

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin

State Stories

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ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 28% short, 67% adequate, 1% surplus. Soybeans 93% harvested, 88% 2007, 89% avg. Winter wheat 69% planted, 42% emerged, condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 74% fair, 25% good, 1% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 11% poor, 44% fair, 42% good, 3% excellent. Hay and roughage supply 8% short, 74% adequate, 18% surplus. Rainfall was very scarce throughout the state as oppose to previous week. As a result from the lack of rainfall, soil moisture had a slight decline from previous week. Weather conditions were adequate enough for growers to have a prosperous work week especially in Districts 30, 40, 50, and 60 with seven suitable days. Winter wheat planting and winter wheat emerged improved by 15 percent respectively from previous week. The areas of progression were generally based around the North Alabama regions. Winter cover crops were looking superior and soil moisture was adequate. Pasture conditions were dry across some areas which hampered fall forage production and growth of over seeded pastures and hampered planting cover crops on conventional fields.

ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARIZONA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 15% short, 78% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 13% short, 81% adequate, 5% surplus. Soybeans 98% harvested, 97% 2007, 96% avg. Winter wheat 94% planted, 94% 2007, 91% avg. Farmers finished cotton harvest last week and had only 2% of the soybean crop left to harvest. Winter wheat producers planted another 6% of the crop last week, which was even with last year and 3% ahead the 5-year average. Winter wheat emerged increased 8% from the previous week, which was 6% and 3% ahead of last year and the 5-year average, respectively. Winter wheat was in mostly fair to good condition. Producers throughout the state were preparing their row crop fields for next spring, while pecan producers were in the midst of harvesting their crop. Livestock were in mostly fair to good condition. Ranchers were feeding hay and supplements to livestock.

CALIFORNIA: Small grain fields continued to be planted, were progressing normally. Early planted fields of barley, wheat, and oats were showing good emergence. Oat fields were being sprayed for weeds. Alfalfa was starting the dormant season. Some growers were cutting, baling for the last time. Cotton defoliation and harvest activities were nearing completion. Some of the picked fields were disked, shredded. Sudan hay, safflower harvest continued. Harvest of corn silage, sorghum was nearing completion. Grape growers were pruning and removing old vineyards. Crimson Seedless, Christmas Rose, Rouge, Kyoho, Red Globe, Summer Royal, and Autumn Royal table grapes were still being harvested. Wine grape harvest was ongoing. Growers continued harvesting late varieties of pomegranates. New pomegranate orchards were being planted. Flavor Fall pluots were harvested. Quince, Fuyu and Hachiya persimmons, Asian pears, and jujube harvests continued. New blueberry bushes were being planted. Valencia oranges were packed as demand dictated. Navel oranges were harvested. Fruit color was still green in many groves. Sugar content was high. Lemons, Satsuma and Clementine mandarins, Chandler pummelos, Melo Gold and Cocktail grapefruit were also harvested. Olives were still being harvested. Nut trees had begun going dormant in some areas and were being pruned. Fumigations were underway for replants. New almond, pistachio orchards were already being planted. Walnuts were still being harvested in some areas. Fall vegetables were still being harvested, especially farmers' market crops, such as amaranth, basil, green and long beans, bitter melon, carrots, cilantro, collard greens, cucumbers, daikon, dill, dongqua, eggplant, gailon, kabocha, leaf lettuce, leeks, lemongrass,

kale, mint, moqua, mustard greens, okra, ong choy, opo, parsley, peanuts, chili peppers, radishes, sinqua, spinach, summer and winter squashes, sweet corn, swiss chard, tong ho, yam leaf, and many varieties of herbs. The cool weather gave winter vegetables increased momentum this week. Broccoli, cabbage, Romaine lettuce, and spinach grew well across California. Produce grew faster than expected in the southern regions of the state, which may bring harvest dates together for staged planting of broccoli and lettuce. Both onions and broccoli for seed were sprinkled for moisture. Cauliflower started slow, but continued to pick up, showing potential for the upcoming season. Radicchios continued to be picked. Strawberry stands were open for business. Carrots were almost ready for harvest, while organic parsley was completed and cilantro neared its end. Tomato beds were mulched and fieldwork continued, as the ground was weeded, irrigated, fertilized and treated to controls pests. Rangeland and pasture continued to improve with recent rains and milder temperatures, however conditions remained mostly poor. Some greening of foothill pastures was visible. Cattle on dry pasture and rangeland continued to receive supplements of hay and other nutrients due to the poor feed conditions. Movement of cattle to lower elevations continued, as well as some thinning of herds. Irrigated pastures were in good condition. Fall beef cow calving continued, and was nearing completion in some areas. Milk production continued at a high level due to the milder temperatures. Sheep were grazing on harvested grain, alfalfa, Sudan grass, and tomato fields and idle farmland in central areas, and some movement of lambs into the Imperial Valley continued. Fall lambing continued. Honeybees were moved to foothill and mountain locations in central areas for over-wintering.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 8% very short, 25% short, 62% adequate 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture 14% very short, 35% short, 45% adequate, 6% surplus. Sugarbeets 96% harvested, 99% 2007, 99% avg. Colorado received below normal moisture and well above average temperatures for the week.

