

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin

State Stories

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ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork was 6.7. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 37% short, 58% adequate, and 1% surplus. Corn planted 75%, 58% 2011, and 60% five year average. Corn emerged 51%, 34% 2011, and 31% five year average. Corn condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 69% good and 14% excellent. Winter wheat headed 79%, 29% 2011, and 10% five year average. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 3% poor, 21% fair, 63% good, and 13% excellent. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, and 17% excellent. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 57% good, and 13% excellent. The average mean temperature for the week ranged from 55.3 degrees in valley head, to 70.4 degrees in Dauphin Island. The total precipitation ranged from 1.04 in Vernon to 0.01 in Valley Head. Light frost received during the week but no crop damage reported. Dry conditions begin moving into parts of Alabama; however, scattered showers were received this past week. The planting of corn and soybeans was slightly ahead of schedule because of favorably weather to keep soil temperature above normal. Pastures continue to look good due to warm temperatures, and the recent rain seems to have enhanced vigorous growth.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures were mostly above normal for the week ending April 15, ranging from 6 degrees above normal at Grand Canyon to 8 degrees below normal at Parker. The highest temperature of the week was 95 degrees at Roll. The lowest reading was 23 degrees at Grand Canyon. There was precipitation recorded in all but six of the 22 weather stations, ranging from 0.01 inches in Maricopa to 0.84 inches in Kingman. All weather stations have below normal precipitation to date in 2012. Alfalfa conditions remain mostly fair to excellent, depending on location. Harvesting has occurred on 80 percent of the growing areas across the State. Two-thirds of the State's durum wheat crop has headed. Central Arizona growers shipped broccoli, cabbage, kale greens and parsley. Western Arizona growers shipped broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, cilantro, kale greens, Boston, green leaf, iceberg, red leaf, romaine, and processed lettuces. Also shipped this week were parsley, spinach and Swiss chard. Rangeland conditions continue to deteriorate with many areas reporting very dry pastures. Conditions ranged from very poor to good.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 16% short, 72% adequate, and 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 9% short, 75% adequate, and 15% surplus. Corn 94% planted, 74% 2011, 64% avg.; 76% emerged, 40% 2011, 38% avg. Sorghum 47% emerged, 9% 2011, 9% avg. Soybeans 19% planted, 10% 2011, 7% avg.; 7% emerged, 2% 2011, 1% avg. Livestock were in good condition last week. Pasture and range condition were reported in mostly fair to good condition.

CALIFORNIA: Recent rain showers have improved soil moisture supplies for dry land crops. Early planted grain fields were growing well with wheat headed nearly two-thirds complete and some cutting for oat hay underway. Wheat conditions continued to improve with recent precipitation as the crop was rated mostly good to excellent. Seedbed preparations for corn and cotton halted in some rain affected areas, but the main activities included cultivation to remove weeds, herbicide applications, and reshaping seed beds. Some operators were able to start planting, however the majority of operators were waiting for warmer soil temperatures. Rice producers continue preparations for planting. Plum, peach, apricot, and nectarine bloom was complete in all but the latest varieties. Trees were almost fully leafed out and showing fruit. Thinning continued in apricots. Cherry bloom was nearly complete as bees were being moved out of orchards. Prunes were past full bloom and beginning to leaf out in Sutter and Yuba Counties. Weed treatments and bloom sprays continued in stone fruit orchards. Recent hail storms in the San Joaquin Valley hit stone fruit orchards hard causing growers significant fruit damage. Grapevines continued to leaf out while vineyards were being pruned and sprayed.

Pomegranates were leafing out. Apples were starting bloom and leafing out. Strawberries were being transplanted in Siskiyou County. Early blueberries in Tulare County were starting harvest. Olive groves were pruned. Orange and avocado trees were in bloom in early locations. Navel oranges, tangerines, tangelos and lemons continued to be harvested and packed for export. The harvesting of late variety navel oranges and early Valencia oranges began to pick up. Almond bloom was over as almond trees were leafing out and nuts were growing larger. Freeze damage was becoming apparent in areas hit hard by the March cold spell. Walnuts were continuing to leaf out while early varieties were in bloom. Growers were applying blight sprays. Pistachios were blooming and leafing out. Walnuts, almonds, and pistachios continued to be exported. Kern County reported carrots, melons, peppers and processing tomatoes being planted. In Tulare County, squash, tomato, and peppers were being planted. Fresno County reported onion and garlic continued to grow well while being treated with herbicides for volunteer wheat. Harvesting of asparagus, broccoli and some head lettuce had begun. Some heavy rains made for muddy conditions for harvest of lettuce and broccoli. Processing tomatoes were being planted from seed as well as transplanting. Bell pepper, carrot, cantaloupe, honeydew and watermelon fields were being prepared for planting. Spring vegetables such as beets, radishes, cabbages, turnips, daikon, green onions, spinach, herbs, mustard greens, choys, chards and kales continued to be harvested. Eggplant and squashes continued to be planted. In Merced County, fresh market tomato and processing tomato planting continued as asparagus harvest continued. Some tomato fields were damaged by frost. In Stanislaus County, broccoli, and spinach continued to be harvested. San Joaquin County reported continued harvesting of asparagus. Non-irrigated rangeland continued to improve in response to the late spring rains with greening reported across the state. Range conditions were poor for this time of the year for much of the state. Livestock were moved to rangeland in some areas. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Sheep and cattle grazed on retired farmland and alfalfa fields. Pollination activities were winding down in stone fruits and blueberries. Some bees were being moved to citrus or shipped out-of-state. Milk production was negatively impacted by muddy corral conditions at some dairies.

COLORADO: Days suitable for field work 5.6 days. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 33% short, 58% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 16% very short, 38% short, 46% adequate. Barley 50% planted, 37% 2011, 35% avg.; 32% emerged, 13% 2011, 11% avg. Spring wheat 45% planted, 25% 2011, 25% avg.; 12% emerged, 5% 2011, 7% avg. Winter Wheat 1 % pastured, 5% 2011, 5% avg.; 33% jointed, 16% 2011, 18% avg. Sugarbeets 28% planted, 7% 2011, 18% avg. Summer potatoes 35% planted, 11% 2011, 11% avg. Dry onions 64% planted, 56% 2011, 55% avg. Livestock condition 4% very poor, 5% poor, 20% fair, 67% good, 4% excellent. Above average precipitation below the Front Range and Eastern Plains while the rest of the State had below average precipitation. Temperatures were above average for the majority of last week with some cooler temperatures at the end. Windy and dry conditions in parts of the Eastern Plains and in the San Luis Valley. Overall, mountain snowpack is 40 percent of average raising concerns about the availability of irrigation water.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 34% very short, 50% short, 16% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 15% very short, 50% short, 35% adequate, 0% surplus. Hay supplies 8% very short, 30% short, 62% adequate, 0% surplus. Pasture condition 4% very poor, 13% poor, 25% fair, 52% good, 6% excellent. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 50% good, 28% excellent. Barley condition 0% very poor, 3% poor, 20% fair, 49% good, 28% excellent. Corn Progress planted 18%, 4% 2011, 5% avg.; Barley headed 70%, 0% 2011, 0% avg.; Winter Wheat headed 13%,

