

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories

Released April 22, 2008, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin State Stories" call Dawn Keen at (202) 720-7621, office hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 10% short, 82% adequate, 6% surplus. Corn planted 72%, 81% 2007, 68% avg.; 41% emerged, 56% 2007, 39% avg. Soybeans 5% planted, 7% 2007, 4% avg. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 15% fair, 62% good, 22% excellent. Percent of feed obtained from pastures 79%. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 8% poor, 33% fair, 56% good, 3% excellent. Pasture and range condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 27% fair, 53% good, 11% excellent. Hay and roughage supply 54% short, 42% adequate, 4% surplus. A late-season cold front brought abnormally cool temperatures and a light frost to most areas across the state during the early part of the past week. Temperatures recorded during the past week were well below normal for this time of year. All reporting weather stations received some rainfall during the past week. The state's pasture and livestock condition showed signs of improvement during the past week. Cool weather slowed summer perennial growth. The high cost of inputs affected application rates as producers spent time fertilizing pastures.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: Temperatures were mostly above normal across the State for the week ending April 20, ranging from 3 degrees below normal to 7 degrees above normal. No precipitation was reported at any of the 22 reporting stations. There is only one station with above normal precipitation for the year to date. Cotton planting is 40 percent complete, 4 percentage points ahead of the five year average. Small grain acreage is at least 65 percent headed in the State. Alfalfa harvest remains active on three-quarters of the State's acreage. Range and pasture conditions across the State remain mostly poor to good, depending on location and elevation.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil moisture 47% adequate, 53% surplus. Subsoil moisture 49% adequate, 51% surplus. Corn 44% planted, 96% 2007, 89% avg.; emerged 26%, 79% 2007, 65% avg. With drier weather, many producers were able to get in the fields. Corn planted increased 17% but was still far behind last year and the five year average. Cotton planting began with 5% planted last week. Rice plantings, at 16%, were up 14% from last week, but 29% behind last year and 33% behind the five year average. The rice crop started to emerge but was 12% behind the five year average and 16% behind last year. Sorghum planted increased to 7% planted but was 53% behind last year and 36% behind the five year average. Soybean plantings increased to 5% planted. Winter wheat headed, at 55% behind last year and 27% behind the five year average, increased to 20%. Many winter wheat producers reported mildew and rust, and stated these issues need to be closely monitored. Cattle were in fair to good condition. Producers in Arkansas were still repairing fences and cleaning debris left after storms. Pastures were greening up nicely, and some producers were fertilizing and spraying for weeds. Alfalfa and other hay crops were also in fair to good condition.

CALIFORNIA: Winter forage, other small grain harvests continued across the state. Dryland grain was being cut for hay as conditions dry the ground. The first cutting of alfalfa continued to wind down. Early planted corn, cotton emergence continued. Rice field preparation, planting continued. Mustard seed continued in full bloom. Sugar beet harvest was underway. Safflower fields remained in various stages of growth. Cilantro for seed fields were blooming. Sweet potato planting advanced. Grapes were pushing out, vines were leafing. Irrigation was taking place in vineyards and orchards. Apples, cherries, pears, pomegranates, jujubes, prunes were still blooming in parts of Fresno County. Bloom was ending on cherries, prunes in Tulare County. Many stone fruit trees were thinned. Prunes were showing a good set in Tulare County. Set for prunes, cherries, pears, cling peaches appeared

light in Yuba County. Kiwi flower buds were out in Yuba County. Spring strawberries, boysenberries and blueberries were still blooming. Picking was underway in some spring strawberry fields. New blueberry bush planting continued. Mandarins, minneolas, lemons, pummelos, oranges were harvested. Valencia maturity tests were good. Navel oranges were showing more rind break down, puff. Citrus bloom continued. Flower buds were forming on olives. Almond groves throughout California were in excellent condition. The crop was developing well; disease pressure remained low given the lack of rainfall. Growers fertilized, irrigated their groves. Catkins were out on walnuts. Pistachios were blooming. More acres of almonds, pistachios were being planted in Kern County. Sweet corn has emerged in Tulare and Fresno counties. Melon beds were being prepared for spring planting. Transplanting of bell peppers, tomatoes for fresh, processing markets, and melons continued. Nearly all caps have been removed for tomatoes; plants were showing good growth. Early squash has started to show set. Carrots were being irrigated, cultivated, treated with herbicides, harvested. Asparagus, broccoli, head lettuce harvests on the Westside continued. Farmer's market crops such as amaranth, basil, bok choy, beets, leeks, kale, greens, radishes, yams were being harvested. Imperial Valley onion fields will start harvest in a week or two with sweet corn harvest numbers increasing. In the Central Valley, planting of fresh market, processing tomatoes and bell peppers continued. Spinach for the processing market was being harvested. In Tulare County squash harvest slowed due to cooler weather; quality remained good. Cucumbers have started to size up. Continued dry conditions resulted in further decline of rangelands throughout the state. Supplemental feeding of cattle was still required, cattle weight gains were reported as average to below average. Calving, lambing, kidding continued. Sheep were grazing on retired farmland, alfalfa hay fields, or rangeland. Bees remained active in blooming orchards, or were in holding areas awaiting placement. Placement of leafcutter bees near alfalfa seed fields continued.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 12% very short, 32% short, 54% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 13% very short, 35% short, 48% adequate, 4% surplus. Spring barley 45% seeded, 62% 2007, 54% avg.; 9% emerged, 23% 2007, 21% avg. Dry onions 72% planted, 74% 2007, 79% avg. Sugarbeets 34% planted, 35% 2007, 51% avg. Summer potatoes 19% planted, 28% 2007, 31% avg. Spring wheat 34% planted, 44% 2007, 41% avg.; 8% emerged, 10% 2007, 14% avg. Winter wheat 1% pastured, 5% 2007, 1% avg.; 28% jointed, 29% 2007, 33% avg. Cows calved 82% 2008, 82% 2007, 80% avg. Ewes lambed 78% 2008, 84% 2007, 80% avg. Most of Colorado received below average amounts of precipitation last week. The San Luis Valley and Pueblo areas received above average moisture. Mountain snowpack is down 6 percent from the previous week to 124 percent of the State average. Temperatures across the State were above average for this time of year.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 13% short, 84% adequate 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 20% short, 79% adequate, 1% surplus. Hay supplies 45% very short, 51% short, 3% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture condition 4% very poor, 8% poor, 54% fair, 33% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat 3% planted, 0% 2007, 2% avg.; condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 5% fair, 71% good, 23% excellent. Barley condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 4% fair, 70% good, 25% excellent. Corn progress 18% planted, 8% 2007, 9% avg. Barley 51% headed, 0% 2007, 8% avg. Cantaloups 0% planted, 1% 2007, 1% avg. Cucumbers 1% planted, 0% 2007, 1% avg. Green peas 89% planted, 60% 2007, 65% avg. Potatoes 78% planted, 55% 2007, 51% avg. Snap beans 2% planted, 13% 2007,