DELAWARE: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture 7% very short, 50% short, 42% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 9% very short, 36% short, 52% adequate, 3% surplus. Nearly all peanuts harvested. Soybeans, cotton, corn approximately 90% harvested. Panhandle winter grains emerged, needed rain. Hay supply short. Glades County sugarcane harvest continued. Soil moisture adequate, Panhandle, southern Peninsula; mostly short Big Bend, central Peninsula. Jefferson County recent cold temperatures put nursery crops into dormancy, which was desired condition. St. Johns County broccoli, cabbage planted. Central Peninsula cucumbers, melons, squash production slowed due to cold weather. Charlotte County preparing land watermelon planting. Manatee County tomatoes harvested. Hendry County irrigating recently planted greens, turnips. Other vegetables marketed snap beans, sweet corn, eggplant, okra, peppers, avocado. New citrus tree growth slowed due to cooler nighttime temperatures, decreased rainfall. Soil moisture short in most areas, growers irrigating to prevent wilt, maintain good fruit sizes at harvest. New crop fruit continues to show excellent on-tree color. Maturity levels running ahead of last season. Fresh fruit harvest crews actively moving Navels, finishing Ambersweet oranges. White, colored grapefruit, Sunburst tangerines taken to packinghouses. Hamlin, other early oranges harvested mostly for processing. About half of juice plants open, running mostly early oranges, receiving packinghouse eliminations. Caretakers applied supplemental sprays, fertilizers to trees. Other activities limited mowing, general grove maintenance. Cutting trees infected with greening part of regular grove management. Pasture Feed 5% very poor, 30% poor, 40% fair, 25% good. Cattle Condition 15% poor, 25% fair, 55% good, 5% excellent.

Below freezing temperatures slowed, stopped forage growth. Late-planted small grain winter forage emerging. Fertilizing of winter forage delayed. Supplemental hay feeding active. Panhandle, north pasture condition poor to good, most poor. Forage condition poor due to drought, lack of fertilizer. Cattle condition poor to excellent, most fair. Central pasture condition very poor to good, most poor due to drought, cold. Permanent pasture not growing, nutritional value of grass declining. Cattle being fed supplemental hay, feedings started a month earlier than normal. Southwest pasture condition very poor to good, most good. Statewide cattle condition poor to excellent, most good.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 6% very short, 39% short, 53% adequate, 2% surplus. Soil moisture conditions 6% very short, 39% short, 53% adequate, and 2% surplus. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 1% poor, 45% fair, 52% good, 2% excellent; 57% planted, 51% 2007, 51% avg.; 35% emerged, 26% 2007, 31% avg. Range and pasture 10% very poor, 27% poor, 47% fair, 16% good, 0% excellent. Hay 17% very poor, 26% poor, 45% fair, 12% good, 0% excellent. Onions 0% very poor, 0% poor, 12% fair, 88% good, 0% excellent; transplanted 62%, 10% 2007, 25% avg. Soybeans 79% harvested, 72% 2007, 71% avg. Sorghum harvested for grain 85%, 76% 2007, 81% average. Apples 98% harvested, 89% 2007, 96% avg. Peanuts combined 98%, 94% 2007, 98% avg. Pecans 70% harvested, 56% 2007, 52% avg. Rye planted for all purposes 82%, 80% 2007, 81% avg. Other small grains planted 77%, 76% 2007, 75% avg. Some crops suffered freeze damage from the cold weather. Several peanut fields received heavy frost, causing a delay in harvest. Despite the rain received the previous week, some areas still need more. Farmers were able to continue picking cotton despite having to wait for some fields to dry from the previous week's rain. Pecan growers have reported yields being lower than anticipated. Other activities included harvesting soybeans, planting small grain for grazing, irrigating crops as needed and applying fertilizer.

