WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

HIGHLIGHTS
October 21 - 27, 2012
Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

While Hurricane Sandy prowled the Caribbean Sea and the western Atlantic Ocean, relatively tranquil weather prevailed across the continental United States. Sandy made landfall as a post-tropical storm in southern New Jersey at 8 pm EDT on October 29, and will be covered extensively in next week’s summary. During the week ending October 27, cold air expanded across the western and central U.S. Cold conditions were especially persistent on the northern High Plains, where weekly temperatures averaged more than 10°F below normal in

(Continued on page 5)
Drought Severity Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 27, 2012
Long Term Palmer

Drought Severity Index (Palmer)
Depicts prolonged (months, years) abnormal dryness or
wetness resulting from slow, changes little from week to
week, and reflects long-term moisture runoff, recharge,
and deep percolation as well as evapotranspiration.

Uses applicable in measuring disruptive effects of prolonged
dryness or wetness on water sensitive economies, designating
disaster areas of drought or wetness, and reflecting the general long-term
status of water supplies in aquifers, reservoirs, and streams.

Limitations: Not generally indicative of short-term (few weeks)
status of drought or wetness such as frequently affects crops and
field operations (this is indicated by the crop moisture index).

-4.0 or less (Extreme Drought)  
-3.0 to -3.9 (Severe Drought)  
-2.0 to -2.9 (Moderate Drought)  
-1.9 to +1.9 (Near Normal) 

+2.0 to +2.9 (Unusual Moist Spell)  
+3.0 to +3.9 (Very Moist Spell)  
+4.0 and above (Extremely Moist)

Drought Severity Index by Division
OCT 27, 2012
(Long Term Palmer)

(Index Values are in Tenths. Example: 37 = 3.7)

0.4 to 0.9 Very Normal
-0.9 to -0.9 Mild Drought
-1.0 to -1.9 Mild Drought
-2.0 to -2.9 Moderate Drought
-3.0 to -3.9 Severe Drought
Below -4.0 Extreme Drought

Based on preliminary reports

NOAA/NWS Joint Agricultural Weather Facility
Lodge colder air swept across much of the nation. Meanwhile, parts of the Midwest continued to experience precipitation (rain and snow), further easing long-term drought. In fact, lingering drought in the eastern Corn Belt was largely eradicated by the latest round of rain. The Midwestern precipitation slowed late-season harvest efforts but maintained favorable topsoil moisture for winter wheat. Farther west, light precipitation provided much-needed moisture in parts of the hard red winter wheat belt, although poor wheat emergence and establishment remained a concern—especially across the northwestern half of the High Plains. Elsewhere, generally dry weather in the Southeast and Southwest contrasted with wet conditions in northern California and the Northwest. The Western precipitation slowed fieldwork but aided pastures, rangeland, and winter grains. At week’s end, rain squalls and gusty winds associated with the western edge of Hurricane Sandy grazed Florida and the southern Mid-Atlantic States. 

Early in the week, chilly air arrived in the Northwest. In Oregon, daily-record lows for October 21 included 14°F in Burns and 18°F in Klamath Falls. In contrast, record-setting warmth covered the central and southern Plains. On October 21, highs soared to record-setting levels in locations such as Childress, TX (95°F), and Medicine Lodge, KS (93°F). Record warmth persisted for several more days on the southern Plains and expanded into parts of the South, East, and Midwest. In Texas, Amarillo (90 and 88°F) posted consecutive daily-record highs on October 23-24. Wichita, KS (91°F on October 23), reached or exceeded the 90-degree mark on its second-latest date on record, behind only October 26, 1950. By October 24, Midwestern daily-record highs included 81°F in Vichy-Rolla, MO, and 78°F in Dubuque, IA. A day later, atypical, late-October warmth resulted in dozens of daily-records across the eastern one-third of the U.S. Record-breaking highs for October 25 reached 87°F in New Iberia, LA; 85°F in Morgantown, WV; and 81°F in Pellston, MI. Toward week’s end, however, markedly colder air swept across much of the nation. Medicine Lodge dipped to 19°F on October 27, just 4 days after attaining 92°F. Elsewhere in Kansas, Garden City (22 and 19°F) closed the week with consecutive daily-record lows on October 26-27. In Texas, record-setting lows for October 27 included 22°F in Dalhart and 26°F in Lubbock. Farther north, daily-record lows on October 26 dipped to 2°F in Stanley, ID, and 4°F in Shelby, MT.

Parts of the northern Intermountain West—including northern Utah, eastern Idaho, and western Wyoming—received a prolonged period of snow. Weekly snowfall totaled 28 inches in Liberty, UT. More than a foot of early-week snow blanketed portions of the Cascades and Sierra Nevada. By October 25, widespread precipitation soaked the Midwest, where daily-record amounts reached 2.34 inches in Wausau, WI, and 2.21 inches in Marquette, MI. For Marquette, it was the second-wettest October day behind only 2.89 inches on October 4, 1985. Farther west, snow blanketed portions of the central High Plains, including Denver, CO, where 5.1 inches fell on October 24-25. Late in the week, Hurricane Sandy began to affect Florida. On October 26, Melbourne clocked a peak northeasterly wind gust to 56 mph, while West Palm Beach netted a daily-record rainfall of 1.62 inches. A day later, Wilmington, NC (1.54 inches), collected a daily-record amount for October 27. Cold, mostly dry weather covered Alaska, except for mild conditions on the North Slope. Fairbanks recorded its first sub-zero reading of the season on October 22, then noted a low of -11°F on October 24. Many daily-record lows were established in southeastern Alaska, including October 27 readings of 12°F in Valdez and 25°F on Annette Island. No measurable precipitation fell on Annette Island in October after the 20th. Farther south, Hawaii’s dry spell intensified. October rainfall at the state’s major airport sites ranged from 0.01 inch (1 percent of normal) at Kahului, Maui, to 2.91 inches (30 percent) at Hilo, on the Big Island. In part due to the dry conditions, Hilo also posted a daily-record low (63°F) on October 21, followed by a daily record-tying high (86°F) on October 26.
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for November 1, 2012 - January 31, 2013

Released November 1, 2012

K E Y :  

Drought to persist or intensify

Drought ongoing, some improvement

Drought likely to improve, impacts ease

Drought development likely

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events.

“Ongoing” drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity). For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.
Sandy Batters the Northeast, Makes History

Sandy, a nearly unprecedented late-season storm with both tropical (figures 1 and 2) and non-tropical origins, moved ashore around 8 pm EDT on October 29, 2012, near Atlantic City, NJ. Hours before landfall, the storm still exhibited a partial eye (figure 3), but while moving ashore Sandy was officially classified as a post-tropical cyclone, with sustained winds near 80 mph and a central pressure of 27.93 inches (946 millibars). That value was on par with the Long Island Express (Hurricane) of September 21, 1938, as the storm with the lowest-ever barometric pressure in the northeastern U.S. During the 1938 storm, a record-low pressure of 27.94 inches (946.2 millibars) was reported at Bellport, NY. The 1938 storm, however, was a full-fledged accelerating hurricane, and produced a wind gust to 186 mph at the Blue Hill Observatory in Milton, MA.

During the afternoon of October 29, hours before landfall, Sandy’s sustained winds had reached 90 mph and the pressure had fallen to 940 millibars (27.76 inches). By that time, however, Sandy had already begun to entrain cold air, allowing the storm to exhibit characteristics associated with both tropical and winter storms—as well as a non-tropical lowering of its central pressure. Among Sandy’s unusual aspects were the broadening of the wind field, more typical of a nor’easter, and the development of heavy snow in the Appalachians.

So-called snow hurricanes, while exceedingly rare, have been noted in the past. One of the most famous such storms ravaged the Northeast from October 8-11, 1804, with a probable hurricane or post-hurricane landfall occurring in New Jersey—although that storm apparently did not move as far inland as Sandy.

Had Sandy officially made landfall as a hurricane, it would have represented the first such occurrence along the Atlantic Coast north of Florida in late October or beyond since October 31, 1899. On that date, a category 2 hurricane struck near the North Carolina-South Carolina border. Before Hurricane Irene on August 28, 2011, the last time a hurricane officially made landfall on the New Jersey coast was September 16, 1903.

More information on Sandy will appear next week.

