



# Crop Progress - State Stories

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**ALABAMA:** Average temperatures ranged from 46.2 to 58.5 degrees Fahrenheit throughout the state during this month. Total precipitation ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 12.17 inches in Limestone County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 32 percent of the state was in abnormally dry to drought stages on December 10. Producers wrapped up planting wheat and winter grazing by the beginning of the month. The vast majority of field crops were harvested with only a small amount of cotton remaining in the fields by month's end. A majority of the wheat and winter forages were in mostly good condition by the end of the month due to adequate rainfall and warm temperatures. Some wheat was in poor condition due to excessive rain. Cattle were looking good throughout the state with normal pasture conditions and some producers needing to supplement with hay and feed. Hay was in short supply due to drought conditions that hurt pastures in the fall.

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**ALASKA: DATA NOT AVAILABLE**

**ARIZONA:** This report for Arizona is for the entire month of December 2019. By the end of the month, cotton harvest was 95 percent complete compared to 91 percent on the last report, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Thirty-eight percent of barley has been planted and 35 percent has emerged. Fifty-six percent of Durum wheat has been planted and 53 percent has emerged. Alfalfa conditions were rated mostly good to fair, depending on location last week with harvesting taking place on slightly over one-half of the alfalfa acreage across the State. For the entire State, pasture and range conditions were rated mostly poor to fair. In the north central and northwestern part of the State, soil moisture has been replenished and water tanks are full. In addition, positive precipitation was reported this week in the south central part of the State.

**ARKANSAS:** The month of December has been wet with average to above average temperatures. The last week of the month saw unusually warm temperatures with the statewide average at 14.5 degrees above normal. By the end of the month, the State had received approximately 1.82 inches higher than the average rainfall for December. Agents were reporting unseasonably warm temperatures with good soil moisture. Many livestock producers began feeding hay to cattle. Fieldwork was scarce as many producers had just finished 2019 harvest. Winter wheat is being reported as fair to above average in regards to condition.

**CALIFORNIA:** Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 10% short, 45% adequate, 40% surplus. Subsoil moisture 25% short, 45% adequate, 30% surplus. Temperatures for the month averaged 49.8 degrees, 2.8 degrees above normal. Statewide average precipitation was 3.85 inches. Crop land in preparation for next planting. Winter wheat has emerged and looks good. Pushed out citrus groves were prepared for planting. Pecan harvest continued. Harvested nut orchards were cleaned and young trees were irrigated. Carrots, lettuce, and Brussels sprouts were planted. Carrots progressed well and broccoli harvested. Rangeland and non-irrigated pasture remained in fair to good condition. More precipitation is needed for fall grass germination. In some areas, cattle continued to be provided supplemental feed.

**COLORADO:** This report for Colorado is for the entire month of December 2019. Topsoil moisture 17% very short, 25% short, 58% adequate. Subsoil moisture 19% very short, 28% short, 53% adequate. Winter wheat condition 7% very poor, 12% poor, 24% fair, 41% good, 16% excellent. Livestock condition 2% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 71% good, 11% excellent. Pasture and range condition 7% very poor, 11% poor, 33% fair, 45% good, 4% excellent. Mostly dry weather across the state during the month of December coincided with a few seasonal snow storms. Overall, soil moisture supplies declined from the previous report, as did the condition of winter wheat. Reporters in eastern counties noted moisture was needed and received snow did not contain much moisture content. High winds, detrimental to winter wheat, were also reported. Livestock producers were utilizing feed and supplement sources and/or grazing crop residue. In southeastern counties, a reporter noted some producers chiseled their wheat crop to help prevent blowing soil. In the San

Luis Valley, a reporter noted hay supplies were mostly adequate, but livestock supplemental feeding was higher than normal due to snow cover. As of January 1, 2020, snowpack was 119 percent measured as percent of median snowfall.