HAWAII: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. But limited to harvesting activities due to muddy field conditions. Soil moisture ranged from short to surplus; most areas have adequate soil moisture. Banana orchards were in fair to good condition. Frequent showers and warm daytime temperatures ensured steady growth. Farmers continued to rogue trees infected with the Banana Bunchy Top virus. Papaya trees continued to show steady flowering. Fruit gaps were noticed in some orchards. Major head cabbage growing areas were relatively dry during the week. As a result, steady irrigation was necessary to ensure normal progress. Overall quality was good. Maui's dry onion crop made steady, but slow progress during the week. Coffee harvesting in the Kona and Ka'u Districts of the Big Island continued. Harvesting appeared further along in lower elevation compared to upper elevations field which had a substantial amount of cherry. Moderate to good harvests were being reported in the Kona area of the Big Island. Weather conditions were variable during the week. Blustery trade winds were raking the islands at the start of the week. Abundant moisture was also being carried in by the trade winds to the windward sides of most islands. The gusty trade winds subsided at mid-week and were replaced by southerly winds. A disturbance near Kauai drew moisture from the south and resulted in steady moderate showers to fall from Kauai to Maui Counties over the weekend. Ponding occurred in areas saturated by the previous rains. This week's wet and windy weather hampered crop development and field activities in exposed areas. The rain episode, however, helped to replenish soil moisture, reservoirs, and catchment systems throughout the State. At the end of the week, all previously issued voluntary and mandatory water restrictions remained in effect.

IDAHO: Days suitable for field work 5.9. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 11% short, 85% adequate, 2% surplus. Field corn harvested for grain 66%, 90% 2007, 90% avg.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil moisture 4% short, 87% adequate, 9% surplus. Corn 95% harvested, 100% 2007, 99% avg. Sorghum 90% harvested, 100% 2007, 98% avg. Very few fields are left to be harvested, as Illinois' growing season comes to a close. Producers are applying fertilizer and completing fall tillage. Cleaning and winterizing equipment is also keeping producers busy. The average temperature was 10.4 degrees below normal. The average weekly precipitation was 0.63 inch below normal. Next weeks weather and crops report will be the final weekly report of the year. Illinois will be transitioning to the monthly report format and thank you for past and future cooperation.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 21% short, 71% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 31% short, 55% adequate, 4% surplus. Corn 97%

harvested, 99% 2007, 96% avg. Winter Wheat 97% emerged, 100% 2007, 95% avg.; condition 2% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, 13% excellent. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Hay supplies remain adequate in most areas. However, producers have been forced to feed additional hay due to the recent cold weather. Average temperatures ranged from 10o to 14o below normal, with a high of 51o and a low of 7o. Precipitation averaged from 0.0 inches to 0.63 inches. Many northern areas received the first heavy snowfall of the season slowing field activities. Most farmers have finished harvesting corn and soybeans for this year and fall tillage has been accomplished in many fields. Fertilizer and lime are still being spread on some fields.

Cleaning up equipment and hauling grain to market were other major activities during the week. The 2009 winter wheat crop is reported to be in favorable condition going into the winter months.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 3% short, 75% adequate, 21% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 6% short, 77% adequate, 16% surplus. Corn 86% harvested, 98% average. Grain movement rated 26% none, 32% light, 33% moderate, and 9% heavy. Off-farm grain storage availability rated 11% short, 81% adequate, and 8% surplus. On-farm storage availability rated 19% short, 76% adequate, and 5% surplus. Availability of hay and roughage for livestock feed 9% short, 86% adequate, and 5% surplus. Quality of hay and roughage for livestock feed 8% poor, 46% fair, and 46% good. Use of crop stubble for grazing, 46% none, 29% limited, 22% moderate, and 3% extensive. Fall fertilizer applied 32% complete, average 61%. Dry weather and freezing ground temperatures allowed heavy harvest equipment back into unharvested fields across most of the State. Application of fall fertilizer remained slow, advancing to 32 percent complete, far behind the 55 percent average for this date. Progress is particularly slow in the Southwest and South-central districts.

KANSAS: Days suitable for field work 6.2. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 7% short, 85% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 10% short, 86% adequate, 3% surplus. Range and pasture condition 4% very poor, 11% poor, 26% fair, 50% good, 9% excellent. Feed grain supplies 1% very short, 4% short, 84% adequate, 11% surplus. Hay and forage supplies 7% short, 80% adequate, 13% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% short, 93% adequate, 5% surplus. Primary farm activity involved harvesting corn, soybeans, sorghum, cotton, and sunflowers.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for field work 5.0. Topsoil 35% very short, 47% short, 17% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 48% very short, 42% short, 10% adequate. Farmers continued to strip tobacco that was in order. Last week temperatures and rainfall were below normal. Two successive cold fronts swept through the State with temperatures dropping into the teens a few nights. Temperatures averaged 31 degrees across the State, 14 degrees below normal and 16 degrees below the previous week. Rainfall for the week averaged 0.06 inches, 0.87 below normal.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Soil moisture 6% very short, 36% short, 53% adequate, 5% surplus. Wheat 78% planted, 66% 2007, 63% avg.; 42% emerged, 31% avg. Pecan 66% harvested, 77% 2007, 70% avg. Sweet potatoes 95% harvested, 99% 2007, 98% avg. Sugarcane 46% harvested, 57% 2007, 56% avg.; 4% very poor, 17% poor, 45% fair, 28% good, 6% excellent. Livestock 3% very poor, 11% poor, 39% fair, 46% good, 1% excellent. Vegetables 5% very poor, 18% poor, 47% fair, 29% good, 1% excellent. Range and Pasture 6% very poor, 21% poor, 47% fair, 24% good, and 2% excellent.