0% 2011, 0% avg.; Green Peas planted 75%, 42% 2011, 63% avg.; Potatoes planted 58%, 37% 2011, 47% avg.; Sweet Corn planted 18%, 5% 2011, 4% avg.; Apples bloomed 29%, 9% 2011, 21% avg.; Peaches bloomed 55%, 23% 2011, 58% avg.; Strawberries bloomed 68%, 43% 2011, 31% avg.; Dry conditions continue to concern producers. Moisture is at critical stage.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture 29% very short, 50% short, 21% adequate. Subsoil moisture 16% very short, 55% short, 29% adequate. Sixty eight percent of Florida's landmass in severe, extreme, or exceptional drought. Peanut planting making good progress, Dixie, Gadsden, Hamilton, Madison, Marion counties. Jackson County limited peanut planting until it rains. Most corn crop planted, some continue to plant. Corn planting finished in Jackson, Madison counties. Walton and St. Johns counties still planting corn. Soybean planting started; a few fields planted in Walton County. Jackson County preparing fields for planting cotton. Irrigation pumps frequently pumping water to maintain fruit and vegetable crops. Blueberry harvesting underway, Hernando and Sumter counties. Hillsborough County light picking of cantaloupe and squash. Watermelon harvesting in Charlotte, Glades, Hendry counties. Union County watermelon being planted. St. Johns County planting cantaloupes, cucumbers, sweet corn, watermelons. Gulf County cucumber, pea, squash, sweet corn, tomato, watermelon being planted. Gadsden County tomatoes being planted. Vegetable movement included snap beans, cabbage, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, okra, bell peppers, radishes, squash, sweet corn, tomatoes. Light supply for peppers other than bell peppers, cabbage, celery. Drought conditions worsen across entire citrus region from moderate on east coast to extreme on much of west coast, per U.S. Drought Monitor, Apr 10, 2012. Valencia harvest continues to average over 5 million boxes weekly. Abundant pea-sized, larger fruit visible as new crop progresses. Harvesting, young tree care primary grove activity. Pasture Condition 5% very poor, 30% poor, 53% fair, 10% good, 2% excellent. Cattle Condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 62% fair, 30% good, 2% excellent. Statewide, pasture condition lower due to drought, most fair. Most cattle in fair condition, slight decreased. Panhandle; pasture condition very poor to excellent. Cattle condition poor to excellent, mostly good. North; most pasture, cattle in poor to good condition. Central; most pasture in fair condition, varied from very poor to good as dry conditions continued. Southwest, pasture condition very poor to excellent, with mostly fair. Hot, dry, windy conditions dried out soils, limited forage growth in pastures. Most cattle in fair condition.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil moisture 17% very short, 47% short, 35% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 23% very short, 41% short, 35% adequate, 1% surplus. Range and Pasture 5% very poor, 11% poor, 46% fair, 33% good, 5% excellent. Blueberries 16% very poor, 12% poor, 24% fair, 27% good, 21% excellent. Corn 0% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 66% good, 11% excellent. Corn Planted 93%, 83% 2011, 78% avg. Onions 0% very poor, 15% poor, 59% fair, 25% good, 1% excellent. Onions Harvested 18%, 13% 2011, 6% avg. Peaches 0% very poor, 13% poor, 44% fair, 15% good, 28% excellent. Rye 0% very poor, 7% poor, 50% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent. Sorghum Planted 7%, 9% 2011, 8% avg. Tobacco Transplanted 70%, 37% 2011, 34% avg. Watermelons 0% very poor, 3% poor, 34% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Watermelons Planted 82%, 76% 2011, 72% avg. Winter Wheat 0% very poor, 6% poor, 40% fair, 45% good, 9% excellent. Precipitation estimates for the State ranged from no rain up to an inch. Average high temperatures ranged from the upper 60's to the lower 80's. Average low temperatures ranged from the upper 30's to the lower 60's.

HAWAII: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 35% very short, 25% short, 40% adequate. A small amount of precipitation fell this week most occurring early on in the beginning of the reference week. The average rainfall for the State was 0.96 inches. Conditions of pasture and range decreased, as drought conditions increased, and rain gauges indicated monthly totals which are far behind schedule to meet historic April rainfall totals. State irrigation reservoirs remained adequately full from the heavy March storms and ensured proper crop development in areas where available.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work were 5.3 days. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 4% short, 77% adequate, 13% surplus. Field corn planted 7%, 0% 2011, 4% avg. Winter wheat jointed 8%, 9% 2011, 8% avg. Winter wheat boot stage 0%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Onions planted 95%, 63% 2011, 78% avg. Onions emerged 11%, 0% 2011, 14% avg. Potatoes planted 24%, 2% 2011, 6% avg. Oats planted 43%, 7% 2011, 31% avg. Oats emerged 22%, 0% 2011, 13% avg. Dry peas planted 14%, 29% 2011, 15% avg. Lentils planted 0%, 11% 2011, 3% avg. Calving complete 93%, 95% 2011, 94% avg. Lambing complete 96%, 93% 2011, 92% avg. Hay and roughage supply 19% very short, 11% short, 58% adequate, 12% surplus. Irrigation water supply 0% very poor, 0% poor, 16% fair, 60% good, 24% excellent. Sugarbeets emerged 7%, 1% 2011, 7% avg. Seed potatoes are still being shipped

at a rapid pace. Caribou extension educator reported farmers are ahead of schedule. Field Corn planting is estimated to be 7 percent complete at the state level. This is 3 percentage points above average. The Cassia extension educator reports very dry weather and too much wind. Calving is finishing up and livestock are in good condition.

ILLINOIS: Topsoil moisture 3 % very short, 24 % short, 61 % adequate, and 12 % surplus. Subsoil moisture 4 % very short, 32 % short, 60 % adequate, and 4 % surplus. Oats 93 % planted, 59 % last year, 44% average. Weather conditions normalized last week with an average statewide temperature of 51.4 degrees, 1 degree above normal. Statewide precipitation averaged 0.98 inches, 0.09 below normal. Many farmers, however, are delaying planting until after a good rain to improve soil moisture. Frost conditions were reported in parts of the state, but the damage on wheat and emerged corn was mostly mild. Some farmers reported concern about the frost damage to hay conditions.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 27% short, 57% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 20% short, 70% adequate, 6% surplus. Corn emerged 3%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Soybeans planted 5%, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Winter wheat jointed 57%, 19% 2011, 22% avg. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, 16% excellent. Availability of hay 2% very short, 14% short, 78% adequate, 6% surplus. Temperatures ranged from 6o below normal to 2o above normal with a low of 22o and a high of 79o. Precipitation ranged from 0.01 to 2.06 inches. Farmers made good progress with field preparations and planting most of the week until rain showers arrived in some areas over the weekend. Many areas experienced frost during the week, but the extent of damage to corn, soybeans, alfalfa, wheat, fruit and berry crops is unknown at this time. Planting of corn is moving at a record pace, well ahead of 2004 when approximately 10% of the acreage had been planted at this time. Farmers have also established a record pace for planting soybeans. Livestock are reported to be in mostly good condition at this time.