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**DELAWARE:** During the month of December, temperatures and precipitation fluctuated across the state. There was occasional snowfall but no real accumulation. While some experienced hard rains and winds at times, others reported spells of unseasonably mild temperatures. Field crops are all harvested for the most part. Yields reportedly varied heavily by locale due to varying weather. Unharvested acreage remains for some, as poor field conditions have prevented final harvesting. Livestock producers are preparing for lambing, calving, and foaling for the New Year. Overall, producers are readying their equipment for next year and attending farm meetings for education credits.

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**FLORIDA:** Total rainfall for the month ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 9.4 inches in Broward County. According to the December 31, 2019 U.S. Drought Monitor, 24.14 percent of the State was experiencing abnormally dry conditions at the month's end, down significantly from 60.54 percent on December 17, 2019. Average mean temperatures ranged from 41.6°F in Okaloosa County to 78.1°F in Monroe County. Pasture conditions remained mostly fair to good, improving most notably later in the month. Pastures throughout the state experienced seasonal decline. At the beginning of the month, several pastures in the Panhandle and northern peninsula received some frost damage. Cattle remained in mostly good to excellent condition throughout the month. Cotton harvesting finished at the beginning of the month. Several producers reported planting cover crops. Many vegetable growers were able to prepare land for spring plantings toward the end of the month. Citrus grove operations were normal for this time of year and included mowing, spraying, fertilizing, and general grove maintenance. Grapefruit, early and midseason oranges, and tangerines were harvested throughout the month. Processing plants were open and ran early and mid-season oranges as well as red and white grapefruit.

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**GEORGIA:** Total rainfall for the month ranged from 2.0 inches in Bartow County to 11.9 inches in Richmond County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, December began with 23 percent of the state in a moderate to severe drought. By the month's end, the state was drought free. Temperatures averaged 3 to 7 degrees above normal for the month. The mild temperatures, paired with adequate rainfall, allowed pastures to improve from the summer and fall drought. Due to the late-season drought conditions, some small grain and winter grazing plantings were delayed or prevented. Grazing potential statewide was a concern, based on the decreased planting and slow recovery of fields. Small grains and winter grazing were generally in good condition by the month's end, but winter grazing was not yet developed enough to offset hay feeding. In the northern portion of the state, the drought resulted in insufficient hay production, so many farmers were searching for hay to purchase. Most farmers in the southern portion of the state who produced sufficient hay stocks had already sold their surplus, so they only had enough left to feed their livestock through the winter. Ample rain during the last two weeks of the month caused fields to saturate, limiting fieldwork and making livestock feeding difficult. Some cotton and pecans had yet to be harvested. Overall livestock condition was good.

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#### **HAWAII: DATA NOT AVAILABLE**

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**IDAHO:** The statewide temperatures in Idaho for the month of December were normal to above average throughout the state. Some storm activity picked up in the latter part of December. Much of that moisture fell as rain in northern, south central, and southwestern Idaho. No concerns were reported in northern Idaho at this point. Winter wheat cover looked adequate for surviving adverse conditions. Considerable moisture fell in the form of rain over the last couple of weeks of the month. Southwestern Idaho reported good hay availability and excellent calving conditions. South central Idaho also reported mild December weather. Some reporters expressed initial concerns over the lack of major storm activity in the mountain areas. Larger snowpack levels are needed to build snowpack for summer irrigation. The good news was there was also very little moisture or cold weather to adversely affect livestock in the area. Southeastern Idaho also reported a mild month with less snow on the valley floor. This allowed some grass-fed cattle producers to keep the animals out on pasture for most of the month without having to supplement their diet with hay. Very little snow was reported in Bannock and Bingham Counties. In Fremont and Oneida Counties, snow was reported covering several fields and pastures. Hay and straw was readily available for livestock producers.

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**ILLINOIS:** For the week ending on December 29, 2019. Topsoil moisture 3% short, 68% adequate, 29% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% short, 78% adequate, 16% surplus. Winter wheat condition 6% very poor, 10% poor, 36% fair, 46% good, 2% excellent. Statewide, the average temperature in December was 35.2 degrees, 5.4 degrees above normal. Precipitation averaged 2.01 inches, 0.68 inches below normal.