MARYLAND: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 1% very short, 5% short, 79% adequate, 15% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 9% short, 83% adequate, 6% surplus. Precipitation varied from 0.03 inches central Lower Peninsula to 1.09 inches eastern Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 13 degrees below normal southwestern Lower Peninsula to 10 degrees below normal eastern Upper Peninsula and northwestern and west central Lower Peninsula. Snow fell in north, and "lake effect" snow accumulated along Lake Michigan. Ground some areas soggy but frozen others. Snow limited harvest and other fieldwork. Corn harvest continued where conditions allowed and completed many areas. Winter wheat stands generally good condition. Sugarbeet harvest completed.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Topsoil moisture 4% short, 79% adequate, 17% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% very short, 18% short, 71% adequate, 9% surplus. Corn 19% moisture, 14% 2007, 16% avg. Pasture condition 10% very poor, 24% poor, 37% fair, 27% good, 2% excellent. Corn harvest advanced 12 percentage points and

sunflower harvest advanced 13 points during this past week. A lack of precipitation across the state allowed harvest progress of corn and sunflowers to continue at a good pace. Freezing temperatures throughout the state, however, has hindered some farmer's ability to till the soil and apply fertilizer. The average temperature for the week was 22.2°, 4.7° below normal.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil moisture 19% very short, 16% short, 54% adequate, 11% surplus. Corn 100% harvested, 100% 2007, 100% avg. Cotton 98% harvested, 100% 2007, 100% avg. Peanuts 100% harvested, 100% 2007, avg. Sorghum 100% harvested, 100% 2007, 100% avg. Soybeans 100% harvested, 100% 2007, 100% avg. Winter Wheat 92% planted, 97% 2007, 95% avg.; 72% emerged, 73% 2007, 78% avg.; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 14% fair, 82% good, 4% excellent. Sweetpotatoes 100% harvested, 100% 2007, 98% avg. Cattle 4% very poor, 6% poor, 39% fair, 45% good, 6% excellent. Row crop harvesting is either complete or near completion in the state. Winter wheat planting is continuing as field conditions permit. Rainfall is needed in various areas of the state for winter forage crops.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 14% short, 76% adequate, 8% surplus. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 7% poor, 37% fair, 49% good, 6% excellent. Fall tillage is 63 percent complete, 3 days behind normal. With the dry week, harvest season is nearing completion. Reporters commented that crop yields are better than expected. Temperatures ranged from 5 to 13 degrees below average across the State. Rainfall was very light at 0.01 inches for the State. The north-central, northeast, southwest, and southeast districts reported no rainfall. Activities corn, soybean, sorghum harvest; winter wheat planting; fall tillage; care of livestock. This is our final Crop Progress and Condition for the 2008 reporting season. We will resume reporting Crop Progress and Condition in April 2009.

MONTANA: Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 24% last year, 18% short, 40% last year, 77% adequate, 35% last year, 2% surplus, 1% last year. Subsoil moisture 12% very short, 36% last year, 32% short, 41% last year, 55% adequate, 22% last year, 1% surplus, 1% last year. Winter wheat 99% emerged, 99% last year. Winter wheat condition 0% very poor, 1% last year, 2% poor, 3% last year, 37% fair, 59% last year, 56% good, 34% last year, 5% excellent, 3% last year. Corn harvested for grain 42%, 86% last year. Corn condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 15% fair, 58% good, 23% excellent. Temperatures during the week were above normal, and several record high temperatures were set. Range and pasture feed condition 11% very poor, 20% last year, 15% poor, 18% last year, 44% fair, 40% last year, 27% good, 20% last year, 3% excellent, 2% last year. Cattle and calves moved from summer ranges 90% complete, 93% last year. Sheep and lambs moved from summer ranges 93% complete, 96% last year. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed 31%, 37% last year. Sheep and lambs receiving supplemental feed 40%, 33% last year.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil moisture 2% very short, 9% short, 86% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 17% short, 79% adequate, 3% surplus. Corn 82% harvested, 99% 2007, 96% avg. Sorghum 77% harvested, 99% 2007, 98% avg. Winter wheat conditions 0% very poor, 3% poor, 18% fair, 64% good, 15% excellent; 100% emerged, 100% 2007, 100% avg. Dry weather allowed corn and sorghum harvests to make progress. Corn harvest is now 13 days behind the average with many producers still reporting high grain moisture levels. Sorghum continues to be almost 3 weeks behind. Other activities around the state included moving cattle to stalk fields, fall tillage, and applying fertilizer. Temperatures averaged one degree below normal across the state. The western part of the state had above normal temperature with highs near 80. The northeast was the cold spot with highs in the low 50's and lows in the single digits. Precipitation was absent across the majority of the state with only traces reported in a few districts.