IOWA: There were 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the past week. The widespread rain impacted moisture levels throughout the state. Topsoil moisture levels improved to 6 percent very short, 21 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture also improved and is now rated 14 percent very short, 31 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Severe thunderstorms and tornadoes struck the state on Saturday, April 14. Farmers fear hay growth was affected during the early part of the week after receiving a hard freeze for three consecutive days.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.1. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 8% short, 78% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 17% short, 74% adequate, 5% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 91%, 45% 2011, 47% avg.; wind damage 84% none, 11% light, 4% moderate, 1% severe; insect infestation 79% none, 17% light, 4% moderate, 0% severe; disease infestation, 71% none, 20% light, 8% moderate, 1% severe. Range and pasture condition 10% very poor, 14% poor, 32% fair, 39% good, 5% excellent. Feed grain supplies 6% very short, 15% short, 77% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 15% very short, 20% short, 62% adequate, 3% surplus. Stock water supplies 5% very short, 11% short, 79% adequate, 5% surplus. Kansas producers saw the fifth consecutive week of above normal temperatures along with severe thunderstorms and tornadoes. High temperatures ranged from the low 70's to low 80's, and low temperatures ranged from the low 30's to mid 40's. All stations reported at or above normal average temperatures with Hutchinson and Colby the warmest at 9 degrees above normal. Colby was also the only station that did not receive rain last week. Eighteen of the 53 stations reported over an inch of rain, with Beloit, Columbus, and Clay Center receiving the largest amounts with 3.97 inches, 2.73 inches, and 2.56 inches, respectively. All districts reported between 3.7 and 4.5 days suitable. Some producers contended with storm damage while others were preparing for spring planting and spraying for insects and disease. A few producers have even begun to cut alfalfa for the first time. The Kansas wheat crop continues to progress two to three weeks ahead of the average. Only the western third of the state is less than 85 percent jointed. The South Central district at 51 percent headed and the Southeast District at 61 percent headed are progressing more rapidly than the rest of the State. Only the western districts are below 10 percent corn planted, while the Southeast District already has 70 percent of this year's corn crop planted. Many cattle herds were turned out to spring pasture last week, while a few producers are still finishing calving.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil 5% very short, 29% short, 62% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short 21% short, 71% adequate, 6% surplus. Rainfall averaged 0.10 inches Statewide, 0.91 in. below normal. Most precipitation Northern locations, much of the State needs rain. Temperatures averaged 54 degrees, 1 degree below normal. Tobacco transplants 89% seeded, 81% 2011,

86% average. Transplants emerged 70%, 61% 2011, 60% average. Winter wheat headed 70%. Condition of winter wheat, 1% poor, 9% fair, 58% good, 32% excellent. Frost midweek caused damage to wheat, fruit and vegetable crops. Alfalfa Hay average height 13 inches. Alfalfa and small grain hay harvest underway. Plant and forage growth continue 2 to 3 weeks ahead of normal.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil moisture 2% very short, 2% short, 77% adequate, 19% surplus. Corn planted 99% this week, 93% last week, 100% last year, 98% average; emerged 92% this week, 68% last week, 96% last year, 88% average; condition 16% fair, 68% good, 16% excellent. Winter wheat headed 99% this week, 96% last week, 95% last year, 83% average; turning color 27% this week, 7% last week, 3% last year, 1% average; condition 4% poor, 23% fair, 65% good, 8% excellent. Hay first cutting 17% this week, 4% last week, 8% last year, 6% average. Livestock condition 3% poor, 30% fair, 59% good, 8% excellent. Vegetables condition 3% poor, 37% fair, 53% good, 7% excellent. Range and Pasture condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 25% fair, 62% good, 10% excellent. Sugarcane condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, 19% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil moisture 19% very short, 53% short, 28% adequate, 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 42% short, 47% adequate, 0% surplus. Hay supplies 5% very short, 16% short, 79% adequate, 0% surplus. Pasture condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 33% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 20% fair, 71% good, 6% excellent. Barley condition 2% very poor, 3% poor, 25% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Corn progress planted 11%, 2% 2011, 4% avg.; Barley headed 74%, 1% 2011, 0% avg.; Winter Wheat headed 24%, 4% 2011, 0% avg.; Green Peas planted 60%, 66% 2011, 54% avg.; Potatoes planted 84%, 40% 2011, 56% avg.; Sweet corn planted 12%, 6% 2011, 11% avg.; Tomatoes planted 10%, 4% 2011, 7% avg.; Apples bloomed 97%, 5% 2011, 21% avg.; Peaches bloomed 94%, 15% 2011, 30% avg.; Strawberries bloomed 46%, 27% 2011, 40% avg.; Dry conditions continue to concern producers. Moisture is at critical stage.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 5% very short, 24% short, 65% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 17% short, 75% adequate, 6% surplus. Pasture 4% very poor, 12% poor, 36% fair, 44% good, 4% excellent. Oats planted 70%, 11% 2011, 25% avg. Oats emerged 23%, 2% 2011, 5% avg. Growers progressed preparing fields to plant. Sugarbeet planting nearly complete. Emergence slow due to lack of rain. Oat planting continued. Corn planting on light ground continued on a limited basis. Fruit development slow, as normal early April weather prevailed. Cold, windy conditions reduced honeybee activity. Insect pest infestation inconsequential. Temperatures in twenties April 12 caused more frost damage. On most juice grape farms southwest, all primary buds dead. Many growers will probably not have enough grapes to make harvesting economically feasible. Wine grape damage varied by variety and age of vines. There has been widespread tart cherry damage across state. Reduction of crop potential not yet assessed. Sweet cherries mostly full bloom. Substantial crop reduction some orchards. Peaches generally have been unscathed by recent frosts. Some bud damage pears noted. Strawberries with emerged flower trusses may have sustained some freeze damage. Apples early bloom to king bloom. Some flowers killed, especially on early varieties. Blueberries early to late pink bud; no significant bud damage has been reported. Plums ranged from shuck to petal fall. Cooler, seasonable weather slowed vegetable fieldwork since warm streak experienced earlier year. Asparagus harvest that had begun Southwest has mainly come to a halt. Asparagus harvest West Central not yet ready to begin. Onion planting continued. Celery planting continued under frost protection. Planting of carrots for processing began this past week. Other vegetable crops planted under protection.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.0. Topsoil moisture 14% Very Short, 34% Short, 49% Adequate, 3% Surplus. Subsoil moisture 17% Very Short, 48% Short, 34% Adequate, 1% Surplus. Corn land prepared 27%, 2% 2011, 6% avg. Soybeans land prepared 8%, 1% 2011, 2% avg.; 1% Planted, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Potatoes 24% Planted, 0% 2011, 4% avg. Sweet Corn 1% Planted, 0% 2011, 0% avg. Green Peas 19% Planted, 0% 2011, 2% avg. Planting continued this past week amid cooler temperatures that settled across the region. Temperatures fell well below freezing across several areas of the state for the first time since early March. Morning lows were reported in the teens and twenties. Active weather moved across the state over the weekend and included thunderstorms, strong winds, snow, and reported tornadoes in localized areas. Average rainfall amounts ranged from .41 inch in northwest areas to 1.72 inches in northeast areas.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 6 percent short, 84 percent adequate and 10 percent surplus. Corn 92% planted, 87% 2011, 85% avg.; 77% emerged, 67% 2011, 67% avg.;