Figure 1. GOES East Visible, October 28, 2012, 1:35 pm EDT. Visible satellite imagery clearly shows the eye of Hurricane Sandy while the storm was centered about 270 miles southeast of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. At the time, maximum sustained winds were near 75 mph.

Figure 2. Wind swaths, October 22-29, 2012, provided by the National Hurricane Center. Approximate tropical storm- and hurricane-force wind swaths associated with Hurricane Sandy are shown in orange and red, respectively.

Figure 3. GOES East IR, October 29, 2012, 1:40 pm EDT. Infrared satellite imagery shows what is left of Hurricane Sandy’s eyewall (bright colors near the coast) just over 6 hours before the hurricane made landfall near Atlantic City, NJ. At the time, maximum sustained winds were near 90 mph.
## States and Stations

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**Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center (301-763-8000, Ext. 7503)**

- **Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin November 1, 2012**
- **National Weather Data for Selected Cities**
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**Notes:**
- Based on 1971-2000 normals
- *** Not Available
- Relative Humidity Percent
- Number of Days
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National Agricultural Summary
October 22 – 28, 2012
Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

Temperatures were near normal and conditions were relatively dry across much of the southern half of the United States during the week, allowing producers ample time to harvest their remaining crops and seed overwintered small grains. Conversely, temperatures averaged more than 10°F below normal in northern portions of the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains. Farther east, readings averaged as much as 10°F above normal in the middle and northern Atlantic Coast States. Many northern locations received at least twice the normal weekly precipitation, aiding small grain emergence. Similarly, coastal sections of North Carolina received more than 4 inches rain as Hurricane Sandy made her way northward.

Corn: As harvest neared completion in most of the major corn-producing regions, nationwide progress advanced to 91 percent complete by week’s end. This was 17 percentage points ahead of last year and 31 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. In portions of the Corn Belt, early-week rainfall limited or halted fieldwork, as some producers waited for soils to dry out.

Soybeans: By October 28, producers had harvested 87 percent of this year’s soybean crop. This was 2 percentage points ahead of last year and 9 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Nebraska, lodging resulting from high winds at mid-month and left some producers struggling to harvest their remaining crop.

Winter Wheat: By week’s end, 88 percent of the 2013 winter wheat crop was sown. This was 2 percentage points ahead of last year and 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Texas, winter wheat seeding was ongoing in many regions, despite the need for additional moisture to promote germination in some locations. Nationally, 63 percent of the winter wheat crop had emerged by October 28, slightly behind last year and 4 percentage points behind the 5-year average. The most significant delay in emergence was evident in South Dakota, where topsoil and subsoil moisture levels were rated 84 and 92 percent short to very short, respectively. Overall, 40 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, compared with 46 percent at the same time last year.

Cotton: Ninety-six percent of the nation’s cotton crop was at or beyond the boll opening stage by October 28, slightly behind last year but slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Producers had harvested half of this year’s crop by week’s end, 6 percentage points behind last year but 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. Double-digit picking was evident in 11 of the 15 major cotton-producing states, as mostly favorable weather conditions aided fieldwork. Overall, 43 percent of the cotton crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from last week and 14 percentage points better than the same time last year.

Sorghum: By week’s end, 94 percent of the sorghum crop was at or beyond the mature stage. This was 3 percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Producers harvested 12 percent of the nation’s crop during the week, leaving progress—at 64 percent complete—slightly ahead of last year and 4 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Mild, mostly dry conditions in the central Great Plains allowed for double-digit harvesting during the week.

Rice: Producers had harvested 94 percent of this year’s rice crop by October 28, three percentage points ahead of last year and 2 points ahead of the 5-year average. In California, harvest was in full swing, but remained behind normal.

Other Crops: By October 28, peanut producers had harvested 79 percent of this year’s crop. This was 9 percentage points ahead of last year and 12 points ahead of the 5-year average.

By week’s end, 80 percent of the sugar beet crop was harvested, 4 percentage points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. Warm weather halted harvest in Michigan during much of the week. Meanwhile, a mixture of rain and snow limited fieldwork in Minnesota, where harvest fell behind normal by week’s end.

Sunflower producers had harvested 82 percent of the nation’s crop by October 28, twenty percentage points ahead of last year and 40 points ahead of the 5-year average. Despite persistently wet conditions in portions of North Dakota, harvest continued to advance well ahead of the normal pace.
Crop Progress and Condition
Week Ending October 28, 2012

Weekly U.S. Progress and Condition Data provided by USDA/NASS

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These 18 States harvested 94% of last year's corn acreage.

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These 8 States harvested 98% of last year's peanut acreage.

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These 4 States harvested 84% of last year's sugarbeet acreage.

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These 4 States harvested 87% of last year's sunflower acreage.
Crop Progress and Condition  
Week Ending October 28, 2012

Weekly U.S. Progress and Condition Data provided by USDA/NASS

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<tr>
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These 18 States planted 88% of last year's winter wheat acreage.

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<th>Cotton Condition by Percent</th>
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These 15 States harvested 98% of last year's cotton acreage.

Cotton Percent Bolls Opening: These 15 States planted 99% of last year's cotton acreage.

Cotton Percent Harvested: These 15 States harvested 98% of last year's cotton acreage.
Crop Progress and Condition
Week Ending October 28, 2012
Weekly U.S. Progress and Condition Data provided by USDA/NASS

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Pasture and Range Condition by Percent
Week Ending Oct 28, 2012

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<td>NA - Not Available * Revised</td>
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Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin
November 1, 2012
State Agricultural Summaries

These summaries, issued weekly through the summer growing season, provide brief descriptions of crop and weather conditions important on a national scale. More detailed data are available in Crop Progress and Condition Reports published each Monday by NASS State Statistical Offices in cooperation with the National Weather Service. The crop reports are available on the Internet through the NASS Home Page on the World Wide Web at http://www.nass.usda.gov.

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.6. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 22% short, 73% adequate, and 1% surplus. Soybeans dropping leaves 96%, 91% last week, 95% 2011, and 94% five-year average. Soybeans harvested 37%, 27% last week, 48% 2011, and 56% five-year average. Soybean condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 55% good, and 22% excellent. Winter wheat planted 20%, 11% last week, 34% 2011, and 15% five-year average. Winter wheat emerged 6%, 2% last week, 16% 2011, and 5% five-year average. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 62% good, and 6% excellent. The week’s average mean temperatures ranged from 59.9 F in Sylacauga to 67.2 F in Enterprise; total precipitation ranged from 0.00 inches in most areas to 0.06 inches in Haleyville. Dry and warm weather prevailed for much of the week, while cooler and windy conditions moved in over the weekend. Soybeans were being harvested with reports of variable yields. Moisture levels were short, and newly planted winter pastures were in need of rainfall.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures were mostly above average across the State for the week ending October 28, ranging from 3 degrees below normal at Parker to 7 degrees above normal at Payson. The highest temperature of the week was 92 degrees at Coolidge. The lowest reading was 17 degrees at the Grand Canyon. No precipitation was recorded at any of the weather stations. Twelve of the 21 weather stations have recorded their first frost of the season. Rangeland conditions vary widely from very poor to good, depending on location. Alfalfa conditions were mostly fair to excellent. Harvesting occurred on over three-fourths of the alfalfa acreage across the State.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.6. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 20% short, 67% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 15% very short, 31% short, 50% adequate, 4% surplus. Soybeans 100% yellowing, 100% 2011, 99% avg.; 99% Shedding, 95% 2011, 95% avg.; 96% mature, 88% 2011, 89% avg. Several counties reported the first frosts of the season. The major farming activities for the week included harvesting remaining crops, planting wheat, and making preparations for 2013 crops. Livestock were in fair condition. Pasture and range conditions were mostly poor to fair.