NEVADA: Days suitable for fieldwork 7. Livestock were being brought to winter pastures. Onions were being taken to sheds for sorting, bagging, and shipping. Livestock marketing and shipping increased. Garlic, alfalfa seed, and mint harvests were wrapping up. Potato harvest advanced. Main farm and ranch activities harvesting, planting of fall-seeded grains and garlic. The week recorded mild daytime temperatures with below freezing nighttime temperatures. Temperatures averaged from five to eleven degrees above normal across the state. The week's high temperatures ranged from 64 degrees in Elko to 81 degrees in Las Vegas. The week's low temperatures ranged from 14 degrees in Winnemucca to 45 degrees in Las Vegas. No precipitation was recorded.

NEW ENGLAND: Days suitable for field work 3.6. Topsoil moisture

1% short, 95% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% short, 95% adequate, 4% surplus. Pasture condition 25% poor, 21% fair, 49% good, 5% excellent. The week was marked by below average temperatures across New England. Average highs for the week were in the mid-20s to upper-30s with average nighttime lows in the upper teens to mid-20s. New record lows were set during the week. Skies were partly cloudy, with windy conditions seen on most days. A flurry or two were seen during the course of the week. Most areas saw no accumulation while 4 to 6 inches of snow was reported in the extreme North. Farm activities included combining grain corn, bundling tobacco, applying lime to fields, soil testing, cleaning up vegetable fields and orchards, winterizing and storing equipment for the winter, and moving apples and potatoes out of storage.

NEW JERSEY: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.6. Topsoil moisture 14% very short, 50% short, 36% adequate. Wind damage 14% light. Freeze damage 10% light, 8% moderate, 17% severe. Alfalfa 12% fair, 88% good; sixth cut 77% complete. Cotton 14% fair, 72% good, 14% excellent; 70% harvested. Corn 100% good; 100% grain harvested. Irrigated sorghum 100% good; 95% harvested. Dry sorghum 100% poor. Peanuts 40% fair, 50% good, 10% excellent. Lettuce 100% good, 96% harvested. Chile 7% poor, 21% fair, 62% good, 10% excellent; 98% red chile harvested. Pecans 14% fair, 74% good, 12% excellent. Cattle 1% very poor, 6% poor, 44% fair, 47% good, 2% excellent. Sheep 10% very poor, 8% poor, 21% fair, 49% good, 12% excellent. Range and pasture 9% very poor, 15% poor, 41% fair, 25% good, and 10% excellent. Weather conditions remained warm and dry across New Mexico through midweek. However, temperatures fell sharply over portions of eastern and central New Mexico Thursday, in the wake of a vigorous cold front that passed through the state. Very light precipitation was reported at a few stations. Warmer temperatures returned by the weekend.

NEW YORK: Producers were kept busy with the last of harvest. Major activities included caring for livestock, winterizing equipment, repairing fences, and grading and packing potatoes, onions, apples and cabbage. Winter meetings and trade shows are in their final planning stages. Temperatures averaged below normal. Precipitation was slightly above normal for the week.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for field work 5.1. Soil moisture levels 4% very short, 12% short, 76% adequate, and 8% surplus. Activities during the week included the harvesting of hay, cotton, soybeans, and sorghum, marketing livestock, and the planting of small grains. North Carolina received very little precipitation during the past week, with Beech Mountain receiving the most at 0.24 inches. Average temperatures were below normal for this time of year, ranging from 16 to 42 degrees. In the Mountain Region, Christmas Tree harvest continued. Cotton and soybean harvest and small grain plantings are progressing normally.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil moisture 7% very short, 11% short, 64% adequate, 18% surplus. Subsoil moisture 13% very short, 20% short, 52% adequate, 15% surplus. Stockwater supplies 22% very short, 20% short, 51% adequate, 7% surplus. Frozen ground allowed harvest to progress in some area last week. Moisture content in corn remained a concern for producers as elevators were busy drying corn, according to reporters.