11% avg. Sweet corn 11% planted, 8% 2007, 12% avg. Tomatoes 1% planted, 0% 2007, 1% avg. Watermelons 0% planted, 1% 2007, 2% avg. Apples 45% bloomed, 42% 2007, 37% avg. Peaches 98% bloomed, 86% 2007, 70% avg. Strawberries 46% bloomed, 29% 2007, 21% avg.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 44% short, 52% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% very short, 53% short, 44% adequate. Potato harvest underway, St Johns County, most fields yielding good crop. Suwannee County, late frost mid-week negatively impacted vegetables. Spring crops harvest continued. Light cantaloupe harvest expected to begin, south Florida. Other vegetables, non-citrus fruit marketed snap beans, cabbage, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, greens, okra, peppers, radishes, squash, tomatoes, watermelons. Citrus areas, rainfall adequate; dryer weather expected, most growers continue to irrigate to keep trees, new fruit healthy. Growers applied pesticides, fertilized, chopped, mowed cover crops prior to, following harvesting. Overall, trees look good, lots of new foliage on all tree ages. Bloom period over; trees carrying small fruit between pea, marble size. Valencia harvest, over 6 million boxes, very active. Colored, white grapefruit, over a million boxes harvested primarily for processing. Honey tangerines, typically grown for fresh fruit processed at higher rate than normal. Varieties harvested Valencia oranges, grapefruit, Honey tangerines. Pasture feed 15% very poor, 35% poor, 25% fair, 20% good, 5% excellent. Cattle condition 10% very poor, 30% poor, 30% fair, 25% good, 5% excellent. Panhandle, north pasture condition poor to excellent, most fair. Pasture hurt by cold snap, growth slowed by cool temperatures. Cattle condition mostly fair. Central pasture condition poor to good, most poor; forage growth slow due to cold weather. Cattle condition very poor to good. Southwestern pasture condition very poor to excellent, most poor. Statewide cattle condition very poor to excellent, most fair.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 23% short, 71% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn 85% planted, 86% 2007, 80% avg.; 67% emerged, 77% 2007, 67% avg.; 0% very poor, 4% poor, 25% fair, 69% good, 2% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 54% good, 21% excellent; boot 88%, 95% 2007, 86% avg.; headed 59%, 79% 2007, 67% avg. Range and pasture 4% very poor, 11% poor, 42% fair, 42% good, 1% excellent. Hay 3% very poor, 13% poor, 45% fair, 38% good, 1% excellent. Onions 0% very poor, 7% poor, 17% fair, 49% good, 27% excellent. Peaches 0% very poor, 10% poor, 38% fair, 52% good, 0% excellent. Watermelons 0% very poor, 1% poor, 46% fair, 52% good, 1% excellent. Soybeans 1% planted, 1% 2007, 2% avg. Sorghum 17% planted, 10% 2007, 8% avg. Apples blooming 59%, 72% 2007, 65% avg. Onions 7% harvested, 16% 2007, 10% avg. Peanuts 0% planted, 1% 2007, 1% avg. Tobacco transplanted 51%, 59% 2007, 56% avg. Watermelons 83% planted, 84% 2007, 75% avg. Despite the sunny skies, frost was reported in some areas. Soil moisture will become a serious problem for some if the rain doesn't come. The cool temperature stressed some vegetable crops. Wheat has the potential to be very good crop. Other activities included cotton planting and irrigating corn. Some ponds were beginning to dry up but the spring fed ponds were maintaining their levels.

HAWAII: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Soil moisture was adequate, but declining in some areas. Banana orchards remained in fair to good condition. Light winds and warm temperatures benefited crop progress and fruit development. Papaya fields were in fair to good condition. Spraying to control insects was on a regular schedule. Vegetables were in fair to good condition. Irrigation was moderate to heavy to combat dryness. The State Department of Agriculture issued a voluntary 10 percent water consumption reduction for certain users of their irrigation system on the Island of Molokai. Weather conditions were variable during the week. Trade wind weather prevailed during the first few days of the week resulting in partly cloudy skies and light showers in windward areas. At mid-week, an approaching low pressure system from the west changed the wind pattern and resulted in diminished winds. The unstable weather also produced some moderate showers for the Island of Kauai on Thursday. Normal trade winds returned at the end of the week. Overall, conditions were relatively warm and dry across the State during the week.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 12% short, 75% adequate, 9% surplus. Field corn 2% planted, 20% 2007, 7% avg. Winter wheat 0% jointed, 25% 2007, 12% avg.; boot stage 0%, 3% 2007, 1% avg. Onions 99% planted, 100% 2007, 89% avg.; 15% emerged, 53% 2007, 53% avg. Sugarbeets 5% emerged, 32% 2007, 24% avg. Spring wheat 8% emerged, 38% 2007, 26% avg. Barley 7% emerged, 42% 2007, 20% avg. Potatoes 11%