CALIFORNIA: At the start of the week, a cold front swept through California from the Gulf of Alaska and brought widespread rain and the first significant snowfall of the season to the North. Sacramento Valley rainfall amounts ranged from three-quarters of an inch to an inch and a half, while the San Joaquin Valley had lighter amounts. Almost 2 feet of snow fell across the higher elevations of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. On Thursday, the cool and unstable air over the Central Valley triggered widespread thunderstorm activity and several small tornadoes were confirmed in the Sacramento Valley. By midweek, the cold front had moved out of the state and the surface high pressure had shifted into the Great Basin. This resulted in Santa Ana winds developing over Southern California and prompted a Red Flag Warning due to the very warm and dry conditions caused by those off-shore winds. Temperatures were also beginning to warm up in northern California by the weekend as high pressure aloft redeveloped over the West Coast. Cotton harvest was over a third complete and virtually all bolls had opened by week’s end. The cotton crop was rated mostly good to excellent. The rice harvest was in full-swing. Over two thirds of the crop has been harvested and harvested fields were being cleared. Alfalfa continued to be cut, raked and baled across the state. Recent rainfall increased soil moisture for producers to plant their winter small grain crops. Over a quarter of the crop has been planted and the rainfall helped the seeds to germinate and emerge from the ground. Sudan grass harvest continues. Last week’s rain stopped kiwi harvest in Butte County, but harvest quickly picked up again after the rain was over. Persimmon and kiwi harvests were underway across the state. Pomegranate harvest continued. Fig harvest continued. Apples and pears continued to be picked and packed. Asian pears and quince continued to be exported. Late variety table grapes continued to be harvested and exported. Wine grape harvest continued throughout the state. In Napa County, the last wine grapes were being harvested. Rain made the vineyards wet, but the Cabernet grapes were not affected and harvest resumed quickly. Peach, nectarine and fresh plum harvests were over. Olives continue to be harvested in the San Joaquin Valley; olive harvest should begin soon in the Sacramento Valley. Navel orange harvest began in Tulare County. Cooler nights were improving external color. Tangerine harvest continued, with good internal maturity and color. Late variety walnuts and pistachios continued to be harvested in the Sacramento Valley. Rain last week halted walnut harvest, but harvest started up again after one day. Almond harvest was nearly complete; post-harvest activities were ongoing. Tulare County reported certified producers were preparing the grounds for winter vegetables while pumpkins were ready for harvest. In Fresno County, sweet corn was growing well and being harvested; fields were being treated for Lepidoptera pressure. Onion and processing tomatoes continued to be harvested. Harvest of fresh market tomatoes, carrots, bell peppers, cucumbers, garlic and green beans continued. Fall broccoli continued to be planted; pumpkins were growing good. Transplanted crops of eggplant, cucumber, squash, and green beans were developing well. Harvesting of cantaloupe, honeydew and watermelon continued. Fall vegetables such as beets, bittmermelon, chards, choy, daikon, eggplant, herbs, kales, lemon grass, chili peppers, tomatillos, squash and zucchini were harvested. Merced County reported harvesting of bell peppers, squash, lima beans, tomato, radicchio and watermelon. In Stanislaus County, broccoli, beans, tomatoes and honeydew were being harvested; cantaloupe harvest was winding down. Sutter County reported that the harvest for the Farmers’ Markets was finished for the year; winter vegetables were being planted. Rangeland and non-irrigated pasture continued in mostly poor to very poor condition, though recent rains were expected to fall.
bring some relief. Cattle and sheep grazed idle fields, dry land grain and alfalfa fields. Supplemental feeding of hay and nutrients to cattle continued. Cooling temperatures stimulated milk production.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for field work 5.8 days. Topsoil moisture 31% very short, 41% short, 28% adequate. Subsoil moisture 53% very short, 39% short, 8% adequate. Sugarbeets 85% harvested, 64%, 2011, 71% avg. Sunflowers condition 46% very poor, 27% poor, 16% fair, 11% good. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 12% poor, 45% fair, 40% good, 1% excellent. Colorado temperatures dipped below average with limited moisture in the form of rain and snow, but soil moisture ratings continue to show extremely dry conditions.

**DELAWARE:** DATA NOT AVAILABLE

**FLORIDA:** Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 14% short, 61% adequate, 21% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 10% short, 60% adequate, 25% surplus. Good progress harvesting crops, hay. In Bradford, Highlands, and Seminole counties, producers were harvesting hay. Cotton defoliation, harvesting full swing; Jackson, Washington counties. Sugarcane planting, harvesting on schedule. Peanut harvesting completed; Dixie County, winding down; Jackson County, good progress; Washington County. Market movement bell peppers, cucumbers, okra, tomatoes fairly light. Cabbage planting made good progress; Flagler County. Vegetable producers prepared fields for planting potatoes. Producers planted cabbage, greens, onions, strawberries, other winter vegetables; Bradford County. Citrus region remained drought free. Seven processors, 36 packinghouses were open. Producers applied pesticides, tree care, grove maintenance, harvesting grapefruit, tangerines, oranges. Pasture condition limited by drought and disease; Panhandle, some flooding; southern area. Quality and quantity grass declined seasonally. Fall calving began. Cattle Condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 17% fair, 16% good, 20% excellent. Panhandle pastures very poor to excellent, most fair to good. Newly planted winter forages need rain. More planting delayed. Perennial pasture quality and quantity declined. Many producers poised to plant after next rain. Rye, oats for winter forage planted; Taylor County. Cattle condition ranged very poor to excellent, with most good. North pasture condition ranged fair to excellent, with most good. Cattle were poor to excellent condition, most good. Central area pastures mostly good. Most cattle good condition. Some calving started; Highlands County. Southwest area pastures poor to excellent, most fair to good. Pastures in poor condition due to flooding. Most cattle were good condition.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil moisture 19% very short, 51% short, 30% adequate. Subsoil moisture 19% very short, 45% short, 36% adequate. Hay Third Cutting 94%, 79% 2011, N/A avg. Oats Planted 43%, 43% 2011, 44% avg. Peanuts Dug 89%, 83% 2011, 80% avg. Pecans 1% poor, 27% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Pecans Harvested 24%, 18% 2011, 14% Avg. Rye Planted 49%, 49% 2011, 50% avg. Sorghum 2% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 48% good, 12% excellent. Sorghum Harvested 48%, 44% 2011, 51% avg. Soybeans 7% poor, 31% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Soybeans Harvested 36%, 25% 2011, 19% Avg. Winter Wheat Planted 21%, 21% 2011, 16% avg. Precipitation estimates for the state ranged from no rain up to 5.0 inches. Average high temperatures ranged from the low 60's to the low 80's. Average low temperatures ranged from the low 40's to the mid 60's.

**HAWAII:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 26% very short, 52% short, 22% adequate. Very dry weather conditions persisted throughout most of the week. Winds were variable and shifted between light trade winds and Kona winds originating in the south. Precipitation fell in light and very isolated showers primarily on windward areas when trade winds were dominate. When the Kona winds were too over, conditions were hot and humid with a haze of volcanic emissions carried north from the Island of Hawaii. Daytime high temperatures were in the mid to lower eighties for most areas, dropping down to the high sixties during the evenings. The average weekly total rainfall across the state was 0.23 inch. Drought conditions remained unchanged from last week with approximately 78 percent of the state rated in some stage of drought (abnormally dry though extreme). Irrigation is needed in many areas to maintain crop progress and condition. Irrigation reservoir water levels have begun to drop in many of the state operated reservoirs.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for field work 5 days. Topsoil moisture 11% very short, 32% short, 56% adequate, 1% surplus. Field corn harvested for grain 41%, 17% 2011, 34% avg. Alfalfa hay 4th cutting harvested 98%, 92% 2011, 94% avg. Irrigation water supply 7% very poor, 15% poor, 32% fair, 39% good, 7% excellent. The Camas County extension educator reports much needed rain and snow fell during the week. The Caribou county extension educator reports snow and cold weather halted field work. The Franklin county extension educator reports much needed precipitation occurred during the week. This allowed some relief to dryland farmers who have been waiting for moisture to sprout their winter wheat.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 3.7. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 16% short, 73% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 18% very short, 39% short, 41% adequate, 2% surplus. Statewide rainfall totals averaged 0.94 inches, 0.37 inches above average. Temperatures averaged 55.5 degrees, 3.4 degrees above average. Harvest was once again slowed as scattered showers and strong winds made their way across the state this past week.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 9% short, 76% adequate, 14% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 27% short, 57% adequate, 5% surplus. Average moisture content of harvested corn 18%. Average moisture content of harvested soybeans 13.5%. Temperatures ranged from 50 to 110 above normal with a low of 280 and a high of 820. Precipitation ranged from 0.17 to 2.37 inches. Harvest was slowed early in the week due to rain and muddy field conditions. Some areas received heavy rain showers which saturated soils and temporarily halted harvest and tillage operations. Farmers resumed harvest activities mid-week as sunshine returned to the state. Corn harvest is now about 12 days ahead of last year’s pace, and soybean harvest is about 2 days ahead of last year. Farmers continued seeding winter wheat and cover crops on soils that were dry enough to support planting equipment.