OHIO: Days suitable for field work 3.5. Topsoil moisture 12% very short, 29% short, 50% adequate, 9% surplus. Corn harvested for grain 94%, 99% 2007, 92% avg. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 26% fair, 60% good, 12% excellent. Winter Wheat condition 0% very poor, 2% poor, 26% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Throughout the state, producers are finishing their corn harvest while soybean harvest is all but completed for the year. Field activities for the week also included some tillage, installation of tile, preparing equipment for winter storage, and fertilizer application.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.3. Topsoil moisture 16% very short, 29% short, 54% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 14% very short, 25% short, 60% adequate, 1% surplus. Rye condition 1% very poor 6% poor, 25% fair, 54% good, 14% excellent. Oats seedbed prepared 79% this week, 78% last week, 93% last year, 95% average; 48% planted this week, 47% last week, 79% last year, 70% average; 40% emerged this week, 39% last week, 61% last year, 63% average. Soybeans 91% harvested this week, 78% last week, 88% last year, 88% average. Cotton condition 9% poor, 30% fair, 51% good, 10% excellent. Alfalfa condition 2% very poor, 15% poor, 37% fair, 38% good, 8% excellent; 5th cutting 91% this week, 90% last week, 88% last year, 89% average; 6th cutting 50% this week, 49% last week, 50% last year, 57% average. Other hay 2nd cutting 90% this week, 89% last week, 94% last year, 96% average. Livestock condition

1% very poor, 4% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 13% excellent. Pasture and range condition 3% very poor, 16% poor, 35% fair, 40% good, 6% excellent. Livestock; Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$95 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$86 per cwt. Livestock conditions were rated mostly in the good to fair range with mostly light to moderate insect activity reported.

OREGON: Days suitable for field work 5.2. Top soil moisture 11% very short, 13% short, 60% adequate, 16% surplus. Sub soil moisture 15% very short, 20% short, 57% adequate, 8% surplus. Winter Wheat condition 1% very poor, 23% poor, 34% fair, 35% good, 7% excellent. Range, pasture condition 12% very poor, 21% poor, 40% fair, 25% good, 2% excellent. Winter Wheat emerged 69%, 90% previous year, 87% 5-year average. Weather With the exception of some rain mid-week, conditions were generally drier, cool last week throughout the State. However, rainfall from the previous week along with foggy conditions kept soils moist in the Valley, while soils in many eastern counties were depleted of moisture. High temperatures ranged from 75 degrees in Redmond, down to 54 degrees in Ontario. Low temperatures ranged from 38 degrees in Roseburg & Crescent City, down to 9 degrees in Christmas Valley. Only two out of the forty-three stations reporting did not receive a measurable amount of precipitation last week. The Detroit Lake, Florence stations reported the most with 1.09 & 1.04 total inches, respectively. Despite freezing or near freezing temperatures, conditions were warmer than normal for the second straight week throughout much of the State, while precipitation levels were below average. Field Crops Most field work activities have concluded throughout the State. The cool, moist conditions in Jackson County have proven favorable, as fall grain crops were beginning to show growth. Cover crops, fall seeded crops in Douglas County looked good. Grains in Washington County were also up, growing well. However, there were reports of goose depredation on wheat fields. A lack of sufficient moisture in Gilliam County has not allowed for wheat seed germination in some fields, while grains in Wasco County were beginning to show slight improvements. Statewide, winter wheat emergence was at 69 percent last week. Vegetables In Jackson County, some late fall vegetables were harvested, the few remaining open farmers markets had their last sales. Reports from Clackamas County indicate that winter fresh market cabbage orders are well below normal. Other than continuing with winter preparations, all vegetable field activities have concluded for the season. Fruits & Nuts; Wineries were busy making wine in Jackson County. Fruit, nut producers began pruning trees, vines in Washington, Malheur counties. All harvesting activities concluded several weeks ago, producers continued preparing for winter. Nurseries, Greenhouses; The rains from earlier in the month have improved Christmas tree condition in Douglas County. Tree harvest, u-cut activities were in full swing last week throughout the Willamette Valley, although wet fields have made for messy conditions. Greenhouses growing holiday plants were busy with sales. Other greenhouses were busy setting new plants, rotating pots, trimming evergreens, other maintenance activities. Nursery sales have reportedly been slow in Clackamas, Douglas counties as nurserymen continued with cold weather preparations. Livestock, Range & Pasture; In the western portion of the State, pastures continued to improve with sufficient moisture, warm day time temperatures. Cattle in Jackson County were being moved to winter pastures, most operators have sorted & sold calves ready for backgrounding. In eastern Oregon, pastures in Wasco County showed slow improvements, while rangelands in Harney County have been marginal due to drought conditions. This has forced producers to move cattle off the range, begin supplemental feeding. Overall, livestock continued to look good.