planted, 17% 2007, 11% avg. Oats 42% planted, 57% 2007, 44% avg.; 20% emerged, 31% 2007, 20% avg. Dry peas 7% planted, 43% 2007, 41% avg.; 1% emerged, 11% 2007, 12% avg. Lentils 0% planted, 19% 2007, 23% avg. Calving complete 95%, 95% 2007, 96% avg. Lambing complete 94%, 94% 2007, 96% avg. Hay and roughage supply 31% very short, 45% short, 24% adequate, 0% surplus. Irrigation water supply 0% very poor, 0% poor, 23% fair, 72% good, 5% excellent. Range and pasture 1% very poor, 9% poor, 50% fair, 38% good, 2% excellent. Cold weather has delayed growth and development of the planted crops. For example, winter wheat was at 25 percent jointed at this time last year and at zero percent this year. Statewide, barley and spring wheat are still behind the planting five year average, with North and East Idaho affected the most. Twin Falls extension educator reported that heavy winds have dried top soil and grains are in need of moisture to germinate. The Bonneville extension educator reported that soil temperatures remain cool for this time of year.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.3. Soil moisture 1% very short, 1% short, 42% adequate, 56% surplus. Oats 37% planted, compared to 52% in 2007, 80% for the five-year average. Winter wheat conditions 1% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 8% excellent. Warmer temperatures were reported across the state of Illinois this past week, but rains still prevented farmers from starting planting activities in earnest. Although the weekly precipitation was below previous weeks, some fields were still too wet for fieldwork to get underway. Respondents continue to hope for more cooperative weather in the weeks to come. The average weekly temperature was 0.6 degree below normal. Precipitation this past week was 0.47 inch below normal.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.4. Topsoil moisture 50% adequate, 50% surplus. Subsoil moisture 49% adequate, 51% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 27%, 42% 2007, 49% avg.; condition 2% very poor, 5% poor, 31% fair, 51% good, 11% excellent. Hay availability 35% very short, 31% short, 32% adequate, 2% surplus. Average temperatures ranged from 7o below normal to 4o above normal with a high of 78o and low of 23o. Precipitation averaged from .02 inches to 0.78 inches. Livestock remain in mostly good condition. Pastures have experienced some re-growth with the recent moderate temperatures. However, many producers continue to feed hay to allow pastures to recover from last year's dry conditions. Only a few scattered corn fields have been planted due to wet soil conditions. Last year 3% of the corn acreage had been planted at this time and the 5 year average is 13%. Other activities included spreading dry fertilizer, soil preparation, anhydrous ammonia applications, preparing planting equipment, hauling grain to market, hauling manure and taking care of livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.2. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 0% short, 41% adequate, 59% surplus. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 0% short, 53% adequate, 47% surplus. Oats 15% planted, 2% emerged. Fertilizer application 60% complete. For the first part of the week, most of Iowa experienced windy and drier conditions as some fieldwork began. By Thursday and Friday, however, heavy rains added to the already saturated soil, pasture, and road conditions. Activities calving and moving grain to elevators.

KANSAS: Days suitable for field work 3.1. Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 9% short, 65% adequate, 23% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 13% short, 68% adequate, 14% surplus. Wheat 40% jointed, 82% 2007, 76% avg.; condition 6% very poor, 14% poor, 38% fair, 35% good, 7% excellent. Wind damage to wheat crop 86% none, 10% light, 3% moderate, and 1% severe. Freeze damage to wheat 92% none, 7% light, 1% moderate. Insect infestation of wheat 85% none, 13% light, and 2% moderate. Disease infestation 83% none, 15% light, 2% moderate. Oats 95% planted, 84% 2007, 89% avg. Range and pasture condition 7% very poor, 16% poor, 37% fair, 37% good, 3% excellent. Feed grain supplies 2% very short, 12% short, 84% adequate, 2% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 3% very short, 17% short, 77% adequate, 3% surplus. Stock water supplies 3% very short, 7% short, 78% adequate, 12% surplus. Livestock activities primarily involved calving and lambing around the State. Cattle are being placed on pasture in areas. Primary farm activity involved top dressing wheat, weed control, seeding corn, oats and alfalfa.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.0. Topsoil moisture 1% short, 60% adequate, 39% surplus. Subsoil moisture 3% short, 57% adequate, 40% surplus. For 2008, 94% of tobacco plants will be grown in greenhouses compared to 6% in conventional beds. Tobacco plants 64% less than 2 in. tall, 25% 2 to 4 in., 11% taller than 4 in. Pasture condition 5% very poor, 17% poor, 40% fair, 34% good, 4% excellent. Week began dry and cool but ended with light rainfall and cooler temperatures. A light frost was reported on Tuesday morning April

15th.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil moisture 3% very short, 21% short, 68% adequate, 8% surplus. Corn 100% planted, 99% 2007, 98% avg.; 96% emerged, 93% 2007, 86% avg.; 4% poor, 22% fair, 65% good, 9% excellent. Hay 14% first cutting, 10% 2007, 8% avg. Sorghum 31% emerged, 43% 2007, 26% avg. Soybeans 31% planted, 10% 2007, 14% avg. Wheat 97% headed, 95% 2007, 85% avg.; 7% turning color, 5% 2007, 8% avg.; 1% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 18% excellent. Spring plowing 84% plowed, 88% 2007, 83% avg. Sugarcane 1% very poor, 5% poor, 48% fair, 41% good, 5% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 5% poor, 39% fair, 49% good, 6% excellent. Vegetable 1% very poor, 12% poor, 51% fair, 30% good, 6% excellent. Range and pasture 1% very poor, 11% poor, 41% fair, 40% good, 7% excellent.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 12% short, 76% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 34% short, 63% adequate, 3% surplus. Hay supplies 37% very short, 42% short, 19% adequate, 2% surplus. Pasture condition 5% very poor, 5% poor, 34% fair, 45% good, 11% excellent. Winter wheat 0% planted, 0% 2007, 1% avg.; condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 7% fair, 58% good, 35% excellent. Barley 49% headed, 0% 2007, 6% avg. condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 9% fair, 59% good, 32% excellent. Corn progress 8% planted, 8% 2007, 9% avg.; Cantaloups 6% planted, 0% 2007, 8% avg. Cucumbers 10% planted, 1% 2007, 7% avg. Green peas 75% planted, 39% 2007, 52% avg. Potatoes 78% planted, 61% 2007, 46% avg. Snap beans 10% planted, 3% 2007, 3% avg. Sweet corn 22% planted, 11% 2007, 14% avg. Tomatoes 14% planted, 5% 2007, 18% avg. Watermelons 4% planted, 0% 2007, 9% avg. Apples 28% bloomed, 13% 2007, 20% avg. Peaches 41% bloomed, 34% 2007, 39% avg. Strawberries 50% bloomed, 50% 2007, 37% avg.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 0% very short, 4% short, 63% adequate, 33% surplus. Subsoil 0% very short, 2% short, 62% adequate, 36% surplus. Range and pasture condition 7% very poor, 10% poor, 37% fair, 41% good, 5% excellent. Oats 21% planted, 25% 2007, 40% avg. Potatoes 11% planted, 15% 2007, 10% avg. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.00 inches in the northwest, northeast, central, and east central Lower Peninsula to 0.62 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from normal in the western Upper Peninsula to 8 degrees above normal in the northeast Lower Peninsula. Soils were beginning to dry due to warm temperatures and sunny days. This has allowed for planting to begin in several areas. Other areas were still wet, and fieldwork was limited. Fertilizer was being applied to a number of fields and orchards. Apples were dormant to silver tip or just beyond. Farmers expected increased activity in the coming week. Farm activities included wheat top dressing, lambing, calving, manure hauling and spreading, repairing machinery and farm structures, and pruning fruit trees.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.5. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 3% short, 71% adequate, 26% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 12% short, 74% adequate, 13% surplus. Corn 2% ground prepared, 5% 2007, 12% avg. Soybeans 1% ground prepared, 1% 2007, 4% avg. Green peas 1% planted, 8% 2007, 7% avg. Potatoes 1% planted, 6% 2007, 8% avg. Minnesota's 2008 crop season is nearing start-up as producers plan to begin full scale field work on April 26. Early spring snow hampered fieldwork across much of the state leading to below average fieldwork progress. As of April 20, land preparation and plantings for all crops were slightly behind average progression for that date.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Soil moisture 1% very short, 20% short, 64% adequate, 15% surplus. Corn 87% planted, 98% 2007, 91% avg.; 69% emerged, 94% 2007, 78% avg.; 4% very poor, 13% poor, 30% fair, 44% good, 9% excellent. Cotton 1% planted, 5% 2007, 12% avg. Rice 32% planted, 33% 2007, 37% avg.; 4% emerged, 15% 2007, 14% avg. Sorghum 19% planted, 23% 2007, 31% avg.; 5% emerged, 7% 2007, 13% avg. Soybeans 24% planted, 38% 2007, 43% avg.; 7% emerged, 26% 2007, 25% avg. Winter wheat 69% heading, 86% 2007, 66% avg.; 2% very poor, 6% poor, 22% fair, 49% good, 21% excellent. Hay (harvested-cool) 14%, 17% 2007, 18% avg. Watermelons 76% planted, 77% 2007, 63% avg. Blueberries 0% very poor, 7% poor, 17% fair, 63% good, 13% excellent. Cattle 3% very poor, 16% poor, 28% fair, 42% good, 11% excellent. Pasture 5% very poor, 10% poor, 30% fair, 47% good, 8% excellent. Drier conditions this week allowed producers to resume fieldwork. Many fields not protected by the Mississippi River levees are under water, but the amount of acreage relative to the state is small. Producers are assessing potential damage that a recent frost may have caused on the blueberry, watermelon, wheat, and corn crops. Preparations for