**IOWA:** There were 3.9 days suitable for fieldwork statewide during the past week. Topsoil moisture levels improved to 26% very short, 38% short, 35% adequate, and 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture improved and is now rated 58% very short, 34% short, 8% adequate. Grain movement continues to slow, with 24 percent of the State seeing moderate to heavy grain movement from farm to elevator. As the harvest season nears completion, 99 percent of the State reported adequate or surplus off-farm storage capacity and 97 percent of the State reported adequate
or surplus on-farm storage capacity. Weather conditions slowed harvest for most of the State this week as Iowa experienced several cool, rainy days. A few farmers are waiting for fields to dry out enough so they can harvest their remaining acres. Farmers who have completed harvest are putting away their heavy machinery and working on cleanup projects.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil moisture 34% very short, 32% short, 34% adequate. Subsoil moisture 49% very short, 35% short, 16% adequate. Sunflowers turned brown 95%, 96% 2011, 88% avg.; condition 20% very poor, 28% poor, 41% fair, 10% good, 1% excellent. Alfalfa fourth cutting 83%, 83% 2011, 93% avg. Feed grain supplies 19% very short, 27% short, 52% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 34% very short, 37% short, 28% adequate, 1% surplus. Stock water supplies 39% very short, 30% short, 31% adequate. Last week, Kansas producers saw dry and windy weather which allowed harvesting of remaining row crops to continue and planting of winter wheat to near completion. Only one station, Belleville with 0.51 inches, received over one half inch of precipitation. The State saw a wide range of temperatures with Ashland recording both the weekly high of 95 degrees and the weekly low of 17 degrees. Average temperatures were above normal in the eastern half of the State and below normal in the western half. Substantial moisture is still needed throughout the state to establish the 2013 wheat crop and replenish ponds for livestock.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 19% short, 74% adequate, and 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 32% short, 55% adequate, and 3% surplus. Rainfall totaled 0.53 inches statewide, 0.21 inches below normal. Temperatures averaged 59 degrees, which was 4 degrees above normal. Condition of housed tobacco, 1% very poor, 7% poor, 24% fair, 50% good, and 18% excellent. Tobacco already stripped 18%. Winter Wheat seeding complete 61%. Condition of winter wheat, 1% poor, 24% fair, 60% good, and 15% excellent.

**LOUISIANA:** 6.5 Days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture 6% very short, 25% short, 66% adequate, 3% surplus. Livestock condition 1%, 3% poor, 34% fair, 54% good, 8% excellent. Vegetables condition 5% very poor, 11% poor, 47% fair, 35% good, 2% excellent. Winter Wheat planted 18% this week, 7% last week, 24% last year, 17% average. Sugarcane harvested 34% this week, 24% last week, 33% last year, 26% average; Sugarcane condition 2% very poor, 5% poor, 31% fair, 47% good, 15% excellent. Sweet potatoes harvested 84% this week, 72% last week, 76% last year, 70% average. Pecans harvest 36% this week, 27% last week, 33% last year, 32% average.

**MARYLAND:** DATA NOT AVAILABLE

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 9% short, 76% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil 17% very short, 20% short, 60% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn 19% very poor, 18% poor, 30% fair, 28% good, 5% excellent. Fourth cutting hay 84%, 73% 2011, 72% avg. Dry beans harvested 100%, 99% 2011, 98% avg. Unusually warm temperatures and wet weather slowed harvest activities early week. Temperatures ranged from 2 to 3 degrees above normal Upper Peninsula and 4 to 7 degrees above normal Lower Peninsula. Precipitation ranged from 0.97 to 1.56 inches Upper Peninsula and 0.38 to 1.61 inches Lower Peninsula. Corn and soybean harvest continued at a steady pace with fall tillage following right behind harvest. Sugarbeet harvest shut down from Monday through Friday because of warm temperatures. Harvest did resume on Saturday for permanent pile storage. Dry bean harvest complete. Winter wheat planting continued.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil moisture 27% Very Short, 42% Short, 29% Adequate, 2% Surplus. Subsoil moisture 47% Very Short, 41% Short, 12% Adequate. Mixed precipitation during the week increased moisture supplies statewide. All reporting stations recorded precipitation, although amounts were lighter in western areas. Over an inch was recorded at most reporting stations in southeastern areas.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Soil moisture 8% short, 89% adequate, 3% surplus. Peanuts 60% fair, 21% good, 19% excellent. Sorghum harvested 100%, 100% 2011, 93% avg. Soybeans dropping leaves 100%, 100% 2011, 100% avg. Sweet potatoes harvested 85%, 94% 2011, 81% avg. Winter wheat planted 29%, 45% 2011, 30% avg. Winter wheat emerged 14%, 39% 2011, 17% avg. Livestock condition 1% poor, 8% fair, 86% good, 5% excellent. Most of the state had little rain last week. This favorable weather dried wet fields and allowed harvesting progress on soybeans, cotton, and sweet potatoes. Many producers were able to do needed field work and commence planting winter wheat.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3, 6.4 last year. Topsoil moisture 24% very short, 40% short, 41% last year; 35% adequate, 46% last year; 1% surplus, 2% last year. Subsoil moisture 41% very short, 13% last year; 42% short, 37% last year; 17% adequate, 47% last year; 0% surplus, 3% last year. Corn for grain harvested 64%, 15% last year. Corn condition 4% very poor, 0% last year; 17% poor, 2% last year; 33% fair, 36% last year; 25% good, 46% last year; 21% excellent, 16% last year. Potatoes harvested 99%, 88% last year. Sugar beets harvested 95%, 86% last year. Livestock moved from summer ranges — cattle and calves 82%, 73% last year. Livestock moved from summer ranges — sheep and lambs 89%, 75% last year. Livestock receiving supplemental feed — cattle 36%, 7% last year. Livestock receiving supplemental feed — sheep 45%, 8% last year. An early winter storm brought snow and freezing temperatures to a wide swath of Montana during the week ending October 28. West Yellowstone received the largest amount of precipitation for the week with 1.13 inches of moisture and most other stations saw 0.10 to 1.07 inches of precipitation. High temperatures ranged from the lower 40s to lower 60s, with the state-wide high temperature of 65 degrees recorded in Boulder. A majority of stations reported lows 1 degree to the mid 20s. The coldest reported low of -1 degree was recorded in West Yellowstone followed by Cut Bank with 1 degree.

**NEBRASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 67% very short, 24% short, 9% adequate. Subsoil moisture 79% very short, 18% short, 3% adequate. Dry beans harvested 93%, 100% 2011, 99% avg. Proso millet harvested 98%, 99% 2011, 92% avg. Precipitation coupled with below normal temperatures and wind slowed field activities. Producers in western counties are struggling to harvest lodged
NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil moisture 57% very short, 35% short and 8% adequate. Wind damage 4% light, 2% moderate and 2% severe; 85% cotton damaged and 70% sorghum. No hail damage reported this week. Alalfa 4% very poor, 8% poor, 29% fair, 50% good and 9% excellent; 88% 6th cutting complete and 56% 7th cutting complete. Cotton 6% very poor, 22% poor, 32% fair, 25% good and 15% excellent; 100% bolls opening and 15% harvested. Corn 2% very poor, 7% poor, 33% fair, 55% good and 3% excellent; 95% mature; 25% grain harvested; 100% Silage harvested. Irrigated Sorghum 2% poor, 75% fair and 23% good; 71% mature; 14% Harvested grain. Dryland Sorghum 46% very poor and 54% poor; 90% coloring; 40% mature and 10% harvested for grain. Total Sorghum 94% turning color. Total Winter wheat 1% very poor, 29% poor, 42% fair, 27% good and 1% excellent; 100% planted; 83% emerged. Peanut 20% very poor, 60% poor and 20% fair; 55% harvested. Lettuce 11% very poor, 1% poor, 22% fair, 44% good and 22% excellent; 55% harvested. Chile 38% fair, 45% good and 17% excellent; 35% harvested red. Apples 100% good; 95% harvested. Pecans 1% poor, 23% fair, 33% good and 43% excellent. Cattle condition 20% very poor, 30% poor, 25% fair, 18% good and 7% excellent. Sheep condition 24% very poor, 44% poor, 22% fair and 10% good. Near normal temperatures throughout New Mexico thanks to late weekend bringing high winds and several inches of rain. Total precipitation in the entire state will not be known for a few more days. Farmers were beginning to move cattle from pasture in some areas.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 3% short, 85% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% short, 84% adequate, 12% surplus. Pasture condition 30% poor, 30% fair, 39% good, 1% excellent. Maine Potatoes 100% harvested, 100% 2011, 100% avg. Massachusetts Potatoes 95% harvested, 99% 2011, 99% avg. Rhode Island Potatoes 95% harvested, 85% 2011, 95% avg. Field Corn 95% harvested, 90% 2011, 95% avg. Second Crop Hay 99% harvested, 95% 2011, 99% avg. Third Crop Hay 90% harvested, 80% 2011, 95% avg. Apples 99% harvested, 95% 2011, 99% avg. Pears 100% harvested, 99% last year, 100% avg. Massachusetts Cranberries 90% harvested, 95% 2011, 90% avg. The week was mostly dry and sunny with weekly average temperatures ranging from 5 degrees above normal in Maine to 8 degrees above normal Connecticut and Vermont. Precipitation totals for the week ranged from zero to 0.26 inches across the region.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 6. Topsoil moisture was 10% short, 85% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 10% short, 80% adequate, 10% surplus. Temperatures reached highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 30s across the Garden State. Field corn and soybeans were harvested across the state. Farmers were planting wheat, barley and rye for cover crops. The fall vegetable harvest was almost complete. The pumpkin and winter squash harvest was in full swing. Operations are busy selling fall decorations for the Halloween season. Apple harvesting continued and it has been a healthy pick-your-own season. Milk production was average and livestock condition was good. As the week closed out, Hurricane Sandy made its way into the Garden State. Next week's report will reflect any crop loss and changes to field conditions.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil moisture 57% very short, 35% short and 8% adequate. Wind conditions.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Temperatures cooled during the week. Rain and snow fell in parts of the state. Weekly average temperatures were 1 to 5 degrees below normal. Las Vegas temperature hit 80 degrees. Overnight lows ranged from 50 degrees in Las Vegas to 14 degrees in Eureka. Winnemucca recorded 0.53 inch of precipitation, Ely recorded 0.26 inch, Elko recorded 0.22 inch, and Eureka recorded 0.11 inch. Scattered rains and snow interrupted some field work. Pasture and range conditions remained in poor to very poor condition. Irrigated crops were in generally good condition. Fourth cutting of alfalfa continued in some areas. Onion and potato harvest neared completion. Fields were being prepared for fall seeded crops. Calves are being sorted and shipped. Main farm and ranch activities included haying, equipment maintenance, weed control, and working livestock.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 3% short, 85% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% short, 84% adequate, 12% surplus. Pasture condition 30% poor, 30% fair, 39% good, 1% excellent. Maine Potatoes 100% harvested, 100% 2011, 100% avg. Massachusetts Potatoes 95% harvested, 99% 2011, 99% avg. Rhode Island Potatoes 95% harvested, 85% 2011, 95% avg. Field Corn 95% harvested, 90% 2011, 95% avg. Second Crop Hay 99% harvested, 95% 2011, 99% avg. Third Crop Hay 90% harvested, 80% 2011, 95% avg. Apples 99% harvested, 95% 2011, 99% avg. Pears 100% harvested, 99% last year, 100% avg. Massachusetts Cranberries 90% harvested, 95% 2011, 90% avg. The week was mostly dry and sunny with weekly average temperatures ranging from 5 degrees above normal in Maine to 8 degrees above normal Connecticut and Vermont. Precipitation totals for the week ranged from zero to 0.26 inches across the region.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 6. Topsoil moisture was 10% short, 85% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 10% short, 80% adequate, 10% surplus. Temperatures reached highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 30s across the Garden State. Field corn and soybeans were harvested across the state. Farmers were planting wheat, barley and rye for cover crops. The fall vegetable harvest was almost complete. The pumpkin and winter squash harvest was in full swing. Operations are busy selling fall decorations for the Halloween season. Apple harvesting continued and it has been a healthy pick-your-own season. Milk production was average and livestock condition was good. As the week closed out, Hurricane Sandy made its way into the Garden State. Next week's report will reflect any crop loss and changes to field conditions.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Topsoil moisture 57% very short, 35% short and 8% adequate. Wind conditions.
OHIO: Days suitable for field work 5.3. Top soil moisture 7% very short, 24% short, 62% adequate, and 7% surplus. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 56% good, 11% excellent.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for field work 6.7. Topsoil moisture 39% very short, 38% short, 23% adequate. Subsoil moisture 57% very short, 32% short, 11% adequate. Canola condition 2% very poor, 6% poor, 49% fair, 41% good, 2% excellent; emerged 88% this week, 75% last week, 81% last year, n/a average. Rye condition 8% very poor, 9% poor, 39% fair, 41% good, 3% excellent; emerged 95% this week, 86% last week, 78% last year, 89% average. Oats seedbed prepared 81% this week, 78% last week, 76% last year, 80% average; planted 43% this week, 43% last week, 40% last year, 47% average; emerged 32% this week, 30% last week, 30% last year, 37% average. Soybeans condition 27% very poor, 34% poor, 28% fair, 10% good, 1% excellent; mature 78% this week, 63% last week, 65% last year, 70% average; harvested 46% this week, 29% last week, 33% last year, 38% average. Peanuts condition 4% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 62% good, 4% excellent; mature 97% this week, 91% last week, 87% last year, 94% average; dug 76% this week, 58% last week, 62% last year, 72% average. Alfalfa 4th cutting 76% this week, 68% last week, 16% last year, 83% average. Other hay 2nd cutting 72% this week, 70% last week, 57% last year, 82% average. Livestock condition 3% very poor, 12% poor, 44% fair, 36% good, 5% excellent. Rain for the fall growing season was only 59 percent of normal statewide for the period since September 1st. Fall planting of small grains was almost complete and crops were emerging in good to fair condition. Harvest continued ahead of normal progress on all remaining row crops. Cool season grasses were struggling from the lack of rain the past month. Livestock conditions were rated mostly good to fair but stock pond levels remained a serious concern for livestock producers.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 15% short, 68% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 20% very short, 19% short, 60% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn Condition 26% fair, 74% good. Corn Harvested 81%, N/A 2011, N/A average. Oregon was cool & rainy, as most stations reporting high temperatures in the upper 50’s to lower 60’s & measurable precipitation. Most areas had above average precipitation & below normal temperatures. Rome had the highest recorded temperature at 70 degrees, below its normal high for this time of the season. Almost all stations in central & eastern Oregon reported below freezing overnight temperatures. Christmas Valley & Baker City both had the lowest recorded temperature at 15 degrees. The precipitation & cold temperatures brought some snow to Klamath, Lake, & Wallowa counties this week. The ongoing rainfall delayed some harvesting but continued to improve overall soil conditions for fall crop planting & growth. Detroit Lake received the most precipitation at 4.92 inches, above its normal precipitation for this time of the year. Another rainy week has been beneficial to the germination of fall seeded turf & small grains. Umatilla County farmers were getting closer to having winter wheat acreage planted. Sherman & Wasco Counties are both close to completing planting, but wheat is 70 percent emerged in Sherman County while only 5 percent in Wasco County. Fall fieldwork & planting continued in Klamath County. The rain continued to slow down the harvest of sugarbeet & corn in eastern Oregon. Many Malheur County producers were still trying to dig sugarbeets & finish corn harvest, continuing harvest as field moisture permitted. Corn harvest continued in Umatilla County. Sunflower & corn harvests were delayed in Union & Baker counties due to weather. Klamath County potato harvest continued. Grass seed & winter grains were up & growing in lower Willamette Valley. Cranberry producers have started harvest season. Orchard & vineyard crops have nearly all been harvested. Pinot noir producers in Yamhill County who harvested this week benefited from the recent rains, having a clean crop with few pest problems. In general, wine grapes appear to be a good crop this year. Some late apple varieties are still in the field awaiting harvest. Apples & Asian pears are still looking to be a good crop in Lane County. Hazelnut harvest continued in western Oregon, facing difficulties due to the rain; some hazelnuts were being “muddied out”. Vegetables, including garlic, leeks, chard, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, kale, & peas, were growing well in southern Oregon. Cauliflower & broccoli were being picked & heading to canny & processors in Washington County. Plenty of pumpkins are still waiting in fields for the public’s arrival & purchase. Nurseries & greenhouses were burning ripped out arborvitae & other shrubs, digging, & burlap & balling larger trees. With November near, Yamhill County will start to see Christmas trees as the next crop being harvested & shipped out on a large scale. Some Lake County livestock were left to be shipped to California pastures. Coos & Curry counties’ cattle continued to be gathered off low lying pastures as the ground get muddy. The germination of pastures in southern Oregon benefited from another rainy week. In Josephine County, animals were finding green patches in places that were dry in the summer.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Soil moisture 8% very short, 30% short, 62% adequate, 5% surplus. Fall plowing 86% this week, 80% last week, 44% last year, 63% average. Barley planted 95% this week, 93% last week, 84% last year, and 91% average; emerged 77% this week, 56% last week, 56% last year, and 73% average. Winter wheat planted 86% this week, 80% last week, 64% last year, and 77% average; emerged 54% this week, 42% last week, 42% last year, and 57% average. Soybean harvest 63% this week, 52% last week, 30% last year, 50% average. Winter Wheat conditions 10% fair, 56% good, 34% excellent.
Florence, Hartsville and Jamestown was close to ten degrees above the long-term average. Overcast skies on Friday limited the surface warming and most sites reported high temperatures in the 70's. At 1:00 a.m. on Saturday, light rain from Hurricane Sandy was reported at N Myrtle Beach. Saturday’s blowing rain was confined to the coastal counties. The rain gage at N Inlet measured an event total of 0.64 inches. Winds at the Charleston AP gusted to 36 mph. At 5:00 p.m. on Saturday afternoon, the center of Hurricane Sandy was located 335 miles east-southeast of Charleston and moving northeast. Breezy conditions affected much of the state on Sunday but the strongest winds were near the beaches. The N Myrtle Beach AP recorded a 45 mph gust from the northeast at 11:38 a.m. Allendale and Givhans warmed to 78 degrees ahead of a cold front that arrived during the evening. The state average temperature for the period was five degrees above normal. The highest official temperature reported was 86 degrees at the Marlboro County AP on October 25. The lowest official temperature reported was 38 degrees at Ninety Nine Islands on October 23. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 0.64 inches at N Myrtle Beach on October 27. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.0 inches.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil moisture 60% very short, 24% short, 16% adequate. Subsoil moisture 72% very short, 20% short, 8% adequate. Feed supplies 22% very short, 33% short, 43% adequate, 2% surplus. Stock water supplies 42% very short, 36% short, 22% adequate. Cattle condition 4% poor, 29% fair, 61% good, 6% excellent. Sheep condition 5% poor, 24% fair, 60% good, 11% excellent. Major activities last week included finishing up row crop harvest, fall tillage, hauling grain and hay, fertilizing, moving cattle to stubble fields and preparing for winter.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Subsoil moisture 22% very short, 46% short, 32% adequate. Winter Wheat Planted 85%, 94% 2011, 95% avg. Corn harvested (grain) 68%, 18% 2011, 38% avg. Cattle and calves moved From Summer Range 92%, 10% 2011, 88% avg. Cattle and calves condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 32% fair, 57% good, 6% excellent. Sheep and lambs moved From Summer Range 91%, 86% 2011, 91% avg. Sheep Condition 4% poor, 21% fair, 71% good, 4% excellent. Stock Water Supplies 14% very short, 33% short, 53% adequate, 0% surplus. Apples harvested 96%, 74% 2011, 92% avg. Beaver County reports they received rain this week. Box Elder County reports the weather turned a little wetter and colder in the county during the first part of the week. The storm produced just under an inch of moisture in the eastern part of the county while the rest of the county received about a half inch of rain. The snow level was about 5,000 feet and most of that snow has since melted. Cache County growers were very happy with storms early last week. Carbon County reported receiving their first hard frost this week. Beaver County reported that farmers are finishing fall work. In Box Elder County most dry land farmers dusted in their crop and now hope that the grain will sprout, make a root system, and now hope that the grain will sprout, make a root system, and now hope that the grain will sprout, make a root system, and now hope that the grain will sprout, make a root system, and now hope that the grain will sprout, make a root system, and now hope that the grain will sprout, make a root system, and now hope that the grain will sprout, make a root system, and now hope that the grain will sprout, make a root system. The forecast for the week ahead has temperatures into the mid 60's, which may help the wheat along. Grain corn harvest slowed significantly this past week because of the wet weather, but should pick up this week. Over three fourths of the crop has been harvested with yields ranging from about 200 bushels per acre to as high as 304 bushels per acre. Some farmers were out this week disking corn stubble or trying to plow some fields in the morning on the frost. Most other field work has come to an end in the county. Some wheat will still be drilled in fields where corn is being cut and some dry farmers may try to plant additional wheat this week. Cache County reports all crops, with the exception of grain corn, have been harvested. Winter wheat that has been planted is already responding to the moisture. Morgan County reports crop harvest is over. Weber County reported that all crops except grain corn have been harvested and fall grain is being planted. Box Elder County livestock producers have been working their cattle in preparation for shipping calves and separating cows to either hold over or sell. Cattle ranchers are concerned about lighter weaning weights on calves and the poor condition of their cows. Calf weights are averaging 50 to 150 lbs lighter this year. Some ranchers report as many as 20% of their cows are open. In Cache County beef calves have been weaned and most sold for a good price. Morgan County reports that livestock are being brought off the range 2 to 3 weeks early.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable 6. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 12% short, 79% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 18% short, 74% adequate, 4% surplus. Burley tobacco 98% harvested, 100% 2011, 99% avg. Winter Wheat 53% seeded, 54% 2011, 44% avg; 25% emerged, 27% 2011, 16% avg. Cotton and soybean harvest progressing at normal pace in spite of rainfall received late week. Other activities included stripping tobacco, preparing tobacco for sale, applying lime, and marketing calves. Cattle producers started preparing for winter months.

