year, 5% poor, 16% last year, 37% fair, 41% last year, 47% good, 30% last year, 9% excellent, 3% last year. Winter wheat spring stages 13% still dormant, 13% last year, 60% greening, 62% last year, 27% greening and growing, 25% last year. Barley 8% planted, 29% last year. Camelina 16% planted, 79% last year; 1% emerged, 23% last year. Dry Peas 4% planted, 23% last year. Durum Wheat 3% planted, 9% last year. Lentils 3% planted, 8% last year. Oats 1% planted, 24% last year. Spring Wheat 6% planted, 25% last year. Sugar beets 12% planted, 29% last year. Precipitation was received throughout the whole state during the week. Grass Range received the most weekly accumulated precipitation of 1.40 inches. Highs were mostly in the 60s and 70s, and lows were mostly in the teens and 20s. Culbertson, Nashua, Sidney, and Wolf Point shared the high temperature at 72 degrees. Wisdom had the weekly low temperature for the second week in a row at 15 degrees. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed 88%, 86% last year. Sheep and lambs receiving supplemental feed 94%, 88% last year. Livestock grazing 65% open, 76% last year, 21% difficult, 19% last year, 14% closed, 5% last year. Calving completed 77%, 80% last year. Lambing completed 64%, 66% last year. Range and pasture feed condition 4% very poor, 14% last year, 28% poor, 37% last year, 51% fair, 35% last year, 16% good, 12% last year, 1% excellent, 2% last year.

**NEBRASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.9. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 12% short, 78% adequate, and 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 15% short, 77% adequate, and 3% surplus. Corn 3% planted, 2% 2008, 6% avg. Sorghum 0% planted, 0% 2008, 0% avg. Winter wheat conditions 1% very poor, 4% poor, 27% fair, 59% good, and 9% excellent; 5% jointed, 4% 2008, 17% avg.; 0% headed, 0% 2008, 0% avg. Oats 55% planted, 54% 2008, 72% avg.; 15% emerged, 13% 2008, 25% avg. Alfalfa conditions 0% very poor, 2% poor, 25% fair, 68% good, 5% excellent. Pasture and Range conditions 0% very poor, 6% poor, 29% fair, 60% good, and 5% excellent. Cow calved 88% complete, calf losses rated 12% below avg.; 85% avg.; and 3% above average. Warmer temperatures and much needed moisture fell across the state with the majority of the precipitation in the west. Soil temperatures improved from last week due to the warmer weather. The first fields of corn have been planted;

however, the majority of corn producers were still waiting on warmer, dryer conditions. Pastures and rangeland continue to green up. Other activities included pre-planting preparations, calving, and beginning to move livestock to pastures. Temperatures averaged 1 degree above normal across the state. Temperatures ranged from highs in the upper 60's to low 70's in the southwest to lows in the upper 20's to mid 30's. Widespread precipitation was received with the western half of the state accumulating over 2 inches in some areas.

**NEVADA:** One storm system passed through the northern portion of the state during the week resulting in generally scattered moisture across the area. Eureka recorded 1.14 inches of precipitation and a high of 67 degrees and also the lowest temperature at 12 degrees. Ely recorded .69 inches precipitation for the week with a high of 60 and a low of 21. Elko reported .64 inches of precipitation and Winnemucca recorded .5 inches of rain. Las Vegas recorded the highest temperature during the week at 83 degrees while Reno recorded a high of 73 degrees. Planting of onions continued during the week, while preparation for potato planting was underway.