peanut planting are underway.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.8. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 0% short, 54% adequate, 46% surplus. Spring tillage 18% complete, 52% 2007, 66% avg. Pasture condition 4% very poor, 16% poor, 42% fair, 33% good, 5% excellent. Wet weather conditions continued to hamper fieldwork. Producers made little progress with planting corn, applying fertilizer applications, and other spring activities. Ponds are full and water is still standing in some areas in the southwest and south-central parts of the State. Continued rains and cool weather delayed corn planting across the State. Growers' concerns about the optimal planting period continue to rise. Vernon County reported some diseases and yellowing of the wheat crop due to excessive moisture and lack of sunshine. Pasture conditions improved from the previous week; however excess moisture and below normal temperatures continued to slow pasture growth. Temperatures averaged 1 to 7 degrees below normal for the week. State-wide rainfall averaged 0.78 inches.

MONTANA: Days suitable for field work 5.6. Topsoil moisture 27% very short, 3% last year, 42% short, 9% last year, 31% adequate, 78% last year, 0% surplus, 10% last year. Subsoil moisture 41% very short, 8% last year, 38% short, 22% last year, 21% adequate, 65% last year, 0% surplus, 5% last year. Most counties across the state are in need of moisture. Field work is further along this year than last year, and almost all crops have a higher percent planted this year than the previous year. Field tillage work in progress 30% none, 50% last year, 41% just started, 27% last year, 29% well underway, 23% last year. Barley 31% planted, 23% last year, 2% emerged, 2% last year. Oats 27% planted, 17% last year. Spring wheat 28% planted, 15% last year. Winter wheat condition 11% very poor, 0% last year, 17% poor, 4% last year, 41% fair, 27% last year, 29% good, 52% last year, 2% excellent, 17% last year. Winter wheat spring stages 8% still dormant, 3% last year, 64% greening, 29% last year, 28% green and growing, 68% last year. Durum wheat 11% planted, 3% last year. Dry peas 25% planted, 21% last year. Lentils 9% planted, 2% last year. Corn 3% planted, 1% last year. The state received light to moderate precipitation last week. No area received over an inch of moisture, and Great Falls had the most during the week at 0.95 of an inch. Highs were mostly in the 70s and 80s, and lows were mostly in the high teens and 20s. Hardin had the high temperature during the week at 85 degrees, and White Sulphur Springs had the low temperature of 4 degrees. Range and pasture feed condition 14% very poor, 1% last year, 37% poor, 16% last year, 35% fair, 40% last year, 12% good, 36% last year, 2% excellent, 7% last year. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed 85%, 81% last year. Sheep and lambs receiving supplemental feed 87%, 81% last year. Livestock grazing 76% open, 76% last year, 20% difficult, 13% last year, 4% closed, 11% last year. Calving 81% complete, 85% last year, lambing 67% complete, 69% last year.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.8. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 12% short, 70% adequate, 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 24% short, 65% adequate, 5% surplus. Oats 57% planted, 60% 2007, 78% avg.; 14% emerged, 19% 2007, 30% avg. Wheat conditions 1% very poor, 5% poor, 39% fair, 45% good, 10% excellent. Cattle and calves condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 72% good, 7% excellent; calving 88% complete; calf losses rated 8% below average, 90% average, and 2% above average. Temperatures averaged 1-2 degrees above normal in the Panhandle and southwestern Nebraska, while temperatures were near normal in the rest of the state. Temperatures ranged from highs in the mid to upper 80's in the southwest to lows in the high teens in portions of the eastern part of the state. The Panhandle received very little precipitation, while the Southeast District recorded up to 2 inches of moisture. The first fields of corn were planted in western counties; however, the majority of corn producers were still waiting on warmer, dryer conditions. Pastures and rangeland continue to green up and grow slowly. Alfalfa has also been slow to come out of dormancy, due to the cool temperatures.

NEVADA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Windy conditions prevailed throughout the week bringing two days with 60+ mph winds. Winds brought cooler conditions, but little precipitation. The week's temperatures ranged from a low of 11 degrees in Eureka to a high of 93 degrees in Las Vegas. Snow pack continues to melt. Agricultural Summary. Grain planting continues, as onion seeding finishes. Seasonal greening spread and stock were being moved to spring ranges as calving finishes and branding starts. Lambing was underway...Main farm and ranch activities grain planting, onion planting, branding, preparing for irrigation, and moving cattle to range.