TEXAS: Precipitation fell across much of the eastern half of the state last week. Portions of Southeast Texas received up to two inches, while other areas observed only scattered showers. Large parts of West Texas and the Panhandle, however, remained dry. Winter wheat and oats seeding continued in most areas. Some field preparation was still occurring following row crop harvest. Oats seeding was virtually complete in the Tran-Pecos and the Edwards Plateau. Small grain emergence was good in many areas, helped by sufficient soil moisture levels. However in the Plains, dry, windy conditions hampered small grain development. Cotton harvest continued around the state, with many fields defoliated and ready for picking. Some fields were being abandoned and shredded due to poor lint production. Cotton harvest was wrapping up in East and South Texas. Gins were active in many areas. Corn, sorghum, and sunflower harvest continued in the High Plains with corn and sorghum stalks being cut for winter feeding. Soybean harvest continued in the High Plains and Northeast Texas, while peanut harvest was active in both North and South Texas. Pecan harvest was underway in many areas of the state. Harvest was still in the early stages around North Texas, but further along in South Texas. Fall vegetables continued to develop in South Texas with irrigation active on cabbage, cucumbers, onions, and spinach. In the Lower Valley, some vegetable planting was still occurring as harvest of citrus, sugarcane, and late cantaloupe crops continued. Warm-season grass growth slowed with cooler temperatures, while producers continued to plant winter forages. In some areas, pastures had reached grazing stage, allowing livestock producers to reduce supplemental feeding. However in other areas, particularly the Plains and South Texas, drought conditions persisted. Pastures in these drought areas were short on grass and in need of additional moisture, and many livestock producers continued to supplement grazing with hay and range cubes.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 30% short, 62% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 32% short, 60% adequate, 5% surplus.
Livestock 4% poor, 24% fair, 63% good, 9% excellent. Corn Harvested 95%, 88% 2011, 90% 5-yr avg. Corn Silage Harvested 99%, 100% 2011, 100% 5-yr avg. Soybeans 1% very poor, 4% poor, 27% fair, 54% good, 14% excellent. Soybeans Dropping Leaves 94%, 90% 2011, 94% 5-yr avg. Soybeans Harvested 36%, 25% 2011, 32% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat Seeded 48%, 43% 2011, 41% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat Emerged 20%, 20% 2011, 17% 5-yr avg. Barley 18% fair, 74% good, 8% excellent. Barley Seeded 89%, 85% 2011, 88% 5-yr avg. Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested 95%, 94% 2011, 95% 5-yr avg. Peanuts 11% fair, 72% good, 17% excellent. Peanuts Dug 84%, 79% 2011, 89% 5-yr avg. Fall Apples Harvested 99%, 95% 2011, 96% 5-yr avg. Winter Apples Harvested 80%, 70% 2011, 79% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat Emerged 20%, 20% 2011, 17% 5-yr avg. Barley 18% fair, 74% good, 8% excellent. Barley Seeded 89%, 85% 2011, 88% 5-yr avg. Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested 95%, 94% 2011, 95% 5-yr avg. Peanuts 11% fair, 72% good, 17% excellent. Peanuts Dug 84%, 79% 2011, 89% 5-yr avg. Fall Apples Harvested 99%, 95% 2011, 96% 5-yr avg. Winter Apples Harvested 80%, 70% 2011, 79% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat Emerged 20%, 20% 2011, 17% 5-yr avg. Barley 18% fair, 74% good, 8% excellent. Barley Seeded 89%, 85% 2011, 88% 5-yr avg. Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested 95%, 94% 2011, 95% 5-yr avg. Growing conditions: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.5. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 14% short, 75% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 29% short, 62% adequate, 1% surplus. Irrigation water supply 4% short, 94% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay and Roughtage 8% very short, 20% short, 71% adequate and 1% surplus. Winter Wheat Dryland 1% poor, 25% fair, 71% good, 3% excellent. Winter Wheat Irrigated 1% very poor, 1% poor, 4% fair, 68% good, 26% excellent. Potatoes Harvested 95% harvested, 89% last week, 94% last year, 93% five-year average. Field Corn 34% fair, 54% good, 12% excellent. Field Corn Dented 97%, 95% last week, 94% last year, 98% five-year average; Mature 85%, 74% last week, 63% last year, 88% five-year average; Harvested for grain 44% harvested, 40% last week, 16% last year, 56% five-year average; Harvested for Silage 95%, 85% last week, 87% last year, 95% five-year average. Alfalfa Hay fourth Cutting 95% cut, 85% last week, 84% last year, 96% five-year average. In Grays Harbor, Christmas tree growers were getting equipment ready to begin harvest. In Grant County Buckwheat fields were down throughout the county with no combining due to rain. In Adams County, there was very little fall grain planting. Nearly all winter wheat was seeded in Columbia County. In Walla Walla County, winter wheat began to emerge as the rain helped to establish the planted crops. In Yakima County, apple harvest was slowed by the rainy conditions. Granny Smith, Red Delicious and Fuji varieties came into the packinghouses. Thurston County raspberry growers were trimming primo-canes to prevent plant damage during winter storms. Late variety apple harvest continued as pear harvest was nearly completed in Chelan and Douglas Counties. In Franklin County, potato harvest continued intermittently because of the rain and the last of the sweet corn was harvested. In Klickitat County, rain continued to stymie grape growers anxious to get the last of the crop off the vines. Range and pasture conditions were 10 percent very poor, 19 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 34 percent good, and 0 percent excellent. In Grays Harbor, dairy producers were pumping manure lagoons for application to forage fields. In Thurston County, livestock producers were feeding haylage. Cattleman checked pregnancy levels of their cows in Douglas County. In Klickitat County, cattle were rounded up from the higher elevations as depleted pastures and ranges showed signs of re-growth as ditches and drainages began to fill.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Topsoil moisture 9% very short, 36% short, 50% adequate, and 5% surplus. Fall tillage complete 47% this week, 37% last week, 38% last year, 32% average. Harvest slowed this week as wet weather kept combines out of fields. Temperatures were well above average, with daytime highs in the 70s reported for much of the state. Thunderstorms rolled through midweek, with wind and hail damage to corn reported in Oneida and Taylor counties. Soil moistures rose to 45 percent short to very short statewide, compared to 55 percent last week and 79 percent two weeks ago. The moisture and warm temperatures reportedly boosted growth of winter wheat, rye and other fall-planted cover crops. However, many reporters noted that subsoil moistures remain dryer than usual going into winter and more precipitation is needed. Across the reporting stations, average temperatures this week were 2 to 6 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 57 to 62 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 40 to 44 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.52 inches in Green Bay to 1.74 inches La Crosse.