**NEW ENGLAND:** The past week was very dry, but boasted beautiful sunny days and warm spring temperatures. The week began with mostly average high temperatures ranging in the upper 40s to mid 50s. Nighttime temperatures were in the low 20s to low 30s. Temperatures hit a peak on Friday in the upper 60s in most locations across New England. A cold front from Canada moved into the region on Friday, bringing some late afternoon sprinkles and cooler temperatures. Temperatures remained average to above average for the weekend, ranging in the upper 40s to mid 50s. Weekend nighttime temperatures remained mostly above average, ranging in the upper 30s to mid 40s. Total rainfall for the week ranged between 0.01 and 0.06 inches. The Boston area received the most precipitation, with total accumulation of 0.26 inches on Saturday and Sunday. Maple syrup activities continued in northern areas, but slowed down in southern areas due to warmer conditions. Other general farm activities included working in nurseries and greenhouses (the first greenhouse tomatoes are in the ground and starting to grow), tending livestock, performing general maintenance, moving apples and potatoes out of storage, and continuing to make preparations for the spring planting season.

**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for field work 5.0. Topsoil moisture 85% adequate, 15% surplus. Subsoil moisture 90% adequate, 10% surplus. There were measurable amounts of rainfall for the week in all localities. Temperatures were below normal across the Garden State. Producers continued field preparation for summer crops. Cabbage and lettuce plantings continued. Asparagus and arugula harvesting started in South Jersey. Wheat and barley growth rated mostly good. Farmers sprayed timothy hay for cereal rust mites. Peach trees were blooming and blueberry bushes were scouted for cranberry weevil.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil moisture 39% very short, 50% short, 11% adequate. Wind damage 41% light, 2% moderate, 8% severe. Freeze damage 5% light. Alfalfa 1% poor, 35% fair, 59% good, 5% excellent; 5% of the first cut completed. Cotton 8% planted. Corn 16% planted. Sorghum 5% planted. Winter wheat 47% very poor, 14% poor, 5% fair, 30% good, 4% excellent; 5% headed. Lettuce 40% good, 60% excellent. Chile 75% planted. Onion 16% fair, 34% good, 50% excellent. Cattle 5% very poor, 38% poor, 31% fair, 25% good, 1% excellent. Sheep 21% very poor, 26% poor, 29% fair, 21% good, 3% excellent. Range and pasture 16% very poor, 37% poor, 41% fair, 6% good. An upper level low pressure system moved eastward across northern New Mexico late in the week. Rain and snow showers developed initially over the West and Northwest Mountains on the 16th. Precipitation became more widespread on the 17th and continued into the early morning of the 18th. Snow was reported across a widespread area of Northern and Central New Mexico, including portions of the Albuquerque Metro Area.

**NEW YORK:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Soil moisture 1% very short, 12% short, 78% adequate, 9% surplus. Pasture condition 19% very poor, 17% poor, 29% fair, 33% good, and 2% excellent. Field preparations began in many areas with farms spreading manure followed by disking and plowing. Fence repairs and machinery maintenance continued. On Long Island peas, potatoes, onions and sweet corn under plastic are some of the crops being planted. Winegrowers on Long Island were finishing up with trellis work and tying vines to fruiting wire. Apples 90% green tip or earlier, 13% half inch green, 5% full bloom, 0% petal fall. Temperatures averaged in the mid 40's throughout the state. Rainfall ranged from 0.01 to .38 inches with most areas receiving below normal amounts.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work 4.0. Soil moisture