**INDIANA:** Topsoil moisture for the month of December was 1% very short, 5% short, 70% adequate, and 24% surplus. Subsoil moisture for the month of December was 1% very short, 10% short, 72% adequate, and 17% surplus. Winter wheat condition for the month of December rated 2% very poor, 8% poor, 35% fair, 47% good, and 8% excellent. Statewide temperatures averaged 36.0 degrees, 4.8 degrees above normal for the month of December. Statewide average precipitation was 3.35 inches, 0.30 inches above normal. The month of December started off warmer than normal. The middle of the month saw temperatures drop below normal resulting in some significant snow events throughout the State. However, the cold temperatures were rather short-lived, and the month ended with unusually high temperatures. The warmer temperatures and above average precipitation led to some muddy conditions around the State. Livestock were reported to be doing well, despite muddy conditions in some feedlots. However, hay and forage quality and supply remained a concern. The warmer than normal temperatures allowed for fall tillage and lime applications. Other activities for the month included hauling grain, caring for livestock, cleaning equipment, purchasing supplies for next year, and attending Extension workshops.

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**IOWA:** The month of December brought unseasonably warm temperatures across Iowa. Corn and soybean harvest was nearly complete across the State with only a few fields left to be harvested. Other fieldwork activities such as fall tillage, installing tile and applying nitrogen and manure took place where conditions allowed as mud from rain and snow made it challenging. There was some grain movement across the State, but most reported it as being slow. Livestock continue to graze on corn stalks. The warmer temperatures were beneficial for livestock with no major issues reported. However, muddy feedlots have been a struggle.

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**KANSAS:** For the month of December 2019, topsoil moisture supplies rated 9% very short, 31% short, 56% adequate, and 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 10% very short, 28% short, 60% adequate, and 2% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 5% very poor, 16% poor, 39% fair, 36% good, and 4% excellent. Cotton harvested 97%.

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**KENTUCKY:** For the month of December, Kentucky saw above normal temperatures and precipitation. December marked the third straight month with above normal rainfall following drought conditions through September. Temperatures for the period averaged 43 degrees across the State, which was 5 degrees warmer than normal. Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 5.10 inches Statewide which was 0.65 inches above normal and 115% of normal. December was very mild with scattered precipitation. Periods of unseasonably warm and dry weather benefited pastureland to a degree, however heavy rain at the end of the month muddied up ground making them vulnerable. Hay supplies have been depleted in some areas as this past summer saw a long drought period which relegated farmers to feeding hay as pastureland suffered. For the month of December, hay supplies 9% very short, 32% short, 57% adequate, 2% surplus. Despite stressed pastureland, the condition of livestock was mostly good. Livestock conditions 1% very poor, 5% poor 26% fair, 63% good, 5% excellent. Condition of winter wheat 1% very poor, 2% poor, 7% fair, 53% good, 37% excellent. Tobacco stripping 82% complete.

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**LOUISIANA:** The month of December has been wet and soils are saturated in many areas. Fieldwork was being done in the beginning of the month, but recent consistent rain has brought fieldwork to a halt for the last several weeks, and it appears this is likely to continue for several more weeks. Mild temperatures have resulted in low livestock stress and have benefited ryegrass pastures. The state average rainfall was about 2.3 inches for the month of December with an average temperature of about 55 degrees. Overall, average temperatures for the State are higher than normal for this time of year.

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**MARYLAND:** During the month of December, temperatures and precipitation fluctuated across the state. There was occasional snowfall but no real accumulation. While some experienced hard rains and winds at times, others reported spells of unseasonably mild temperatures. Field crops are all harvested for the most part. Yields reportedly varied heavily by locale due to varying weather. Unharvested acreage remains for some, as poor field conditions have prevented final harvesting. Livestock producers are preparing for lambing, calving, and foaling for the New Year. Overall, producers are readying their equipment for next year and attending farm meetings for education credits.