Sorghum 25% planted, 17% 2011, 13% avg.; 13% emerged, 0% 2011, 2% avg.; Wheat 99% jointing, 98% 2011, 94% avg.; 93% heading, 72% 2011, 49% avg.; 2% mature, 0% 2011, 0% avg.; Wheat 0% very poor, 7% poor, 29% fair, 50% good, 14% excellent. Watermelons 52% planted, 58% 2011, 64% avg.; Watermelons 37% fair, 63% good, 0% excellent. Hay 16% planted, 17% 2011, 13% avg.; Blueberries 1% poor, 9% fair, 90% good. Cattle 2% very poor, 10% poor, 44% fair, 35% good, 9% excellent. Many Mississippi farmers are ahead of schedule for planting most crops due to the early start to the season and the wet spring. Many farmers have completed corn planting and some cotton has been put into the ground. Winter wheat is starting to mature in some areas and farmers may start harvesting very soon.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Precipitation 1.46 inches. Temperatures were normal to 4 degrees above average. Topsoil moisture supply 1% very short, 8% short, 71% adequate, 20% surplus. Ground worked spring tillage 70%, nearly 1 month ahead of 2011 and normal (5-yr avg). Corn emerged 11%. Soybeans planting was reported in all districts except the central and east-central. Winter wheat headed and beyond 52%, nearly a month ahead of last year and normal. Pasture condition 3% poor, 25% fair, 60% good, and 12% excellent.

MONTANA: Topsoil moisture 11% very short, 1% last year; 30% short, 3% last year; 56% adequate, 55% last year; 3% surplus, 41% last year. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 0% last year; 31% short, 6% last year; 55% adequate, 71% last year; 4% surplus, 23% last year. Days suitable for field work 5.3, 1.3 last year. Camelina planted 30%, 10% last year. Camelina emerged 8%. Corn planted 5%. Dry peas planted 30%, 1% last year. Flaxseed planted 14%. Lentils planted 27%. Oats planted 27%, 1% last year. Oats emerged 3%. Sugar beets planted 20%, 6% last year. Durum Wheat planted 12%. Winter Wheat – spring stages 4% still dormant, 39% last year; 29% greening, 49% last year; 67% green & growing, 12% last year. Range and pasture feed condition 3% very poor, 4% last year; 15% poor, 13% last year; 44% fair, 42% last year; 34% good, 38% last year; 4% excellent, 3% last year. Livestock grazing 82% open, 48% last year; 7% difficult, 22% last year; 11% closed, 30% last year. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed 77%, 90% last year. Sheep and lambs receiving supplemental feed 75%, 93% last year. Calving complete 78%; 71% last year. Lambing complete 60%; 59% last year. Montana had warm spring days and cool nights last week with measurable precipitation across most of the state. Fort Benton received the highest amount of precipitation for the week with 1.15 inches of moisture and most other stations saw 0.10 to 0.99 of an inch. High temperatures ranged from the lower 60s to lower 80s, with the state-wide high temperature of 81 degrees recorded at Drummond. A majority of stations reported lows in the upper teens to lower 30s, the coldest being Scobey at 9 degrees, followed by Opheim and St. Marie with 10 degrees.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil moisture 7% very short, 21% short, 67% adequate, and 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 34% short, 56% adequate, and 1% surplus. Wheat jointed 38%, 5% 2011, 6% avg. Alfalfa conditions rated 7% poor, 28% fair, 50% good, 15% excellent. Pasture and range conditions rated 1% very poor, 8% poor, 41% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Cattle and calves conditions 5% fair, 75% good, 20% excellent. Cows calved 88% complete. Calf losses rated 34% below average, 66% average. Strong storms late in the week delayed field activities but increased soil moisture levels. High winds, tornados and hail damaged property in parts of the State. However, the general rail was welcome and should aid germination of spring planted crops. Corn planting made little progress during the 4.6 days suitable for fieldwork. Seeding of oats was three-fourths completed with one third of the crop emerged. Wheat jointed at 38 percent was two and half weeks ahead of average creating concern for potential freeze damage. Soil temperatures cooled and ranged from the low 50's in the west to mid 50's in the east. Cattle and calves were in mostly good to excellent condition. Spring calving was 88 percent complete with calf losses below average. In general, temperatures averaged one degree below normal across the northern half of the State, and 1 degree above normal across the south. Highs reached the upper 70's and lows fell to the mid 20's in the Panhandle. An inch or more of precipitation was common across the eastern two-thirds of the State with two inches or more reported in portions of eastern and central Nebraska. Amounts were generally less than .5 inch in the Panhandle with some snow reported.

NEVADA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Temperatures cooled mid week as two cold fronts moved across the State bringing rain and some snow. Conditions warmed again by week's end. Temperatures ranged from four degrees below normal to three degrees above normal. Las Vegas recorded a high temperature of 88 degrees. Reno and Winnemucca had the low of 21 degrees. Winnemucca recorded 0.18 inches of precipitation. Rain showers prevented some field work.