2% short, 72% adequate, 26% surplus. North Carolina received precipitation last week ranging from no rain to 1.95 inches in New Bern. Average temperatures were below normal, ranging from 44 to 60 degrees. A frost last week impacted a few areas of the state, with some strawberry and Irish potato growers reporting crop damage. Activities during the week included planting corn, transplanting flue-cured tobacco, harvesting cabbage, and field preparations. Wet conditions limited fieldwork in some areas of the state.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 0.6. Topsoil moisture 1% short, 54% adequate, 45% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 5% short, 58% adequate, 36% surplus. The statewide average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be May 2. Pastures and ranges were 90% dormant, 10% growing. Hay and forage supplies 20% very short, 37% short, 42% adequate, 1% surplus. Grain and concentrate supplies 8% very short, 13% short, 77% adequate, 2% surplus. Cow conditions 3% very poor, 10% poor, 36% fair, 47% good, 4% excellent. Calving was 74% complete. Calf conditions 3% very poor, 11% poor, 34% fair, 49% good, 3% excellent. Sheep conditions 1% very poor, 10% poor, 36% fair, 49% good, 4% excellent. Lambing was 82% complete. Lamb conditions 1% very poor, 9% poor, 34% fair, 51% good, 5% excellent. Shearing was 89% complete. Above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation last week allowed for some fields to warm and dry but fieldwork remains delayed statewide. The cold, wet winter and early spring have led to poor secondary road conditions and saturated fields. These were the major factors that delayed fieldwork and created difficult conditions for livestock across the state.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1. Apples 2% very poor, 2% poor, 30% fair, 51% good, 15% excellent. Peaches 21% very poor, 16% poor, 28% fair, 28% good, 7% excellent. Hay 1% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 53% good, 8% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 67% good, 11% excellent. Range and pasture 1% very poor, 6% poor, 36% fair, 50% good, 7% excellent. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 6% poor, 25% fair, 51% good, 17% excellent; jointed 24%, 13% 2008, 22% avg. Corn 2% planted, 0% 2008, 7% avg. Oats 42% planted, 18% 2008, 38% avg.; 17% emerged, 1% 2008, 5% avg. Apples green tip (or beyond) 56%, 58% 2008, 65% avg. Peaches green tip (or beyond) 50%, 51% 2008, 62% avg. Potatoes 13% planted, 10% 2008, 19% avg.

**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 17% short, 65% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 24% very short, 31% short, 41% adequate, 4% surplus. Wheat 97% jointing this week, 90% last week, 90% last year, 95% average. Rye condition 34% very poor 46% poor, 16% fair, 4% good; 98% jointing this week, 92% last week, 92% last year, 87% average; 54% headed this week, 24% last week, 31% last year, 37% average. Oats condition 33% very poor 32% poor, 29% fair, 6% good; 52% jointing this week, 40% last week, 53% last year, 53% average. Corn seedbed prepared 90% this week, 82% last week, 84% last year, 88% average; 33% planted this week, 26% last week, 35% last year, 43% average. Sorghum seedbed prepared 45% this week, 35% last week, 40% last year, 41% average. Soybean seedbed prepared 45% this week, 43% last week, 43% last year, 51% average. Peanuts seedbed prepared 64% this week, 60% last week, 58% last year, 58% average. Cotton seedbed prepared 73% this week, 71% last week, 78% last year, 72% average. Livestock condition 3% very poor, 15% poor, 41% fair, 39% good, 2% excellent. Pasture and range condition 12% very poor, 22% poor, 39% fair, 26% good, 1% excellent. Livestock Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$104 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$95 per cwt. Livestock conditions increased from the previous week and were rated mostly in the good to fair range. Average livestock marketings were reported last week.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 11% short, 72% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 6% short, 73% adequate, 14% surplus. Spring Wheat 73% planted, 83% 2008, 81% avg.; 32% emerged, 44% 2008, 48% average. Barley 66% planted, 82% 2008, 75% avg.; 43% emerged, 48% 2008, 51% average. Winter Wheat Condition 2% very poor, 20% poor, 47% fair, 28% good, 3% excellent. Weather conditions were generally warmer than last week throughout the State, particularly through the end of the weekend. However, they were still mostly cooler than normal for this time of year. High temperatures ranged from 85 degrees in Medford, down to 60 degrees in Joseph. Low temperatures ranged from 37 degrees in North Bend, Portland, down to 13 degrees in Christmas Valley. Thirty eight out of the forty three stations reporting received a measurable amount of precipitation last week. The Astoria/Clatsop station reported the most with 1.25 total inches. Field