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**MICHIGAN:** Topsoil moisture 0% very short, 2% short, 42% adequate and 56% surplus. Subsoil moisture 0% very short, 2% short, 31% adequate, and 67% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 5% very poor, 13% poor, 33% fair, 37% good, and 12% excellent. Precipitation for the month of December averaged 3.53 inches throughout the State, 1.27 inches above normal. Temperature for the month of December averaged 28.7 degrees, 3.8 degrees above normal. The month of December was, on a whole, warmer and wetter than normal. The week of Christmas had record breaking high temperatures. Soybean and corn harvest continued throughout the month. Soybean harvest was complete by the end of the month. Grain condition degraded quickly after December 1. Corn harvest continued in certain locales into 2020. Manure

spreading was difficult due to wet soil conditions. Ground was not frozen in the southern part of the Lower Peninsula. Long term sugarbeet storage was a concern with warmer than normal temperatures. Livestock remained in good condition.

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**MINNESOTA:** December brought above normal precipitation and mild temperatures. Some sunflower harvest continued during December and there is still corn standing that will likely not be harvested until spring. Producers leaving corn harvest until spring cite high moisture and poor test weights as being a big concern, while for other producers it's an issue with field conditions. Limited fall tillage was completed. Some livestock producers are feeding hay much earlier than anticipated due to the loss of pasture because of localized flooding. Overall December livestock conditions have been favorable with mild and consistent temperatures.

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**MISSISSIPPI:** Conditions for the month of December have been very wet. Most crops made it out of fields, but there were a few areas with crops left in the field due to weather related issues. At this time, rain has halted most fieldwork. Mild temperatures have allowed wheat and ryegrass to progress and resulted in good livestock conditions in most areas. However, in some areas, excess rain has caused stressful conditions for livestock. Supplemental feeding has begun in most areas. The State average rainfall was about 4.1 inches for the month of December with an average temperature of about 50 degrees. Overall, rainfall has been typical for this time of year in the State, but average temperatures are higher than normal.

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**MISSOURI:** For the week ending December 29, 2019. Topsoil moisture 1% short, 79% adequate, 20% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% short, 89% adequate, 10% surplus. Winter wheat condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 59% fair, 31% good, 3% excellent. Conditions overall for the month were warmer and drier than normal with the state averaging 2.76 inches of precipitation for the month, 0.92 inches below average. Temperatures for the month averaged 38.3 degrees for the state, 5.2 degrees above normal.

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**MONTANA:** This report for Montana is for the entire month of December 2019. Topsoil moisture 14% short, 73% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% short, 79% adequate, 14% surplus. Winter wheat - condition 4% very poor, 12% poor, 29% fair, 25% good, 30% excellent. Winter wheat – wind damage 70% none, 15% light, 13% moderate, 2% heavy. Winter wheat – freeze and drought damage 61% none, 19% light, 16% moderate, 4% heavy. Winter wheat – protectiveness of snow cover 12% very poor, 17% poor, 31% fair, 25% good, 15% excellent. Pasture and range - condition 1% very poor, 3% poor, 20% fair, 56% good, 20% excellent. Livestock grazing accessibility – 55% open, 30% difficult, 15% closed. Livestock receiving supplemental feed – cattle and calves 75% fed. Livestock receiving supplemental feed – sheep and lambs 83% fed. The month of December was relatively warm and dry for the state of Montana, with many statewide temperatures averaging two to six degrees above normal. High temperatures ranged from the high 20s to the mid 60s. Low temperatures ranged from the mid 40s to the teens. Precipitation levels for December were below normal for most of the state, with some areas receiving only 5 to 25 percent of their normal precipitation amount.

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**NEBRASKA:** For the month of December 2019, topsoil moisture supplies rated 1% very short, 10% short, 80% adequate, and 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 1% very short, 8% short, 84% adequate, and 7% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 2% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 64% good, and 6% excellent.