Seeding of spring crops was underway. Fall seeded grain was in good condition. Alfalfa fields were greening. Spring calving and lambing was underway. Main farm and ranch activities included prepping fields for seeding, ditch burning and equipment maintenance.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil moisture 19% very short, 47% short, 30% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 42% short, 42% adequate, 7% surplus. The week began cloudy with variable daytime temperatures ranging from the low 40s to low 60s. Temperatures during the middle of the week were average to above average in the 50s and 60s. Light rain arrived on Thursday but failed to bring enough moisture to alleviate brush fire danger conditions throughout southern New England. A dry heat wave started on Saturday and intensified Sunday with temperatures generally in the 70s. Total precipitation for the week ranged from 0.02 to 0.32 inches. General activities included working in nurseries and greenhouses, tending to livestock, spraying fertilizers, spreading manure, disking, plowing, irrigating, and planting early season vegetables.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work 7. Topsoil moisture 40% very short, 40% short, and 20% adequate. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 55% short, and 35% adequate. Pasture and Range condition 10% poor, 50% fair, and 40% good. Rainfall amounts were below normal for all locations. Temperatures reached highs in the mid 70s to low 80s and lows in the low to upper 30s across the Garden State. The majority of winter wheat has headed and the condition was 10% fair and 90% good. Windy weather and some hot temperatures have dried soil reserves. This was interfering with planting, germination, and proper growth. More than sporadic rain showers were needed to help an especially early season. Windy and dry conditions have caused tip burn in some greens/lettuces and have caused poor asparagus growth due to curved spears. Strawberries were in full bloom while peaches and blueberries were starting to set fruit. Other farming activities during the week were irrigation, tillage, planting, disking, and spreading fertilizer. Livestock conditions were average. Milk production was average to slightly below average due to heat stress associated with higher temperatures.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.5. Topsoil moisture 71% very short, 25% short and 4% adequate. Wind damage 20% light, 17% moderate and 8% severe; 47% winter wheat damaged and 13% onion damage to date. Alfalfa 26% very poor, 23% poor, 22% fair and 29% good; 8% first cutting complete. Cotton 14% planted. Corn 2% planted. Irrigated winter wheat 5% very poor, 15% poor, 73% fair and 7% good; 5% headed; 53% grazed. Dry winter wheat 62% very poor and 38% poor; 4% headed; 48% grazed. Total winter wheat 42% very poor, 30% poor, 26% fair and 2% good; 4% headed; 35% grazed. Lettuce 45% good and 55% excellent. Chile 6% very poor, 16% poor and 78% fair; 80% planted. Onion 15% fair, 65% good and 20% excellent. Cattle 36% very poor, 35% poor, 25% fair and 4% good. Sheep 22% very poor, 41% poor, 31% fair and 6% good. Range and pasture 66% very poor, 25% poor, 7% fair and 2% good. In New Mexico this week, a wide variety of weather was featured. Above average temperatures and some severe weather highlighted the first half of the week. An upper level cold system with below average temperatures and some snow highlighted the second half of the week. Areas that saw the most precipitation out of these events included Clayton at 1.19 inches (with a record 1-day total of 1.01inches), Tatum with 0.57 inches and Red River with 0.5 inches. The overall temperature profile for the State around near normal, ranging from Raton 5 degrees above normal to Grants at 4 degrees below normal.

NEW YORK: Days suitable 6.2. Soil moisture was rated 11% very short, 34% short, 52% adequate, and 3% surplus. Pasture Conditions were rated 4% very poor, 33% poor, 38% fair, 24% good, and 1% excellent. Some farmers were waiting for ground conditions to warm up before planting corn. Pastures were green across the state. Some manure spreading was being done to fields. Oats seedlings began at 52%. Sweet corn and lettuce planting were underway. The dry, warm winter has early spring planting far ahead of schedule. Temperatures ranged from the mid 70s to the lower 30s. Light rain storms moved across the state.

NORTH CAROLINA: There were 6.1 days suitable for field work, compared to 4.6 the previous week. Statewide soil moisture levels were rated at 1% very short, 27% short, 68% adequate and 4% surplus. The state received below normal precipitation and temperatures the week ending April 15, 2012. Scattered frost impacted some crops, but the extent of the damage is unknown. Conditions were favorable for field work.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil moisture supplies 9% very short, 20% short, 58% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies 1% very short, 13% short, 74% adequate, 12% surplus. Durum wheat planted 16% this week, 8% last week, 0% last year, 1% average. Canola planted 2% this week, 1% last week,

0% last year, 0% average. Dry edible peas planted 13% this week, 3% last week, 0% last year, 1% average. Potatoes planted 3% this week, 1% last week, 0% last year, 3% avg. Hay and forage supplies were 2% short, 79% adequate, 19% surplus. Grain and concentrate supply 4% short, 81% adequate, 15% surplus. Calving and lambing 69% and 81% complete, respectively. Shearing 90% complete. Cow condition 1% poor, 7% fair, 73% good, 19% excellent. Calf condition 6% fair, 70% good, 24% excellent. Sheep condition 7% fair, 70% good, 23% excellent. Lamb condition 8% fair, 68% good, 24% excellent. The percentage of feed obtained from pasture and range for cattle and sheep were 19% and 16%, respectively. Pastures and ranges 64% growing and 36% still dormant. Producers made progress planting crops despite widespread precipitation that occurred late last week. Reporters commented that the rain was beneficial in most areas. Other activities during the week included applying fertilizer.

OHIO: Days suitable for field work 5.9. Top soil moisture 2% very short, 17% short, 73% adequate, 8% surplus. Apples condition 12% very poor, 5% poor, 42% fair, 35% good, 6% excellent. Hay condition 4% poor, 33% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Livestock condition 3% poor, 16% fair, 63% good, 18% excellent. Range and Pasture condition 6% poor, 24% fair, 51% good, 19% excellent. Peaches condition 12% very poor, 16% poor, 37% fair, 31% good, 4% excellent. Potatoes planted 20%, 1% 2011, 11% avg. Apples green tip (or beyond) 87%, 34% 2011, 46% avg. Apples full bloom (or beyond) 50%, NA% 2011, 6% avg. Peaches green tip (or beyond) 86%, 35% 2011, 46% avg. Peaches full bloom (or beyond) 61%, NA% 2011, 11% avg.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.2. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 14% short, 71% adequate, 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 29% short, 55% adequate, 5% surplus. Wheat jointing 95% this week, 92% last week, 91% last year, 90% average. Canola condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 51% good, 22% excellent; mature 9% this week, n/a last week, n/a last year, n/a average. Rye condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 13% fair, 59% good, 25% excellent; jointing 98% this week, 94% last week, 97% last year, 95% average; headed 91% this week, 73% last week, 54% last year, 34% average. Oats condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 18% fair, 60% good, 19% excellent; jointing 66% this week, 43% last week, 39% last year, 45% average; headed 12% this week, n/a last week, n/a last year, n/a average. Corn seedbed prepared 95% this week, 88% last week, 89% last year, 84% average; planted 52% this week, 31% last week, 46% last year, 36% average; emerged 19% this week, n/a last week, 5% last year, 10% average. Sorghum seedbed prepared 65% this week, 55% last week, 53% last year, 39% average. Soybeans seedbed prepared 40% this week, 33% last week, 40% last year, 42% average. Peanuts seedbed prepared 52% this week, 47% last week, 67% last year, 59% average. Cotton seedbed prepared 78% this week, 73% last week, 50% last year, 63% average. Watermelons planted 11% this week, n/a last week, n/a last year, 7% average. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 10% poor, 31% fair, 48% good, 9% excellent. Pasture and range condition 4% very poor, 10% poor, 35% fair, 44% good, 7% excellent. The week began with severe storms moving across the Panhandle and northwestern Oklahoma on Monday, April 9th. Severe storms returned Wednesday as a powerful storm system approached Oklahoma, with increasing intensity through the weekend. The average rainfall for the state was 1.42 inches; with the highest amount, 5.06 inches, recorded at Miami's Mesonet station. High winds, rain and hail from the storms damaged some wheat and canola fields. The crop conditions showed a slight decrease due to the damage. Storms limited field preparation for row crops during the week. Some fields that were ready for planting may need to be reworked as rain damaged seedbed formations. Pasture and range conditions continued to show improvement with all the recent rain, as only 14 percent was rated poor to very poor.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 6% short, 63% adequate, 31% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 6% short, 59% adequate, 30% surplus. Spring Wheat, Planted 70%, 44% 2011, 71% average. Spring Wheat, Emerged 35%, 19% 2011, 35% average. Barley, Planted 67%, 57% 2011, 72% average. Barley, Emerged 35%, 47% 2011, 48% average. Range & Pasture 1% very poor, 14% poor, 38% fair, 43% good, 4% excellent. As for weather conditions, there was normal weather this past week. Average temperature for the State was just slightly above normal at 48.2 degrees. Low temperatures ranged from 41 degrees in Roseburg, down to 21 degrees in Bend. High temperatures ranged from 55 degrees in Florence, up to 75 degrees in Rome. All but two stations reported measurable precipitation, but overall the amount was about normal for this time of year. The Moro station reported the most at 1.79 inches, which is 1.58 inches above normal for that station. A little more snow accumulation was welcomed in higher elevations. The Northeast was a little warmer & drier compared to the rest of the State this week. As for Field Crops, warmer temperatures yielded healthy wheat growth