NEW ENGLAND: The past week was very dry. The northern states

experienced sprinkles on Tuesday and Saturday, accumulating between 0.01 and 0.04 inches. Southern states did not receive any rain. The week began with mostly below average temperatures ranging from lows in the 30s to highs in the upper-50s. Partly sunny skies warmed the air for the rest of the week where both high and low temperatures remained above average through to the weekend. High temperatures were in the upper-50s to low 80s and low temperatures averaged in the mid-40s. Most maple syrup activities came to a halt at week's end due to the warmer conditions in the northern states. Other general farm activities included working in nurseries and greenhouses, tending livestock, performing general maintenance, moving apples and potatoes out of storage, and continuing to make preparations for the spring planting season.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for field work, 6.0. Topsoil moisture 30% short, 70% adequate. Subsoil moisture 10% short, 90% adequate. There were no measurable amounts of rainfall for the week in most localities. Temperatures were variable during the week in most areas of the Garden State. Peaches are in full bloom in north and south New Jersey. Soil preparation for summer crop planting continues. Wheat is being sprayed for cereal rust mites in the central district. Cranberry bogs are being prepared. Other activities included greenhouse work, plowing, fertilizing and tillage.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for field work 6.6. Topsoil moisture 41% very short, 35% short, 24% adequate. Wind damage 46% light, 15% moderate. Freeze damage 17% light, 6% moderate. Alfalfa 4% poor, 26% fair, 70% good, 20% of first cutting complete. Cotton 8% planted. Corn 13% planted. Irrigated winter wheat 11% poor, 42% fair, 43% good, 4% excellent, with 21% headed, 55% grazed. Dry winter wheat 53% very poor, 45% poor, 2% fair, 5% headed, 14% grazed. Total winter wheat 32% very poor, 31% poor, 18% fair, 17% good, 2% excellent, 11% headed, 30% grazed. Lettuce 10% fair, 60% good, 30% excellent. Chile 31% fair, 37% good, 32% excellent, 81% planted. Onions 10% fair, 60% good, 30% excellent. Cattle conditions 2% very poor, 24% poor, 44% fair, 29% good, 1% excellent. Sheep conditions 7% very poor, 19% poor, 38% fair, 36% good. Range and pasture conditions 20% very poor, 50% poor, 27% fair, 3% good. Farmers spent the week planting, irrigating, and fertilizing crops. The first cutting of alfalfa for the season was started. Livestock producers have been busy supplemental feeding, hauling water, calving, and moving cattle. A cold front moved across New Mexico on Thursday, April 17th, bringing colder temperatures and precipitation over the north, central, and eastern portions of the state. Precipitation amounts were generally small, except in Capulin and Tucumcari where 0.41 and 0.66 fell respectively. Temperatures were much warmer through the weekend.

NEW YORK: Warmer weather continued through the week ending April 20, with high temperatures reaching the 70's. Manure pits were being emptied. Farmers in most counties have been fertilizing, planting, and plowing ground. Producers were beginning to plant small grains in addition to sweet corn. Planting of peas and onions started in western New York. On Long Island, buds were starting to swell in wine grape vineyards.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 5.6. Soil moisture 1% very short, 15% short, 76% adequate and 8% surplus. Activities during the week included the planting of corn, managing tobacco transplants, spreading of fertilizer, and other spring planting preparations. Most parts of North Carolina received rain this week with Halifax recording 2.45 inches. However, no precipitation was recorded for Elizabeth City. Below average temperatures were experienced through out the state with temperatures ranging from 43 to 59 degrees. Even with unusually cold weather there were no reports of widespread freeze damage.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil moisture 33% very short, 30% short, 35% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture 31% very short, 35% short, 33% adequate, 1% surplus. The statewide average starting date for fieldwork was April 15. Durum wheat 7% planted, 1% 2007, 6% average. Canola 3% planted, 1% 2007 4% average. Dry edible peas 15%, planted, 4% 2007, average not available. Flaxseed 1% planted, 1% average. Potatoes 1% planted, 1% average. Hay and forage supplies 3% very short 14% short, 77% adequate, 6% surplus. Pastures and ranges were 26% growing, 74% dormant. Pasture and range conditions 11% very poor, 38% poor, 33% fair, 17% good, 1% excellent Grain and concentrate supply were 2% very short, 9% short, 84% adequate, 5% surplus. Calving was 80% complete. Lambing was 88% percent complete. Shearing was 91% complete. Warm, dry conditions dried the fields as planting was underway across most of the state. Some grass fires have emerged which has producers in western areas of the state concerned about the

amount of available topsoil moisture supplies. Eastern valley producers began fieldwork by applying fertilizer, however, some producers are waiting for localized areas of permafrost to thaw.

OHIO: Days suitable for field work 3.0. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 1% short, 59% adequate, 40% surplus. Winter wheat jointed 14%, 12% 2007, 26% avg. Oats 20% planted, 25% 2007, 46% avg.; 1% emerged, 1% 2007, 8% avg. Potatoes 11% planted, 20% 2007, 21% avg. Apples in green tip or beyond 62%, 60% 2007, 74% avg.; in full bloom 6%, 15% 2007, 17% avg. ; condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 21% fair, 63% good, 15% excellent. Peaches in green tip or beyond 55%, 66% 2007, 71% avg.; in full bloom 15%, 22% 2007, 25% avg.; condition 0% very poor, 1% poor, 23% fair, 63% good, 13% excellent Hay condition 2% very poor, 6% poor, 35% fair, 49% good, 8% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 4% poor, 26% fair, 59% good, 11% excellent. Pasture condition 2% very poor, 13% poor, 38% fair, 39% good, 8% excellent. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 13% excellent. Farmers had three days suitable for field work which allowed some field work, however most fields are still too wet to do much work with farm machinery. There were 2 days of frost throughout the State, the damage to the fruit crop is unknown at this time. Major field activities for the week were oat planting and top dressing of winter wheat with nitrogen. Other field activities for the week included hauling manure, spreading fertilizer, field tillage, broadcasting clover seed on winter wheat, hauling corn to market, and equipment preparation for planting.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 12% short, 57% adequate, 21% surplus. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 12% short, 64% adequate, 14% surplus. Wheat jointing 91% this week, 83% last week, 99% last year, 96% average. Rye condition 3% very poor, 8% poor, 23% fair, 60% good, 6% excellent; jointing 93% this week, 89% last week, 100% last year, 69% average; headed 35% this week, 8% last week, 64% last year, 36% average. Oats condition 5% very poor, 10% poor, 40% fair, 42% good, 3% excellent; jointing 55% this week, 42% last week, 65% last year, 55% average. Corn seedbed prepared 85% this week, 79% last week, 95% last year, 91% average; planted 36% this week, 29% last week, 62% last year, 44% average emerged 15% this week, 7% last week, 37% last year, 26% average. Sorghum seedbed prepared 42% this week, 27% last week, 37% last year, 43% average. Soybeans seedbed prepared 43% this week, 41% last week, 49% last year, 55% average. Peanut seedbed prepared 59% this week, 49% last week, 59% last year, 63% average. Cotton seedbed prepared 79% this week, 69% last week, 62% last year, 74% average. Watermelon planted 10% this week, 7% last week, 39% last year, 17% average. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 41% fair, 44% good, 6% excellent. Pasture and range condition 3% very poor, 11% poor, 37% fair, 42% good, 7% excellent. Livestock. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$104 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$94 per cwt. Livestock conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range. A late frost on Monday morning and cool temperatures may have reduced insect populations in some areas.