crops Warmer temperatures were welcomed by growers across the State this past weekend. Some wheat showed advances in growth in north central, western areas. Spring wheat, barley planting has progressed with the aid of dryer, warmer weather. Grasses were reported in good condition. Hop trellis stringing was completed in Marion County. Vegetables Field work for vegetable crops was about two weeks behind the normal schedule in Douglas County. Sweet corn growers were almost finished removing weeds, grass from their fields before they started planting. Rhubarb was nearing the harvest stage in Jackson County. Fruits, Nuts Fruit continued to bloom as the weather changed from cold early in the week to warm by the end of the week. Some frost was experienced in western areas, but frost damage will not be known until another week or so. Plant growth was showing on grape vines, canberries, but more warmth is needed for more development. Orchards were sprayed in preparation for pedal drop. Blight spraying was ongoing. Hazelnuts were leafing, aphids were active. Growers applied spraying for Eastern Filbert Blight. Nurseries, Greenhouses Nurseries continued getting trees, shrubs ready for sale. New starts were also being planted. Greenhouse, nursery sales were reported as good in some areas. Livestock, Range, Pasture Thanks to warmer temperatures, pasture growth has picked up, pastures are expected to improve through this week Cows, calves were reportedly in good condition; however some counties were reporting water shortages on grazing land.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Soil moisture 2% very short, 10% short, 74% adequate, 14% surplus. Wheat crop condition 3% poor, 40% fair, 45% good, 12% excellent. Oats 45% planted, 50% 2008, 44% avg.; 12% emerged, 9% avg. Tobacco beds 50% planted, 26% avg. Alfalfa crop conditions 1% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 57% good, 13% excellent. Timothy clover crop condition 1% poor, 29% fair, 64% good, 6% excellent. Peaches in pink 48% complete, 85% 2008, 73% avg.; in full bloom 12% complete, 37% 2008, 41% avg. Cherries in pink 22% complete, 82% 2008, 66% avg. Apples in pink 20% complete, 32% avg. Pasture conditions 5% very poor, 9% poor, 39% fair, 41% good, 6% excellent. The spring plowing was 44% complete, 46% 2008, 46% avg. The weather conditions last week finally resembled spring throughout much of Pennsylvania. There were many sunny, warm days followed by cool, comfortable evenings. Contrasting with all of the nice weather, there were late frosts reported throughout the state. Farmers continue to keep busy with spreading lime and fertilizer. Principal farm activities included, trimming fruit trees, as well as planting oats, tobacco in beds, and mixed repairs. The weather seemed to promote favorable plowing conditions, as plowing is now 44 percent complete. Soil moisture conditions improved slightly last week.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Soil moisture 0% very short, 6% short, 79% adequate, 15% surplus. Corn 0% very poor, 0% poor, 24% fair, 76% good, 0% excellent. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 1% poor, 20% fair, 74% good, 4% excellent; 36% headed, 47% 2008, 49% avg. Pasture condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 37% fair, 57% good, 4% excellent. Oats 1% very poor, 1% poor, 9% fair, 80% good, 9% excellent. Tobacco 0% very poor, 1% poor, 42% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent. Hay 0% very poor, 0% poor, 23% fair, 71% good, 6% excellent. Peaches 0% very poor, 2% poor, 25% fair, 68% good, 5% excellent. Snapbeans, fresh 0% very poor, 0% poor, 40% fair, 60% good, 0% excellent. Cucumbers, fresh 0% very poor, 10% poor, 41% fair, 49% good, 0% excellent. Watermelons 0% very poor, 9% poor, 50% fair, 41% good, 0% excellent. Tomatoes, fresh 0% very poor, 0% poor, 27% fair, 73% good, 0% excellent. Cantaloupes 0% very poor, 6% poor, 43% fair, 51% good, 0% excellent. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 1% poor, 26% fair, 68% good, 4% excellent. Corn 69% planted, 85% 2008, 83% avg.; 39% emerged, 59% 2008, 59% avg. Oats 48% headed, 57% 2008, 54% avg. Tobacco transplanted 39%, 47% 2008, 49% avg. Hay grain hay 5%, 12% 2008, 12% avg. Snapbeans, fresh planted 49%, 62% 2008, 62% avg. Cucumbers, fresh planted 39%, 62% 2008, 65% avg. Watermelons 65% planted, 72% 2008, 73% avg. Tomatoes, fresh planted 78%, 86% 2008, 83% avg. Cantaloupes 56% planted, 66% 2008, 66% avg. Much of South Carolina saw severe thunderstorms and showers early this week with some reports of hail and wind damage to crops. Cold air returned causing a few small, isolated areas of frost. Rain showers early in the week followed by more sunny days later in the week promoted substantial growth across the State. Corn planting continued at a rapid pace in some counties, whereas corn planting was stalled in some counties due to the lack of dry fields. Tobacco transplanting was behind average for this time in the season. Farmers in some areas began harvesting Hay. Vegetable conditions improved slightly from last week. Some fruit growers reported damage to peaches this week from