in north central Oregon for elevations below 1600 feet. Elevations above that were still playing catch up & have more water standing, delaying spraying. In Malheur planting for sugar beets were done, potato planting started. Too early for corn planted there. Umatilla County corn & pea planters hit the fields with spring planting. Wheat continued to grow well there, but all crops could use more moisture. In the north Willamette Valley, grass for seed was showing signs of recovery from the cold, wet spring. Some wheat may be lost due to winter & spring flooding. Red clover was growing well. In the south Willamette Valley, excessive spring rain has slowed fertilizer applications on grass seed & grain crops. Both were in fair shape considering the constant rains there. Relief needs to come as they head toward May. In southern Oregon, conditions were wet & cool, which delayed field work. Planted crops were looking good, but they could use some warm, sunny days. Hay crops should do well with some warmer weather. As for Fruits & Nuts, cherries & apricots in Wasco County started to bloom. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows d'Anjou pear at full white to first bloom (WSU stages 5 & 6); Red Delicious apple at tight cluster (WSU stage 4); Bing cherry at first white to first bloom (WSU stages 6 & 7); Pinot noir grape still at Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 2. In the Willamette Valley, peaches were in bloom & nearing petal fall. Blueberries & gooseberries had leafed out. Asian Pears were blooming, & Bartlett's were budding. Gravenstein & apples were starting to bloom. Table grapes were at bud break. Control sprays for Eastern Filbert Blight continued to be applied. Prunes were in full bloom in the southern Willamette. In the Rogue Valley, peaches & apricots were about done with blooming. Some pear trees were in bloom, with some spraying done on those that were. Table grapes were sprayed with worries of a repeat of high mildew last fall. Wine grapes were at wooly bud stage in Douglas County. Bees were out throughout the State on some of the warm days. As for vegetables, some soil vegetables had come up in the Willamette Valley, but there was still a lot to be planted due to the wet soil. Garlic stood about 8 – 12 inches tall. Some growers were trying to plant sweet corn. Initial moldboard plowing on vegetable fields as weather permits. Asparagus in southern Oregon was up & will soon be cut. Onion planting in Malheur County was done. Nurseries were digging, balling, & shipping ornamental trees & shrubs. Greenhouses were quite busy with spring starts, now mostly early ornamentals. As for Livestock, Range & Pasture, pastures were putting on growth with warmer temperatures in areas of lower elevation. Higher elevations still had slow grass growth in ranges & pastures. In most parts of Umatilla County, cattle producers were about 10 days from turning animals out to grass. Lots of spring lambing & calving.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork, 6. Soil moisture 2% very short, 42% short, 56% adequate, and 0% surplus. Tobacco planted in beds 74%, 61% Prv. Yr., 35% 5-Yr. Avg. Apples in the pink 83%, 5-Yr. Avg. 14%. Apples in full bloom or past 65%. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 9% fair, 59% good, 30% excellent. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 28% fair, 42% good, 25% excellent. Primary farm activities for the week included manure spreading, machinery maintenance, and seeding. Spring plowing is 59% complete, which is ahead of the 8% reported at this time last year and the 5-year average of 27%.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Soil moisture 7% very short, 45% short, 48% adequate. Winter wheat 2% poor, 33% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Pasture condition 3% very poor, 9% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, 1% excellent. Oats 1% very poor, 2% poor, 29% fair, 64% good, 4% excellent. Hay 49% fair, 49% good, 2% excellent. Peaches 63% fair, 36% good, 1% excellent. Tomatoes, fresh 58% fair, 31% good, 11% excellent. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 3% poor, 35% fair, 60% good. Freeze damage 87% none, 12% light, 1% moderate. Corn planted 92%, 79% 2011, 74% avg. Corn emerged 65%, 54% 2011, 50% avg. Winter wheat headed 85%, 38% 2011, 29% avg. Oats headed 85%, 46% 2011, 38% avg. Tobacco transplanted 50%, 35% 2011, 33% avg. Hay grain hay 25%, 9% 2011, 5% avg. Snap beans, fresh planted 75%, 41% 2011, 47% avg. Cucumbers, fresh planted 39%, 38% 2011, 38% avg. Watermelons planted 72%, 64% 2011, 64% avg. Tomatoes, fresh planted 95%, 78% 2011, 75% avg. Cantaloupe planted 58%, 50% 2011, 53% avg. Cooler temperatures entered the State during the week ending April 15, 2012. Little to no rainfall was observed which contributed to an overall decline in soil moisture conditions. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 7% very short, 45% short and 48% adequate. Much of the Upstate and Midlands reported frost mid-week with observations of light frost damage to field crops. The State average temperature for the week was near normal with 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.0 inches.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 18% short, 70% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil

moisture 8% very short, 29% short, 61% adequate, 2% surplus. Pct of winter wheat acreage hit by winter kill 7. Winter wheat boot 5% this week, 2% last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Barley seeded 60% this week, 27% last week, 4% last year, 6% average. Barley emerged 22% this week, 1% last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Cattle condition 5% fair, 72% good, 23% excellent. Calving 64% complete. Cattle moved to pasture 19% complete. Sheep condition 5% fair, 66% good, 29% excellent. Lambing 70% complete. Range and pasture 6% poor, 36% fair, 49% good, 9% excellent. Feed supplies 2% short, 90% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 7% short, 90% adequate, 2% surplus. The arrival of the first spring rain was welcomed all across the State, improving wheat and livestock conditions, as well as the outlook for germination of recently planted crops.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 24% short, 71% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 18% short, 77% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 40% emerged, 5% 2011, 9% avg; Winter Wheat 96% top-dressed, 96% 2011, 94% avg; 96% jointed, 81% 2011, 71% avg. Hay 7% First Cutting, 0% 2011, 0% avg; Apples 95% budding, 88% 2011, 90% avg; 80% blooming, 56% 2011, 59% avg. Range and Pasture Conditions 3% poor, 26% fair, 55% good, 16% excellent. Corn planting blistering pace. Hay and strawberry harvests began. Wheat crop in heading stage. Development at record rates three weeks ahead of five-year average tempo. Many corn growers completely finished planting. Wheat and pastures good-to-excellent condition. Frost occurred damage assessments inconclusive. Main farm work corn planting, hay and strawberry harvest, fertilizer and pesticide application, and scouting fields for freeze damage and threshold pest levels. Temperatures above normal west and middle; average for east and plateau. Rainfall amounts well below normal.

TEXAS: Most areas of Texas received rainfall last week. Areas of East and Coastal Texas received up to 2 inches of rainfall for the week while other areas observed scattered showers. Irrigation was active on wheat in areas of the High Plains which received little rainfall. Dryland wheat continued to suffer due to dry, windy conditions. In many other areas, wheat benefited from timely showers. Producers across the State continued to cut wheat and oats for hay. Other wheat and oat fields were being used for grazing. Many producers were monitoring or spraying for armyworms and aphids. Much of the land preparation was completed for cotton planting in the Plains and West Texas. Some cotton producers were pre-watering while others were making planting decisions. Corn and sorghum planting was underway around the State. In South Texas, dry conditions prompted some corn, cotton, and sorghum producers to irrigate. In the Cross Timbers, pecan trees looked to be in good shape with good catkin growth and nutlets present in most trees. Pecan producers were fertilizing and spraying zinc. In North and East Texas, vegetable fields were planted and making good progress. Most fruit trees had small fruit on them. In South Texas, cabbage harvest continued and watermelon transplants showed signs of establishment in fields. In the Trans-Pecos, fall-planted onions were bulbing. In the High Plains and Trans-Pecos, range and pastureland remained mostly dry, with winds drying out what little moisture was received. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in these areas. In North, Central and South Texas, most pastures were greening and supplemental feeding eased. Weed spraying was underway in many pastures. Livestock body condition was good in most areas. Spring calving, lambing, and kidding season was winding down as ranchers worked calves and sheared sheep.

UTAH: Days Suitable For Field Work 5. Subsoil Moisture 0% very short, 30% short, 70% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter Wheat Condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Spring Wheat planted 87%, 30% 2011, 52% avg. Spring Wheat emerged 44%, 5% 2011, 13% avg. Barley planted 81%, 28% 2011, 51% avg. Barley emerged 44%, 6% 2011, 10% avg. Oats planted 47%, 32% 2011, 31% avg. Oats emerged 9%, 3% 2011, 5% avg. Corn planted 3%, 1% 2011, 5% avg. Cows Calved 85%, 80% 2011, 78% avg. Cattle and calves condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 7% fair, 76% good, 17% excellent. Sheep Condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 6% fair, 80% good, 14% excellent. Range and Pasture 0% very poor, 4% poor, 44% fair, 46% good, 6% excellent. Stock Water Supplies 1% very short, 12% short, 86% adequate, 1% surplus. Sheep Sheared On Farm, Sheared On Farm 75%, 73% 2011, 49% avg. Sheep Sheared On Range, Sheep Sheared On Range 56%, 55% 2011, 37% avg. Ewes Lamb On Farm, Ewes Lamb On Farm 75%, 69% 2011, 76% avg. Ewes Lamb On Range, Ewes Lamb On Range 36%, 30% 2011, 30% avg. Apricots full Bloom Or Past 96%, 69% 2011, 57% avg. Sweet Cherries full Bloom Or Past 86%, 18% 2011, 25% avg. Tart Cherries full Bloom Or Past 83%, 9% 2011, 32% avg. Peaches, Full Bloom Or Past 71%, 17% 2011, 22% avg. Parts of Northern Utah reported winter storms with a lot of wind and scattered precipitation. Nights were cold. The recent