OREGON: Days suitable for field work 5.0. Top soil moisture 13% short, 69% adequate, 18% surplus. Sub soil moisture 3% very short, 13% short, 63% adequate, 21% surplus. Winter wheat condition 5% poor, 49% fair, 35% good, 11% excellent. Barley condition 47% fair, 36% good, 17% excellent. Range, pasture condition 2% very poor, 16% poor, 40% fair, 32% good, 10% excellent. All barley 82% planted, 87% previous year, 73% 5-year average. All Barley 50% emerged, 71% previous year, 51% 5-year average. Spring wheat 83% planted, 89% previous year, 82% 5-year average. Spring wheat emerged 45%, 54% previous year, 50% 5-year average. Weather conditions cooled down dramatically after the warm front from the previous week moved out, by week's end, temperatures dropped to below freezing with snow flurries reported in some of the State. High temperatures ranged from 79 degrees in Heppner to 53 degrees in Parkdale, Astoria. Low temperatures ranged from 35 degrees in Crescent City, Portland to 10 degrees in Christmas Valley. The Florence station again received the most precipitation with 1.24 inches followed by Detroit Lake with 1.19 inches. Eight of the forty-three stations did not receive any measurable precipitation with many reporting only a trace. Despite the cool, wet weather, most stations reported lower than average precipitation levels last week. All stations reported below normal temperatures. Field Crops. Cold temperatures across the State this past week hindered crop, pasture growth. Field work was slowed as well. The freezing weather was also preventing bees from pollinating spring crops. Red clover, alfalfa, grass seed were doing well in Washington County this past week. Late planting of sugarbeets, potatoes in Malheur County

continued. Vegetables. The cold, wet weather has caught up with many vegetable growers, keeping them out of fields, delaying their schedule for this year's crop. There have been reports that some early pea, onion planting was taking place throughout the Willamette Valley where the ground would allow. Early rhubarb was being picked in Washington County, but it was still too early to put in tomato plants in Josephine County, especially without frost protection. The hard January freeze with no snow cover was being blamed as reports of carrot, onion, parsley seed crop losses were becoming evident in central Oregon. Fruits, Nuts Bee activity slowed due to unseasonably cool weather. Scattered snow, freezing temperatures, hail have people anxious about the extent of damage, slowed pollination in the Willamette Valley. Plums, pears, peaches, hazelnuts were among crops that were pushed into bloom by the previous warm snap, then faced the cool weather. Other fruit, berry crops were at least delayed. Growers applied Eastern Filbert blight sprays, while brown rot blossom sprays were applied to fruit trees. Nurseries, Greenhouses. Greenhouses were busy getting out spring starts with brisk sales reported in some areas. Nurseries were also busy with tree, shrub sales. The cold weather created concern that some nursery stock could be affected. Some garden items were becoming available, including tomato plants, but many areas remained too cold for planting. Livestock, Range, pasture Supplemental feeding continued in most areas of the State as pasture, range grass growth has been delayed due to the unseasonably cool weather. However, the short hay supply had ranchers in some areas turning cattle out onto spring pastures. Plenty of spring calves, lambs were out with their mothers,, overall, livestock were looking good.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Soil moisture 1% very short, 6% short, 86% adequate, 7% surplus. Spring plowing 50% complete, 25% 2007, 43% avg. Corn 9% planted 2% 2007, 5% avg. Wheat crop condition 1% poor, 13% fair, 62% good, 24% excellent. Oats 54% planted, 23% 2007, 43% avg. Oats 5% emerged, 2% 2007, 11% avg. Potatoes 14%, 3% 2007, 10% avg. Alfalfa crop conditions 3% poor, 19% fair, 65% good, 13% excellent. Timothy clover crop condition 1% poor, 17% fair, 69% good, 13% excellent. Peaches in pink 97% complete, 65% 2007, 65% avg.; in full bloom 43% complete, 27% 2007, 43% avg. Cherries in pink 95% complete, 54% 2007, 58% avg.; in full bloom 47% complete, 11% 2007, 39% avg. Pasture conditions 19% very poor, 6% poor, 28% fair, 37% good, 10% excellent. Principal farm activities included spreading manure, lime and fertilizer, and planting corn under plastic and oats. Spring plowing was continued throughout last week. Cattle are being sent out to pasture. Farmers are still planning for the upcoming season by making other necessary preparations.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 1% very short, 22% short, 75% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 0% very poor, 0% poor, 34% fair, 66% good, 0% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 4% poor, 29% fair, 58% good, 9% excellent. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 8% poor, 50% fair, 38% good, 3% excellent. Oats 60% headed, 63% 2007, 56% avg.; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 31% fair, 60% good, 8% excellent. Tobacco transplanted 50%, 49% 2007, 48% avg.; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 45% fair, 55% good, 0% excellent. Peaches 0% very poor, 6% poor, 17% fair, 77% good, 0% excellent. Apples 0% very poor, 0% poor, 80% fair, 20% good, 0% excellent. Snapbeans, fresh 64% planted, 64% 2007, 64% avg.; fresh 0% very poor, 0% poor, 30% fair, 70% good, 0% excellent. Cucumbers, fresh 65%planted, 54% 2007, 70% avg. Cucumbers, fresh 0% very poor, 0% poor, 50% fair, 50% good, 0% excellent. Watermelons 75% planted, 74% 2007, 73% avg.; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 40% fair, 60% good, 0% excellent. Tomatoes, fresh 90% planted, 79% 2007, 84% avg.; fresh 0% very poor, 0% poor, 20% fair, 80% good, 0% excellent. Cantelopes 70% planted, 71% 2007, 66% avg.; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 40% fair, 60% good, 0% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 4% poor, 43% fair, 51% good, 2% excellent. Freeze damage 80% none, 17% light, 3% moderate, 0% heavy, 0% severe. Corn 88% planted, 87% 2007, 77% avg.; 62% emerged, 71% 2007, 54% avg. Soybeans 2% planted, 1% 2007, 3% avg. Sorghum 15% planted, 14% 2007, 17% avg. Winter wheat 50% headed, 49% 2007, 51% avg. Hay grain hay 14%, 11% 2007, 13% avg.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.2. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 11% short, 76% adequate, 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 13% short, 71% adequate, 7% surplus. Winter wheat breaking dormancy 92%, 99% 2007, 99% avg. Barley seeded 17%, 12% 2007, 37% avg.; 1% emerged, 1% 2007, 6% avg. Spring wheat 6% emerged, 7% 2007, 16% avg. Feed supplies 1% very short, 13% short, 80% adequate, 6% surplus. Stock water supplies 12% very short, 11% short, 66% adequate, 11% surplus. Range and pasture 5% very poor, 11% poor, 37% fair, 41% good, 6% excellent. Calf deaths