hail. Showers and a few thunderstorms were observed on both Monday and Tuesday. Instruments at Springmaid Pier in Myrtle Beach measured a wind gust of 48 mph early Tuesday morning and several thunderstorm cells produced small hail. Loris received 1.41 inches of rain and Pritchardville 1.26 inches. Much cooler conditions overspread the state Wednesday with gusting northwest winds. Strong cold air advection sent temperatures on Friday morning back into the 30's with isolated pockets of frost. The Conway Airport and Chesterfield both reported 34 degrees. On Saturday, most of the state enjoyed sunny weather with afternoon high temperatures in the middle 70's. April's 12-hour sunshine days on top of the recent wet weather events have resulted in visual new growth and fast greening of the countryside. The week ended with overcast skies and a line of showers entering the state from the west. The state average temperature for the week was three degrees below normal. The highest official temperature reported was 80 degrees at Chesterfield and Jamestown on April 18. The lowest official temperature reported was 33 degrees at Pageland on April 17. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.68 inches at Dillon ending at 7:00 a.m. on April 15. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.6 inches. South Carolina river stages were near normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 65 degrees.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 1.2. Topsoil moisture 60% adequate, 40% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 5% short, 78% adequate, 16% surplus. Winter wheat breaking dormancy 77%, 89% 2008, 97% avg.; boot 0%, 0% 2008, 0% avg. Barley 1% seeded, 16% 2008, 29% avg.; 0% emerged, 1% 2008, 5% avg. Spring wheat 1% emerged, 5% 2008, 13% avg. Feed supplies 4% very short, 15% short, 74% adequate, 7% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 4% short, 72% adequate, 23% surplus. Range and pasture 1% very poor, 9% poor, 33% fair, 47% good, 10% excellent. Calf deaths 4% below average, 78% average, 18% above average. Cattle moved to pasture 11% complete. Calving 75% complete. Cattle condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 9% excellent. Sheep, lamb deaths 3% below average, 84% average, 13% above average. Lambing 86% complete. Sheep condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 60% good, 12% excellent. Spring fieldwork continues to be slow in South Dakota, with wet soil conditions causing delay for both small grains and row crops. Livestock benefited this week from mostly warmer, dryer weather.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3. Topsoil moisture 1% short, 68% adequate, and 31% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% short, 75% adequate, and 16% surplus. Wheat 74% jointed, 79% 2008, 88% avg.; 95% top dressed, 92% 2008, 97% avg.; 1% poor, 14% fair, 60% good, 25% excellent. Apples 95% budding or beyond, 90% 2008, 93% avg.; 64% blooming or beyond, 62% 2008, 73% avg.; 1% poor, 17% fair, 72% good, 10% excellent. Pastures 1% very poor, 6% poor, 26% fair, 56% good, 11% excellent. Strawberries 2% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 59% good, 13% excellent. For the third consecutive week, widespread rainfall limited Cool temperatures also slowed the drying process for fields and pastures. Nearly all of the State's winter wheat had been top-dressed by week's end. Over half of the State's apple trees were blooming and developing, at a pace similar to 2008, but slightly behind the five-year average. Temperatures averaged 2 to 3 degrees below normal across the State last week. Precipitation was well above normal across the Plateau, above normal over middle and western sections, and below normal in the eastern section.