WYOMING: Days suitable for field work 4.6. Topsoil moisture 35% very short, 39% short, 26% adequate. Subsoil moisture 35% very short, 59% short, 6% adequate. Corn harvested 58%, 51% 2011, 31% avg; condition 9% very poor, 14% poor, 31% fair, 35% good, 11% excellent. Sugar beets harvested 91%, 73% 2011, 72% avg. Alfalfa harvested 84%, 87% 2011, 87% avg. Winter wheat condition 7% very poor, 28% poor, 36% fair, 29% good; wind damage 64% none, 36% light; freeze damage 100% none. Stock water supplies were 19% very short, 38% short, 43% adequate. Farm activities included harvesting corn, dry beans, and sugar beets, and tending to livestock. High temperatures ranged from 44 degrees at Lake Yellowstone to 74 degrees in Torrington. Low temperatures ranged from -7 degrees at Shirley Basin to 23 degrees in Torrington. Average temperatures ranged from 25 degrees at Lake Yellowstone to 42 degrees in Torrington. Temperatures were below normal at all stations with the exception of Buford which was 2 degrees above normal. All stations reported some precipitation ranging from 0.04 inch in Cody and Greybull to 1.7 inches at Lake Yellowstone. Twenty-six out of the 33 stations received above average precipitation for the week. Lake Yellowstone is the only station reporting above normal precipitation for the year while the remaining stations range from 1.97 to 8.06 inches below normal for the year. Lincoln County reported that winter has hit. There is snow in the mountains and ranchers may have to start feeding livestock soon. Uinta County reported heavy snow fell last week, with 6 to 8 inches and higher accumulations in the mountains. Rain and sleet provided valuable moisture as well. Some ranchers are starting supplemental feeding. Hay supplies are increasing with the delivery of hay into the county. Carbon County reported receiving some snow that melted and soaked into the ground to improve the topsoil and subsoil moisture. Converse County received 0.68 inch of moisture with wet snow last week, the most precipitation they have received in a while.
## International Weather and Crop Summary

### October 21-27, 2012

*International Weather and Crop Highlights and Summaries provided by USDA/WAOB*

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### EUROPE:
Rain boosted soil moisture for wheat and barley from Spain into Italy and the northern Balkans, while the lower Danube River Valley remained unfavorably dry.

#### WESTERN FSU:
Unfavorable warmth and dryness further reduced soil moisture for winter wheat in southern Russia and portions of southern Ukraine.

#### MIDDLE EAST:
Increasing rainfall across much of the region improved prospects for winter grain establishment.

#### SOUTH ASIA:
Heavy rainfall slowed fieldwork in southern India.

#### EAST ASIA:
Showers favored germination and establishment of winter crops.

#### SOUTHEAST ASIA:
Dry weather aided rice maturation and harvesting in Indochina, while Typhoon Son-Tinh brought high winds and heavy rains to the Philippines and northern Vietnam.

#### AUSTRALIA:
Showers returned to Western Australia, but the rain came too late to significantly benefit immature winter crops.

#### SOUTH AFRICA:
Showers continued throughout the eastern corn belt and in most major sugarcane areas.

#### ARGENTINA:
Persistent wetness maintained concern for winter grains, although moisture was abundant for germination of summer grains and oilseeds.