16% below average, 79% average, 5% above average. Cattle moved to pasture 9% complete. Calving 70% complete. Cattle condition 1% poor, 14% fair, 67% good, 18% excellent. Sheep, lamb deaths 28% below average, 71% average, 1% above average. Lambing 82% complete. Sheep condition 1% poor, 12% fair, 66% good, 21% excellent. Warm, dry and windy weather across the state facilitated the drying of South Dakota fields accelerating the seeding of small grain and other crop progress.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil moisture 7% short, 72% adequate, 21% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% very short, 11% short, 66% adequate, 19% surplus. Wheat 82% jointed, 97% 2007, 91% avg.; 2% headed, 38% 2007, 22% avg.; 93% top dressed, 100% 2007, 99% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 16% fair, 59% good, 19% excellent. Apples 93% budding or beyond, 99% 2007, 94% avg.; 67% blooming or beyond, 92% 2007, 79% avg.; 2% poor, 25% fair, 66% good, 7% excellent. Peaches 98% budding or beyond, 100% 2007, 98% avg.; 87% blooming or beyond, 99% 2007, 90% avg.; 1% poor, 16% fair, 66% good, 17% excellent. Pastures 2% very poor, 10% poor, 35% fair, 45% good, 8% excellent. Strawberries 2% very poor, 4% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 9% excellent. Drier conditions towards the middle of the week helped producers get into their fields. Moderate to severe flood damage to winter wheat has occurred in counties along the Mississippi and some river bottoms. Little to no freeze damage was reported to fruit crops. There were a few reports of early harvested strawberries. Farmers were also fertilizing hay fields and pastures last week. Other activities included applying pesticides, repairing equipment, and land preparations. Temperatures averaged four to six degrees below normal across the State last week, while rainfall averaged one third to one inch below normal.

TEXAS: Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate statewide. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Wheat condition was mostly poor to fair statewide. Oat condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Frost, as well as high winds, was observed in the earlier part of last week across some of the state. Hail was observed in a few places in the Cross Timbers. Wheat, as well as some oats, had headed in some of the Southern Plains, Cross Timbers and the Blacklands. Cotton land preparation and pre-watering continued in the High Plains last week. Drier conditions allowed corn planting to progress in the Blacklands. Sorghum planting continued in both South Central Texas and the Blacklands. Cabbage, carrots, broccoli, and some potatoes continued to be harvested in the Southern areas of the state. Pecan trees continued to bud in the Blacklands and the Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau. Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate statewide. Supplemental feeding of livestock was still prevalent due to cooler temperatures in Trans-Pecos, the Edwards Plateau and South Central Texas.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 6. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 13% short, 86% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter wheat condition 18% very poor, 25% poor, 25% fair, 30% good, 2% excellent. Spring wheat 65% planted, 89% 2007, 71% avg.; 20% emerged, 57% 2007, 38% avg. Barley 61% planted, 79% 2007, 66% avg.; 16% emerged, 44% 2007, 30% avg. Oats 46% planted, 50% 2007, 49% avg.; 9% emerged, 19% 2007, 17% avg. Corn 1% planted, 17% 2007, 7% avg.; 0% emerged. Cows calved 82%, 87% 2007, 86% avg. Range and pasture 4% very poor, 17% poor, 49% fair, 22% good, 8% excellent. Stock water supplies 0% very short, 5% short, 95% adequate, 0% surplus. Ewes lamb on farm 79%, 89% 2007, 88% avg. Ewes lamb on range 34%, 46% 2007, 49% avg. Apples Full Bloom Or Past 55%, 66% 2007, 61% avg. Apricots Full Bloom Or Past 67%, 98% 2007, 94% avg. Sweet cherries Full Bloom Or Past 57%, 92% 2007, 81% avg. Tart cherries full bloom or past 75%, 89% 2007, 81% avg. Peaches, Full Bloom Or Past 2%, 93% 2007, 86% avg. Pears, Full Bloom Or Past 65%, 69% 2007, 84% avg. Overall conditions were excellent for field work. Lack of precipitation and moisture has been a concern in some areas. Livestock continues to do well. Box Elder reports that the March precipitation was less than half of normal and April precipitation has been virtually non-existent. Recent storms produced zero precipitation but cause strong warm winds from the south followed by strong cold winds from the north. These winds have dried the soil moisture out and the cold temperatures have kept anything from growing. Winter wheat in the dry land areas should be 8 to 12 inches tall and all tillered out by the first of May. Some of the wheat on irrigated land in the Bear River Valley looks fair to good. Corn producers have begun planting. Producers report that they do not have enough soil moisture to sprout corn and will have to wait for a storm. There have been a significant number of appraisals completed by Federal Crop Insurance Adjustors. Beaver County reports that the