snow storm provided needed moisture for Box Elder, Morgan, and Weber Counties. Box Elder County livestock producers report that their animals are doing well. Beef producers report that spring calving is almost completed. Sheep producers are extremely busy with lambing their range herds, which is reported to be going well. Livestock producers are concerned about the dry winter and dry spring and are anticipating the possibility that rangelands are going to be short of feed this year. In Cache County sheep and cattle are reported to be doing very well. Very few calving or lambing losses have been reported, due to the pleasant weather and relatively dry conditions. Beaver County reports that livestock are doing well. Garfield/Kane Counties have reported excellent calving success due to the mild winter and spring. Box Elder County received about an inch of precipitation on the east side of the county and very little on the west side of the county when a storm moved through the county on Thursday and Friday. Farmers are seeding safflower, spring wheat, barley, oats, and some new alfalfa. Fall wheat looks good. Onions are emerging and also look good. Alfalfa fields are greening up and beginning to grow. It was reported that at least one producer planted his grain corn this last week. There have been some losses reported by fruit producers due to the frost on April 7th, but they are still optimistic as some peaches and apples have yet to bloom. More will be known as time passes and it is determined how much fruit is setting. Farmers in Cache County report that most of the small grains have been planted, and some safflower is also going in. Soil temperatures are still too cold for planting corn, but that process is anticipated to start in the next few weeks. Farmers have applied most of the fertilizer and crops are reported to be looking very good right now. Reports from Carbon County are that temperatures have cooled somewhat, which is slowing the crop growth to normal. Beaver County reported that farm work is going well with farmers getting their irrigation systems going.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil moisture 22% very short, 48% short, 29% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 11% very short, 42% short, 45% adequate, 2% surplus. Pasture 1% very poor, 6% poor, 42% fair, 48% good, 3% excellent. Livestock 4% poor, 24% fair, 63% good, 9% excellent. Other Hay 8% poor, 46% fair, 40% good, 6% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 1% poor, 42% fair, 44% good, 13% excellent. Corn planted 44%, 18% 2011, 20% 5-yr avg. Corn emerged 6%, na 2011, na 5-yr avg. Winter wheat headed 39%, 1% 2011, 2% 5-yr avg; condition 2% poor, 19% fair, 74% good, 5% excellent. Barley 4% poor, 29% fair, 59% good, 8% excellent. Tobacco Greenhouse 45% fair, 40% good, 15% excellent. Tobacco Plant beds 99% fair, 1% good. Summer Potatoes 100% planted, 97% 2011, NA 5-yr avg. Potatoes 50% fair, 50% good. All Apples 1% poor, 94% fair, 5% good. Peaches 1% very poor, 4% poor, 45% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Grapes 7% poor, 28% fair, 64% good, 1% excellent. Oats 33% fair, 62% good, 5% excellent. Continued dry weather, along with windy conditions, has significantly decreased overall soil moisture across the state. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.8. Corn planting progressed this week, although some producers have stopped planting due to concerns that the dry conditions will effect soil germination. The dry weather has also halted hay and pasture growth and wheat is starting to show sign of drought stress. A couple nights of heavy frost this past week damaged some fruit trees and vegetables that were not protected. Everyone is in need of some rain for both the small grains and recent corn plantings.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 6% short, 78% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 25% short, 63% adequate, 6% surplus. Irrigation water supply 87% adequate, 13% surplus. Hay and other Roughage 2% very short, 15% short, 78% adequate, 5% surplus. Range and Pasture Condition 3% very poor, 20% poor, 36% fair, 39% good, 2% excellent. Potatoes 35% planted, 27% last week, 47% last year, 35% average. Corn 6% planted, 2% last week, 13% last year, 13% average. Dry Edible Beans 0% planted, 0% last week, 3% last year, 22% average. Dry Peas 17% planted, 16% last week, 11% last year, 23% average. Processing Green Peas 30% planted, 26% last week, 43% last year, 36% average. There was minimal precipitation in southeastern counties last week which allowed producers to make progress on spraying, burning stubble, and spring seeding. Rust found on winter wheat in Whitman County was minimal in comparison to last year's outbreak. With several days of sunny weather in western Washington over the weekend producers were able to get out into the field and complete early season field activities. In the Yakima Valley, tree fruit was in bloom. Apple trees were leafed out and some blossoms were at pink tip. Pollination conditions were plenty warm. Orchard crews were still blossom thinning peaches and nectarines. Hop producers were stringing up the trellis as the hop plants began to emerge. Lowland blueberries were in bloom in Snohomish County. Planting of potatoes, sweet corn, and green peas continued in Grant County. Dairy farmers began cutting green chop and doing rotational grazing to take

advantage of rapidly growing forage in Thurston County. Conditions remain dry in Yakima County which hindered growth of rangeland grasses. Pastures were also slow to mature in Douglas and Chelan Counties; therefore most livestock producers did not release their cattle yet. Shellfish growers in Pacific County continued preparations for oyster seeding operations, and completed limited clam harvesting.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days for suitable for field work was 6. Topsoil moisture was 9% very short, 52% short, 38% adequate and 1% surplus compared to 58% adequate and 42% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring crops was 57%, 41% in 2011, and 48% 5-year avg. Hay and roughage supplies were 4% short, 78% adequate and 18% surplus compared to 9% very short, 32% short, 50% adequate and 9% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies were 2% short, 97% adequate and 1% surplus compared to 4% very short, 17% short and 79% adequate last year. Corn was 4% planted, 5% in 2011, and 5% 5-year avg. Winter wheat conditions were 1% poor, 39% fair and 60% good. Wheat was 1% headed, comparison data not available. Hay conditions were 3% poor, 42% fair, 53% good and 2% excellent. Apple conditions were 3% very poor, 10% poor, 52% fair and 35% good. Peaches were 20% very poor, 16% poor, 35% fair and 29% good. Cattle and calves were 1% poor, 25% fair, 72% good and 2% excellent. Calving was 88% complete, compared to 82% last year. Sheep and lambs were 1% poor, 15% fair, 82% good and 2% excellent. Lambing was 92% complete, compared to 83% last year. Abnormally dry conditions that may lead to problems this growing season were ideal for field work last week. Farming activities included preparing fields and planting crops, assessing frost damage, showing livestock, planting early garden crops, vaccinating and moving livestock, seeding pastures, harvesting rye, fencing, calving, and lambing.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 29% short, 61% adequate, and 4% surplus. Spring tillage 32% complete this week, 19% last week, 5% last year, 10% average. Corn planted 2% complete this week, n/a last week, 0% last year, 0% average. Nighttime temperatures dipped into the 20s across central Wisconsin and into the teens in some parts of northern Wisconsin this week, threatening fruit crops, hay and winter grains. The full extent of freeze damage varied, with the worst impacts reported on budding apple and cherry trees. Small grain, alfalfa and fruit development was reportedly running 3 to 4 weeks ahead of normal across the state. Thunderstorms caused localized heavy rains, but soil moisture was 35 percent short to very short statewide. Dry conditions aided fieldwork, though rain is needed in many areas. Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 1 to 5 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 56 to 59 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 32 to 37 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.01 inches in Green Bay to 0.48 inches in La Crosse.

WYOMING: Days suitable for field work 5.8. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 37% short, 55% adequate. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 34% short, 56% adequate. Barley planted 79%, 70% last week, 51% last year, 54% average; emerged 36%, 12% last week, 3% last year, 5% average. Oats planted 28%, 12% last week, 27% last year, 24% average; emerged 7%, 1% last week, 6% last year, 3% average. Spring wheat planted 17%, 13% last week, 6% last year, 11% average; emerged 5% this week, 2% last week, 1% last year, 2% average. Winter wheat jointed 9% this week, 0% last week, 0% last year, 1% average. Sugarbeets planted 18% this week, 0% last week, 2% last year, 11% average. Winter wheat condition 34% fair, 66% good. Crop insect infestation 92% none, 8% light. Spring calves born 66% this week, 54% last week. Farm flock ewes lambing 75% this week, 62% last week. Farm flock sheep shorn 65% this week, 52% last week. Range flock ewes lambing 21% this week, 13% last week. Range flock sheep shorn 29% this week, 20% last week. Calf losses 37% light, 63% normal. Lamb losses 30% light, 70% normal. Range and pasture condition 5% very poor, 4% poor, 46% fair, 45% good. Spring grazing prospects 14% poor, 49% fair, 37% good. Stock water supplies 3% very short, 12% short, 84% adequate, 1% surplus. Weekly air temperatures averaged above normal at all of the 33 reporting stations. Moisture levels were at or above normal for 14 of the 33 reporting stations. Carbon County reported that rain and snow storms have helped the soil moisture levels but concerns continue over irrigation water supplies. Platte County reported receiving snow over the weekend with hopes for more moisture next week. Laramie County reported wheat firing on lower leaves due to dry conditions. Lincoln County reports that the grass is not growing very well yet and top soil is drying out. Uinta County reports a low level of snowpack and the drought monitor is abnormally low. Activities included planting small grains and some row crops, feeding livestock, shearing sheep, lambing & calving.