#### BRAZIL:
Locally heavy rain benefited corn and soybeans but was untimely for unharvested winter wheat.

#### MEXICO:
Warm, seasonably drier weather hastened maturation of corn and other rain-fed summer crops.

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**Map:**
- **Rain (S Europe)**
- **Unfavorably Warm & Dry (Western FSU)**
- **Unfavorably Dry (Lower Danube Valley)**
- **Showers Favor Winter Crops (China)**
- **Seasonably Drier (Mexico)**
- **Persistent Wetness (Argentina)**
- **Typhoon Son-Tinh**
- **Late Rain (W Australia)**

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Rain boosted soil moisture for winter crops across southern Europe, although unfavorable dryness persisted over the lower Danube River Valley. A slow-moving storm generated locally heavy showers and thunderstorms (10-100 mm) across Portugal, Spain, and northern Italy, boosting soil moisture for winter grains and increasing irrigation reserves. Light to moderate showers (2-20 mm) also spread into the northern Balkans, favoring winter crop establishment. In contrast, drought persisted across the lower Danube River Valley, where soil moisture supplies remained insufficient for winter wheat germination. Dry weather was welcome, however, across much of northern Europe; producers in England and France were able to resume winter wheat planting due to the break in wet weather. At week’s end, rain was approaching the drought-stricken Balkans, offering some hope for late-season moisture before cold winter weather arrives.

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Rain and snow in northern and western growing areas contrasted with unfavorably dry conditions over key southern winter wheat districts. A storm system tracked across the region’s northern tier, producing rain and the season’s first snow (2-25 mm liquid equivalent) from Belarus and central Ukraine into central and northern Russia. Crops in the northern half of the region are approaching or entering dormancy as colder weather settled over

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A slow-moving Mediterranean storm system brought widespread rainfall to much of the region. In Turkey, 10 to 90 mm of rain boosted soil moisture for winter wheat and barley establishment. Showers totaled 10 to 35 mm from Syria into western Iran, providing many primary winter grain areas their first significant moisture of the autumn season. Dry conditions lingered in eastern Iran, although rain was approaching these crop districts at week’s end.

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A strong monsoon low pressure area brought heavy rainfall (25-50 mm inland and 100-300 mm along the coast) to much of southern India, delaying fieldwork for rabi crops. Meanwhile, dry weather prevailed across the remainder of the region, promoting summer crop harvesting and winter crop planting. In addition, temperatures averaging in the middle 20s degrees C aided germination and establishment of winter wheat and rapeseed in northwestern India.
Showers moved through the North China Plain and Yangtze Valley early in the week, with another bout of light rain at the end of the reporting period. Overall rainfall totals were between 1 and 10 mm on the North China Plain, providing favorable germination and establishment moisture for winter wheat. In the Yangtze Valley, weekly rainfall totals were higher (25-50 mm), slowing winter rapeseed planting but bolstering moisture supplies. Temperatures for the week were 1 to 3 degrees C above normal, aiding emergence of winter crops, while freezing temperatures remained north of major growing areas.
Seasonably dry weather in Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia aided rice maturation and the start of harvest activities. Similar conditions benefited coffee harvesting in the Central Highlands of Vietnam, while periodic showers (25-50 mm) maintained favorable moisture supplies for winter rice in the south. In the Philippines, Tropical Cyclone Son-Tinh cut a path across the Visayan Islands and southern Luzon, bringing flooding rains (100-300 mm) to low-lying areas but causing only minor impacts to rice and corn. Son-Tinh strengthened into a Category 3 Typhoon (105 knots) as it approached central Vietnam and subsequently began weakening prior to landfall in the Red River Delta of northern Vietnam. Wind damage was likely more an issue than flooding in Vietnam as rainfall amounts were less than 100 mm across the impacted areas. Meanwhile, seasonal rainfall (25-50 mm) continued to boost moisture supplies for oil palm in Malaysia and Indonesia, with rainfall increasing across Java, Indonesia, promoting field preparations for rice transplanting.
Scattered showers (2-16 mm) overspread Western Australia, but the rain came too late in the growing season to significantly benefit immature winter grains and oilseeds. Elsewhere in the wheat belt, mostly dry weather persisted across southern and eastern Australia. The dry weather favored winter wheat maturation and harvesting in the north but remained unfavorable for filling winter grains in the south.

The dryness allowed cotton and sorghum planting to progress across northern New South Wales and southern Queensland, but the lack of rain maintained irrigation requirements for germinating to emerging summer crops. Temperatures in Australia were cooler than last week, averaging near normal throughout the wheat belt with maximum temperatures generally in the upper 20s to middle 30s degrees C.
Mild, showery weather continued in the country’s main eastern farming areas. Rainfall totaled 10 to 65 mm from Limpopo southward to KwaZulu-Natal, with amounts exceeding 25 mm throughout central sections of the corn belt and in the main rain-fed sugarcane areas southeast of Lesotho. Weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 2°C below normal in this region; in most areas, daytime highs reached the upper 20s (degrees C) on several days, with temperatures briefly reaching the lower 30s in Limpopo. Corn planting was likely well underway in response to the recent weeks of beneficial rain. Drier, somewhat warmer conditions prevailed in western sections of the corn belt (notably North West), with daytime highs hitting the lower 30s early in the week, favoring maturation and harvesting of winter grains. Corn planting typically begins later in the year in the more westerly production areas, and can last into the early part of January. Following last week’s unseasonable rainfall, dry, warm weather dominated Western Cape, favoring maturing winter wheat and developing tree and vine crops.

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Unseasonable wetness persisted across key agricultural areas of central Argentina, keeping winter grains unfavorably wet but maintaining abundant levels of moisture for summer crops. Rainfall totaled 25 to 100 mm from La Pampa northeastward through Corrientes, with some of the highest amounts concentrated over high-yielding farming areas of the lower Parana River Valley (Entre Rios, southern Santa Fe, and northern Buenos Aires). Near-normal temperatures accompanied the wetness, with daytime highs reaching the upper 20s and lower 30s (degrees C) during the drier latter part of the week. Lighter showers (2-25 mm) prevailed across the southern wheat belt (southwestern growing areas of La Pampa and Buenos Aires), fostering wheat and barley development after last week’s heavier rain. Farther north, light to moderate rain (10-25 mm) boosted topsoil moisture for cotton and other summer row crops in previously dry western production areas (Santiago del Estero and western sections of Formosa and Chaco). Weekly average temperatures were 1 to 2°C above normal across the north; daytime highs were generally in the lower 30s (degrees C) but briefly approached 40°C in the far north, sustaining high evaporative losses. According to Argentina’s Ministry of Agriculture, sunflowers were 41 percent planted (an increase of 5 percentage points from last week) as of October 25, 11 points behind last year’s pace. Similarly, corn was 40 percent planted (an increase of 4 percentage points), lagging last year by 15 percentage points. Soybean planting was reportedly underway, although farmers were also experiencing delays due to wetness.
Widespread, locally heavy rain overspread southern Brazil, increasing moisture for summer crops but renewing concerns for the effects of excessive wetness on winter wheat. Rainfall in excess of 50 mm covered much of Parana, Santa Catarina, and Rio Grande do Sul. Lighter amounts (10-50 mm) were recorded from southern Mato Grosso do Sul to southern Minas Gerais, including most of Sao Paulo; the moisture benefited summer row crops as well as sugarcane, coffee, and citrus. In the Center-West Region (Mato Grosso, Goias, and northern Mato Grosso do Sul), scattered showers (10-50 mm) maintained generally favorable conditions for emerging soybeans. However, above-normal temperatures (weekly temperatures averaging 3-4°C above normal, with daytime highs in the middle and upper 30s degrees C) maintained high evaporative losses. Meanwhile, dry, occasionally hot weather (weekly temperatures averaging 3-5°C above normal, with daytime highs ranging from 38-40°C) returned to the northeastern interior, following last week’s beneficial rain. Rain is needed soon in these areas (Tocantins, western Bahia, and nearby locations in Piaui and Maranhao) for planting soybeans, cotton, and other summer row crops. Seasonably dry weather along the northeastern coast fostered harvesting of sugarcane, cocoa, and other crops. According to reports emanating from Brazil, soybean planting was progressing at a slower pace than last year’s.
Following last week’s late-season surge in rainfall, seasonably drier weather dominated the region. Scattered showers (10-100 mm) were concentrated over parts of the southeast, including Campeche and coffee areas of southern Chiapas; little to no rain fell elsewhere in the country, aside from some spotty showers in the northern interior and along sections of the Pacific and Gulf Coasts. Weekly temperatures averaged as much as 3°C above normal in the northeast, with daytime highs frequently reaching the middle 30s (degrees C). The warm, generally dry weather fostered maturation and drydown of corn and other summer row crops.
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