Townsend Squirrel is taking over the Milford Flat part of the county and eating up much of the alfalfa. Farmers report that the problem has been very hard to control and are trying some new ways to take care of the problem. Carbon County reports that lack of spring rains is causing some concern for spring grass growth on the range. Moisture in the mountains still looks good but cool spring temperatures have slowed the snow melt. Scofield Reservoir storage will be kept low for much needed repairs. Weber County reports that farmers are 2 weeks behind normal on alfalfa growth, but the warm weather should help the crop progress. Corn planting will begin this week. Emery County reports having high winds which are drying out the soil quickly. Major planting activities are in full swing and we should have a good irrigation water year. Morgan County reports that the snow is finally off the ground and tillage has begun. Iron county reports that the cold spring temperatures have delayed emergence of planted grains and stunted the growth of grass on rangeland. Wayne County reports that cool temperatures are holding back the snow packs and alfalfa crop. Box Elder reports that range conditions are also starting to deteriorate. Cattle producers are branding and doctoring calves while sheep producers with range flocks are just beginning to lamb. Producers are concerned about the summer pasture and livestock prices that seem to be dropping rapidly. Carbon County reports calving and lambing has gone well for the most part. The high price of feed has made it very difficult to keep horses for recreational purposes and the lack of a horse market is making the horse situation even worse. Summit County reports that ranchers are finishing up calving and farm lambing. Pastures and alfalfa fields are starting to green up as well as some weed spraying taking place in the fields.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 17% short, 67% adequate, 15% surplus. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 24% short, 67% adequate, 4% surplus. Pasture 3% very poor, 15% poor, 44% fair, 35% good, 3% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 5% poor, 33% fair, 54% good, 7% excellent. Other hay 1% very poor, 13% poor, 43% fair, 41% good, 2% excellent. Alfalfa hay 7% poor, 27% fair, 58% good, 8% excellent. Winter wheat 12% headed, 2% avg.; conditions 1% very poor, 2% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, 16% excellent. Barley 1% poor, 20% fair, 71% good, 8% excellent. Tobacco greenhouse 1% fair, 63% good, 36% excellent. Tobacco plantbeds 4% poor, 46% fair, 40% good, 10% excellent. Summer potatoes 30% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Apples all 1% poor, 39% fair, 60% good. Peaches 10% poor, 55% fair, 35% good. Grapes 3% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 17% excellent. Oats 8% poor, 28% fair, 62% good, 2% excellent. Week started off dry, followed by heavy rains during weekend. Good progress made on corn planted. Due to the scarcity of seed, some growers wait for warmer temperatures before planting. Other growers planting at full speed. Hay, winter wheat, and barley in good condition due to timely showers. Other farming activities this week included applying fertilizers to wheat and barley, preparing fields with non-selective herbicides, planting vegetables, and harvesting some early strawberries.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.6. Soil moisture 4% short, 72% adequate, 24% surplus. In Whitman County, unusually cool temperatures and rain slowed crop seeding and tillering of winter wheat. Other grain growing counties reported cool temperatures and wind delayed spraying. Dry conditions persisted in Benton County. In general, seeding continued but at a slow pace. Grain development was delayed but no significant reports of winter wheat damage had been noted. Processing pea planting continued. Grant County reported field and sweet corn plantings had begun. Christmas tree growers continued fertilizing plantations. In the Yakima Valley, most fruit trees are between bloom and petal fall. Cold night-time temperatures continued with lows in the mid to upper 20s. While growers were still

assessing fruit bud damage in the orchards, cold temperatures may have impacted and thinned this year's soft and pom fruit crop in the upper as well as the lower Valley. Elsewhere, Asian pear producers expressed concern over the impact of sub freezing temperatures on trees in full bloom. Whatcom County reported berry growers continued using frost protection measures as did orchards in Grant County. Range and pasture conditions 1% very poor, 7% poor, 51% fair, 41% good. On the western side of the Cascades, hail storms and snow stopped cattle from being released to pasture. On the eastern side, cold temperatures halted pasture growth. Asotin County reported some producers were feeding cattle longer than normal before turning out on grass. Other counties reported hay supplies were low at most area ranches.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for field work 5. Topsoil moisture 3% short, 90% adequate, 7% surplus compared with 2% very short, 2% short, 40% adequate, 56% surplus last year. Intended acreage prepared for spring planting 51%, 36% in 2007, 46% 5-yr avg. Hay and roughage supplies 10% very short, 45% short, 45% adequate compared with 2% very short, 30% short, 58% adequate, 10% surplus last year. Feed grain supplies 7% very short, 34% short, 59% adequate, compared with 2% very short, 11% short, 82% adequate, 5% surplus this time last year. Corn 5% planted, 4% in 2007, 5% 5-yr avg. Winter wheat conditions 1% poor, 33% fair, 60% good, 6% excellent; 4% headed, 2% in 2007, 1% 5-yr avg. Oats 33% planted, 14% in 2007, 32% 5-yr avg.; 3% emerged, 2% in 2007, 9% 5-yr avg. Hay 6% very poor, 13% poor, 41% fair, 35% good, 5% excellent. Apple conditions 75% fair, 25% good. Peach conditions 79% fair, 21% good. Cattle and calves 1% very poor, 9% poor, 26% fair, 60% good, 4% excellent. Calving was 87% complete, compared to 90% last year. Sheep and lambs 19% poor, 37% fair, 41% good, 3% excellent. Lambing was 84% complete, compared to 89% last year. Farming activities ranged from field preparations including spraying for weeds, plowing, planting, and fence mending to vaccinating cattle. Fruit producers watch for frost as trees begin to bloom.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.8. Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 1% short, 56% adequate, 43% surplus. Temperatures ranged from 1 degree below to 4 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures were in the mid-50s to 60 degrees across the state. Lows averaged in the mid to upper 30s for the week. Precipitation ranged from 0.0 inches in Milwaukee to 1.93 inches in LaCrosse. There was a slight amount of oats planted and spring tillage, with oats 3 percent planted and spring tillage 3 percent complete. Wet fields are still delaying spring fieldwork in Wisconsin with a report of 4 inches of snow in one area and continuous unneeded rain in many other areas.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 28% short, 61% adequate, 1% surplus. Irrigation water supplies, 2% very short, 24% short, 72% adequate, 2% surplus. Barley 62% planted, 66% 2007, 69% avg.; 7% emerged, 27% 2007, 27% avg. Oats 22% planted, 30% 2007, 34% avg.; 2% emerged, 10% 2007, 7% avg. Sugarbeets 28% planted, 38% 2007, 46% avg.; 1% emerged, 0% 2007, 1% avg. Spring wheat planted 1%, 22% 2007, 32% avg. Spring wheat 0% emerged, 6% 2007, 5% avg. Corn 1% planted, 2% 2007, 2% avg. Winter wheat jointed 1%, 1% 2007, 1% avg.; condition 21% fair, 79% good. Calves born 79%, 85% 2007, 81% avg. Calf losses 15% light, 83% normal, 2% heavy. Farm flock lambed 74%, 84% 2007, 93% avg. Farm flock shorn 70%, 82% 2007, 83% avg. Lamb losses 11% light, 84% normal, 5% heavy. Range flock lambed 21%, 31% 2007, 24% avg. Range flock shorn 42%, 49% 2007, 51% avg. Pasture and range condition 0% very poor, 27% poor, 37% fair, 32% good, 4% excellent.