**TEXAS:** Top soil moisture was mostly very short to adequate across the state. Wheat condition was mostly very poor to poor. Oat condition was mostly very poor to poor. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Sorghum condition was mostly poor to fair statewide. Range and Pasture condition was mostly very poor to fair statewide. The eastern part of the state received up to 15 inches of moisture while the rest of the state received moderate amounts of rainfall. Producers continued to supplement wheat fields with irrigation in the Southern Low Plains. Cotton field preparation took place in parts of the Plains as the recent rainfall improved planting conditions. Cotton was progressing well in South Texas. Across the state, corn was under stress due to the recent freeze. Sorghum producers were preparing their land for planting in the Northern High Plains. Onions were progressing well in the Trans-Pecos and were ready to bulb. Pecans were breaking dormancy in the Trans-Pecos. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued across the state. Conditions in South Texas were still very dry and moisture was needed to establish vegetation in pastures and rangeland.

**UTAH:** Days suitable for field work 4. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 21% short, 70% adequate, 9% surplus. Irrigation Water Supplies 0% very short, 13% short, 87% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter Wheat

95% emerged, 100% 2008, 100% avg.; 2% headed, condition 0% very poor, 10% poor, 34% fair, 40% good, 16% excellent; freeze damage 80% none, 15% light, 5% moderate, 0% severe. Spring Wheat 48% planted, 63% 2008, 64% avg. Barley 41% planted, 60% 2008, 58% avg. Fall Barley freeze damage 79% none, 15% light, 6% moderate, 0% severe. Oats 26% planted, 43% 2008, 43% avg.; 5% emerged. Corn 0% planted. Cows Calved 79%, 81% 2008, 84% avg. Cattle and calves condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 19% fair, 72% good, 8% excellent. Sheep Condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 18% fair, 78% good, 3% excellent. Range and Pasture 1% very poor, 11% poor, 44% fair, 43% good, 1% excellent. Stock Water Supplies 1% very short, 6% short, 93% adequate, 0% surplus. Sheep Sheared On Farm 61%, Sheep Sheared On Range 49%. Ewes Lamb On Farm 83%, 79% 2008, 85% avg. Ewes Lamb On Range 26%, 32% 2008, 42% avg. Apples Full Bloom Or Past 0%. Apricots full Bloom or Past 62%, 66% 2008, 86% avg. Sweet Cherries full Bloom Or Past 5%. Tart Cherries full Bloom or Past 1%, 74% 2008, 75% avg. Peaches, Full Bloom or Past 15%. Pears, Full Bloom or Past 64%, 64% 2008, 73% avg. Storms were plenty around the state. Some farmers are still unable to get into their fields, but spring crop yields are expected to do well. A few livestock producers are reported some disease, but overall livestock condition are doing well. Weather conditions are reported to have delayed spring plantings in Box Elder, Morgan, Juab, and Beaver counties. Box Elder County reports onions were only 50 percent planted and the window to expect normal yields has passed. Spring grain, corn, and safflower will be planted as soon as conditions permit. Safflower should germinate and emerge rapidly. Blossoming on the fruit trees is just under way and will be in full swing this week with the