PENNSYLVANIA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE

SOUTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Soil moisture 5% very short, 29% short, 65% adequate, 1% surplus. Soybeans 13% very poor, 18% poor, 32% fair, 32% good, 5% excellent; leaves dropped 100%, 100% 2007, 99% avg.; 95% mature, 94% 2007, 95% avg.; 55% harvested, 56% 2007, 60% avg. Cotton 3% very poor, 9% poor, 46% fair, 35% good, 7% excellent. Winter wheat 0% very poor, 4% poor, 39% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent; grazings 0% very poor, 4% poor, 44% fair, 51% good, 1% excellent; 46% planted, 46% 2007, 53% avg.; 24% emerged, 18% 2007, 36% avg.; grazings planted 95%, 75% 2007, 90% avg.; grazings emerged 81%, 52% 2007, 76% avg. Pasture condition 1% very poor, 17% poor, 57% fair, 25% good, 0% excellent. Oats 0% very poor, 4% poor, 39% fair, 55% good, 2% excellent; 86% planted, 69% 2007, 79% avg.; 67% emerged, 44% 2007, 62% avg. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 5% poor, 49% fair, 42% good, 4% excellent. Sorghum 98% harvested, 100% 2007, 100% avg. Peanuts 100% harvested, 100% 2007, 100% avg. Fields were still

wet from the previous week's storms on Monday, but breezy, dry winds enabled harvesting to resume shortly thereafter. There were several heavy frosts reported in rural areas across the state. The record breaking low temperatures caused some freeze damage to fall vegetables, and some small grains. Cotton harvest continues to look good. Some producers were finished picking, but were still waiting on modules to be ginned. A very high yielding peanut crop has all been dug for this year. Sorghum harvest was nearly complete. Wet fields stalled most soybean harvesting operations early in the week, but once work began again, it continued uninterrupted. There was some freeze damage to winter wheat. Pasture conditions deteriorated from the prior week due to the cold, dry weather. Overall, the week was cold and dry. A series of bracing, Arctic-origin fronts sent the mercury to the lowest values since January 2008. There were public reports of snow flurries Tuesday in both Horry and Marion counties. On Wednesday morning, the minimum temperature dropped to 15 degrees at Lake Bowen and the maximum temperature at Longcreek only warmed to 39 degrees. A brief push of mild air spread into the northwest corner of the Upstate Thursday ahead of the week's second cold front. By midday Friday, north winds, gusting to 35 mph at Charleston, forced freezing air southward through South Carolina. A statewide freeze was observed Saturday morning. Edisto Beach reported 32 degrees. The Columbia Airport set a date record 19 degree temperature. Most locations on Saturday recorded high temperatures in the 40's. The state average temperature for the week was thirteen degrees below normal. The highest official temperature reported was 69 degrees at Walhalla on November 20. The lowest official temperature reported was 11 degrees at Cheraw on the morning of November 22. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.0 inches.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.9. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 4% short, 73% adequate, 22% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 13% short, 66% adequate, 20% surplus. Feed supplies 5% short, 81% adequate, 14% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 10% short, 75% adequate, 14% surplus. Cattle condition 1% very poor, 2% poor, 13% fair, 67% good, 17% excellent. Sheep condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 14% fair, 64% good, 16% excellent. The row crop harvest progressed this past week in South Dakota, but still remains well behind schedule.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 27% short, 67% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture 17% very short, 32% short, 51% adequate. Other farm activities last week included sowing winter wheat, stripping burley tobacco, winterizing machinery, and tending livestock. A series of cold fronts affected the state this week and brought colder temperatures to the area. Temperatures across the state last week averaged below normal. Rainfall amounts averaged well below normal with many areas receiving no precipitation at all.

TEXAS: Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate statewide. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Peanuts condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Sorghum condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Wheat condition was mostly fair to good statewide. Oat condition was mostly poor to fair statewide. Range and pasture condition was mostly poor to fair statewide. Small grains could use moisture. Cotton harvest continued in Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau while harvest was mostly complete in South Central Texas. Corn harvest in the Northern High Plains was almost complete. Sorghum harvest in the Northern High Plains continued but was showing poor yields due to late maturity and freezing temps. Peanuts continued to be harvested in some areas of the state. Pecan harvest continued in the Trans-Pecos with average yields while onions were showing good yields. Cabbage and spinach harvest continued in South Central Texas. Sunflower harvest continued in the Southern High Plains. Livestock were in fair to good condition across the state with supplemental feeding taking place. Pasture and range land were in need of rainfall in the Low Plains.

UTAH: Days suitable for field work 7. Subsoil moisture 10% very short, 29% short, 61% adequate, 0% surplus. Winter Wheat, Planted For Harvest Next Year 100%, 100% 2007. Winter Wheat 93% emerged, 97% 2007, 99% avg. Corn 100% mature, 100% 2007. Corn harvested (grain) 78%, 99% 2007, 87% avg. Cattle and calves moved From Summer Range 100%, 100% 2007. Sheep and lambs moved From Summer Range 100%, 100% 2007. Range and Pasture 8% very poor, 16% poor, 26% fair, 42% good, 8% excellent. Stock Water Supplies 3% very short, 17% short, 80% adequate, 0% surplus. Farmers are finishing up field activities. Livestock throughout the state continue to do well. Box Elder County reports field work is winding down in the county. Some producers are still plowing fields to have