warmer weather that is forecasted. Most alfalfa and winter wheat looks good in the Bear River Valley with some concern for the dry land areas in Blue Creek Hansel Valley. Things may look better after the storm last week but the grain appears to be small and thin in some fields. Fruit growers report that there has been very little frost damage in the county. Recent rains have been very beneficial to range and pastureland. Utah County reports fruit crops should be in bloom this week. There was some frost damage to the fruit, but mainly on apricots. Duchesne County reports current storms and cooler than normal weather have helped the irrigation water. Grasshopper infestation is anticipated to be extreme this season. Emery County reports windy, stormy weather with limited fieldwork this past week. Recent storms have greatly improved mountain snow-pack. This should result in near normal irrigation water supplies for the summer irrigation season. Summit County reports spring tillage work in progress and pastures starting to green up. Iron County reports some producers are concerned because they are running out of hay and could have usually turned out on spring ranges by now. Box Elder and Cache counties report sheep producers are now lambing their range flocks. Shearing is just about complete and should finish this week. Livestock producers have reported that calving went well but there is some sickness in their calves right now. They are taking measures to brand, vaccinate and treat the sick animals. They should respond quickly, however, with a few days of warm sunshine. Utah County reports cattlemen are pleased with their success this year with calving, and water supplies are good. Emery County reports calving and lambing have gone very well this spring but valley grazing continues to be a problem area. Only 50% of normal moisture has been received in the valley over the past year, causing grazing to be greatly diminished. Summit County reports ranchers are finishing up calving, while lambing is well underway. Beaver County reports livestock are doing well. Iron County reports lambing is going well while many producers are reporting a higher than normal number of twins and triplets this year.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil moisture 6% short, 84% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 25% short, 68% adequate, 6% surplus. Corn 15% planted; 27% last year; 30% 5yr avg. Tobacco plantbeds 5% poor, 56% fair, 39% good. Summer potatoes 90% planted; 100% last year; 93% 5yr. avg.; condition 60% fair, 30% good, 10% excellent. Pasture 2% very poor, 7% poor, 36% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Livestock 2% very poor, 6% poor, 27% fair, 57% good, 8% excellent. Hay Other 1% very poor, 4% poor, 44% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent. Hay Alfalfa 1% very poor, 4% poor, 36% fair, 51% good, 8% excellent. Winter Wheat 2% seeded, 11% last year; condition 2% poor, 20% fair, 63% good, 15% excellent. Barley 2% poor, 21% fair, 68% good, 9% excellent. Greenhouse tobacco 3% poor, 9% fair, 76% good, 12% excellent. All Apples 6% poor, 70% fair, 24% good. Peaches 4% poor, 71% fair, 25% good. Grapes 10% fair, 90% good. Oats 1% poor, 11% fair, 87% good, 1% excellent. Most of the Commonwealth experienced rain showers this

week. Temperatures cooled down as the rain moved across the state. However, several warmer than normal days were observed in between the storms. The rain delayed fieldwork. Corn plantings were about one week behind normal for this time of the year. The majority of Virginia's crops were in fair to good condition. Crops that were not fertilized or received below recommended rates were poorer in quality compared to crops that did receive fertilizer. Other farm activities include top dressing small grains with fertilizer, tending to the strawberry crop, and harvesting haylage.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 13% short, 73% adequate, and 12% surplus. Field work in grain growing counties moved quickly as warm, dry weather moved in, allowing farmers to catch up. Whitman County reported seeding operations in the western portion of the county were well underway and moving east as soils dried up. Walla Walla County reported green peas were quickly being planted. Their winter wheat stands continue to look good very good due to good snow coverage, in contrast to several nearby counties. Grant County reported their fresh pea planting continued, and sweet corn planting would begin this week. Franklin County reported their early season sweet corn was going in the ground. In Grays Harbor County, Christmas tree growers reported a flush of new growth on Norway spruce. In the Yakima Valley, two night time lows dipped to upper 20s to lower 30s necessitating frost control in soft fruit orchards. Daytime highs peaked in the upper 70s on April 19th. The pink bloom of peaches and nectarines and the white bloom of cherries was evident throughout the Valley. Apples blooms were between pre-pink and pink bud stages, and asparagus harvest continued. Franklin County reported soft fruit and cherry trees were in full bloom. Some final pruning occurred on late apple varieties. Asparagus harvest had begun in the south end of the county, and their spring onion planting were nearly done. Snohomish County reported blueberries were coming into bloom. Klickitat County reported grapes were at bud break. Range and pasture conditions 13% poor, 55% fair, 30% good and 2% excellent. On the Eastern side, Garfield, Asotin and several other counties reported livestock producers had turned cattle out to spring pasture. Lincoln County reported spring calving was still underway. Several counties reported hay supplies were running low. Pacific County reported shellfish growers continued oyster and clam seeding operations, along with spring harvest activities.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for field work 4. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 6% short, 74% adequate and 17% surplus compared with 3% short, 90% adequate and 7% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring planting 54%, 51% 2008, 47% 5-yr avg. Hay and roughage supplies 2% very short, 17% short, 79% adequate and 2% surplus compared to 10% very short, 45% short and 45% adequate last year. Feed grain supplies were 2% very short, 7% short and 91% adequate compared to 7% very short, 34% short and 59% adequate last year. Corn 7% planted, 5% 2008, 5% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat conditions 3% poor, 37% fair, 45% good and 15% excellent. Oats 50% planted, 33% 2008, 28% 5-yr avg.; 15% emerged, 3% 2008, 8% 5-yr avg. Hay was reported 2% very poor, 15% poor, 48% fair, 31% good and 4% excellent. Apple conditions 52% fair and 48% good. Peaches 61% fair and 39% good. Cattle and calves were 1% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 63% good and 4% excellent. Calving was 89% complete, compared to 87% last year. Sheep and lambs 3% poor, 39% fair, 55% good and 3% excellent. Lambing was 92% complete, compared to 84% last year. Farming activities included field preparation, plowing, planting, repairing fences, taking calves to the market and turning out cattle.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil moisture 9% very short, 29% short, 59% adequate, and 3% surplus. Temperatures were 1 to 6 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 55 to 67 degrees across the state. Lows averaged from 32 to 38 degrees for the week. Precipitation ranged from 0.00 inches in Green Bay to 0.15 inches in Milwaukee. Corn planted was 1 percent complete. Oats planted was 35 percent complete, while oats emerged was 0 percent complete. Spring tillage was 21 percent complete. The past week was dry, with above average temperatures. Farmers are hoping for moisture to help green up winter wheat and alfalfa. Soil temperatures were too cool for planting corn yet, but some farmers were anticipating being able to start in the coming week.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for field work 1.8. Topsoil moisture 7% short, 81% adequate, 12% surplus. Barley 57% planted, 41% previous week, 61% 2008, 67% avg.; 7% emerged, 2% previous week, 7% 2008, 21% avg. Oats 24% planted, 19% previous week, 21% 2008, 32% avg.; 6% emerged, 0% previous week, 2% 2008, 6% avg. Spring Wheat 17% planted, 13% previous week, 1% 2008, 24% avg.; 6%

emerged, 0% previous week, 0% 2008, 4% avg.; 5% jointed, 0% previous week, 1% 2008, 2% avg. Corn 0% planted, 0% previous week, 1% 2008, 2% avg. Sugarbeets 0% planted, 0% previous week, 26% 2008, 41% avg. Winter wheat condition 18% fair, 79% good, 3% excellent. Spring calves born 71%, 66% previous week. Farm flock 74% ewes lambded, 66% previous week. Farm flock 72% sheep shorn, 63% previous week. Range flock 27% ewes lambded, 21% previous week. Range flock 48% sheep shorn, 41% previous week. Calf losses 25% light, 67% normal, 8% heavy. Lamb losses 26% light, 68% normal, 6% heavy. Range and pasture conditions 15% poor, 33% fair,

43% good, 9% excellent. Irrigation water supplies 6% short, 81% adequate, 13% surplus. The progress of corn and Sugarbeets was behind last year and the average. Snow packs were melting due to warm temperatures, which contributed to livestock water. A lot of run off was expected this spring. Precipitation in some areas has helped the wheat crop. Activities preparing to plant small grain crop, calving and lambing, feeding livestock.

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