them ready for spring crops. There is still some activity by producers of collecting baled cornstalks from fields and hauling to yards. A small percentage of grain corn is still in the fields while producers are waiting for the moisture to decline to the required level before storage in bins. Beaver County reports things are really slowing down. Cache County reports field work is virtually over for the season. Box Elder County reports livestock producers have been shipping calves to fulfill contracts on earlier purchases. They have been grateful for the nice fall so that they can hold off feeding expensive winter feed as long as possible. Carbon County reports livestock have come off the summer range in excellent condition. Many livestock ponds on the winter range are empty or very low. Wayne and Piute Counties report calves are being shipped to auctions and to contract buyers out of state. Winter ranges are down in available forage and some allotments are without water in ponds. Average forage production on desert ranges during 2008 is lower than previous years. Cache County reports livestock are doing well with pleasant autumn days. Sevier County reports some livestock producers are concerned about the poor condition of winter grazing permits.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.4. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 22% short, 65% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 21% very short, 25% short, 53% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture 8% very poor, 22% poor, 31% fair, 38% good, 1% excellent. Livestock 3% poor, 18% fair, 68% good, 11% excellent. Other Hay 6% very poor, 22% poor, 38% fair, 33% good, 1% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 5% very poor, 14% poor, 21% fair, 54% good, 6% excellent. Soybeans 66% harvested; 87% 2007, 79% 5-yr avg. Winter Wheat 81% Seeded; 89% 2007; 86% avg.; 66% Emerged; 61% 2007; 45% avg. Barley condition 36% fair, 60% good, 4% excellent. Cotton 81% harvested, 99% 2007; 85% avg. Oats condition 44% fair, 54% good, 2% excellent. It was a cold week for Virginia. Precipitation came in the form of rain and snow. Parts of Smyth County reported up to 5 inches of snow. The soybean harvest continues to lag behind normal. In some areas, grain producers are waiting for the soybeans to dry out before completing the harvest. The majority of cover crops are in good condition. Throughout the State, subsoil moisture is becoming a concern. Wells and springs have not fully recovered from summer's dry weather. If Virginia does not receive more moisture, farmers worry that small grains will suffer. Virginia's livestock are being switched over to winter feed. Some cattlemen have just begun supplementing their livestock, while others have completely switched over. Other farming activities included repairing farm equipment, planting wheat, attending meetings, and hunting deer.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil moisture 9% very short, 15% short, 46% adequate, 30% surplus. Dryer conditions prevailed this week. Grain growing counties experienced warm day time temperatures, helping to push germination along. Grain growers were hoping for rain and snow over the winter to replenish dry soil conditions. Some reseeding was reported in Asotin County. In general, farmers were putting equipment away and preparing for winter. Field corn grain harvest was winding down. On the western side, dry, sunny days provided nearly ideal conditions for the harvest of Christmas trees. The majority of wholesale orders require delivery prior to the Thanksgiving weekend. In the Yakima Valley, minimal activity occurred in fruit orchards although some tree pruning is underway. Growers were putting away equipment and irrigation systems for the winter. In Skagit County, the carrot harvest was wrapping up. The 2009 flower bulb crop was being planted as well as the cabbage seed crop. Orchardists were busy mowing between tree rows to reduce rodent cover. Raspberry growers continued to tie and prune their plants. Range and pasture conditions 25% very poor, 37% poor, 26% fair, 12% good. On the eastern side, cull cows and calves continued to move to market. Chelan County reported producers were bringing cattle home for the winter and placing them on full feed. Several operators were weaning calves, preparing them for sale.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for field work 5. Topsoil moisture 19% very short, 28% short, 53% adequate, 2% very short, 52% short, 46% adequate last year. Corn 85% harvested, 81% 2007, 82% 5-yr avg. Soybeans 75% harvested, 74% 2007, 75% 5-yr avg. Wheat conditions 3% very poor, 13% poor, 50% fair, 34% good; 80% emerged, 79% 2007, 83% 5-yr avg. Cattle and calves 2% poor, 21% fair, 71% good, 6% excellent. Sheep and lambs 1% poor, 21% fair, 74% good, 4% excellent. Farming activities included harvesting corn and soybeans, feeding hay, plowing fields and preparing for winter.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 18% short, 75% adequate, 6% surplus. Temperatures were 8 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 31 to 35 degrees across the state. Lows averaged from 15 to 22 degrees for the week. Precipitation ranged from 0.00 inches to 0.01 inches in LaCrosse. Corn harvested for grain was 83 percent complete. Fall tillage was 58 percent complete. Corn harvest was wrapping up. Frost was penetrating the ground in some areas.

WYOMING: DATA NOT AVAILABLE