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**NEVADA:** Topsoil moisture 45% short, 55% adequate. Subsoil moisture 5% very short, 25% short, 70% adequate. Temperatures for the month averaged 35.1 degrees, 3.3 degrees above normal. Statewide average precipitation was 1.15 inches. Rain and snow bringing overall soil moisture levels up for December, leading to an optimistic water situation for the coming spring and good current soil moisture.

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**NEW ENGLAND:** New England states experienced a warmer than usual December with some rain and below average snow for the month. Many areas reported unharvested field crops as a result of poor field conditions because of a wet summer and fall. Most areas reported some ice covered fields and pastures. The warmer temperature changes during the month caused some concern for small fruits and tree fruit plants as they are sensitive to large temperature fluctuations. Operations continue to provide much of their focus to farm and equipment maintenance.

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**NEW JERSEY:** Field crops about all harvested. Yields varied considerably by locale due to varying weather. Things are wet for the nursery industry. Demand is good. Agri-tourism overall enjoyed good weather, but a couple of key weekends saw rain. Recent ice storm in North Jersey meant roads closed, lines down, and power out for a good part of a day. Animal

health up and down with the weather. Preparing for lambing, calving, and foaling for the New Year. Vine pruning season in wine grapes. Bad year in general for vegetables and peaches. As of December 18, harvesting brussel sprouts, cauliflower, and cabbage were still in progress. These late crops were providing better prices.

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**NEW MEXICO:** This report for New Mexico is for the entire month of December 2019. Topsoil moisture 17% very short, 45% short, 34% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 26% very short, 48% short, 25% adequate, 1% surplus. Pecans condition 3% fair, 25% good, 72% excellent. Winter wheat condition 19% poor, 44% fair, 35% good, 2% excellent. Red chili harvested 93% complete. Corn harvested for grain 99% complete. Cotton harvested 97% complete. Pecans harvested 49% complete. Cattle receiving supplemental feed 76%. Cattle condition 1% very poor, 21% poor, 37% fair, 28% good, 13% excellent. Sheep receiving supplemental feed 77%. Sheep and lamb condition 1% very poor, 9% poor, 55% fair, 35% good. Hay and roughage supplies 22% very short, 35% short, 41% adequate, 2% surplus. Stock water supplies 24% very short, 29% short, 44% adequate, 3% surplus. December's weather pattern delivered mountain snow to areas, and some rainfall to lower elevations; however, total rainfall accumulations were below average for many locations which led to soil moisture depletion. Notes from some counties suggested that snowpack levels were excellent. Statewide, temperatures were generally warmer than normal during the month. Cattle were grazing corn and sorghum stalks, as well as wheat pastures, with wheat showing signs of drought stress. During December, row crop producers had virtually completed the corn and cotton harvests. The United States Drought Monitor released on January 2 noted that the State remained free of exceptional and extreme drought (D3 and D4). Severe drought (D2) covered 15.3 percent of the State, compared with 17.6 percent from the Drought Monitor for November 26. The area classified in moderate drought (D1) – currently 13.1 percent – showed a drastic decrease from the end of November. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were evident across 47.1 percent of the State, a 25.8 percent improvement when compared with the end of November. Drought-free conditions were present across 52.9 percent of the State.

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**NEW YORK:** During the month of December, many farms struggled in areas with unharvested corn and soybean acreage as a result of poor field conditions and snow while other areas of the state had mild, wet conditions. Areas reported a good amount of ice on some fields and pastures with warmer than usual temperatures during the day and nighttime freezing temperatures. The grapes are holding up and should winter well.

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**NORTH CAROLINA:** For the week ending December 29, 2019; Topsoil moisture 3% short, 72% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% short, 77% adequate, 21% surplus. Barley condition 2% poor, 51% fair, 44% good, 3% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 5% very short, 29% short, 65% adequate, 1% surplus. Oats condition 1% poor, 13% fair, 85% good, 1% excellent. Pasture and range condition 1% very poor, 20% poor, 42% fair, 35% good, 2% excellent. Winter wheat condition 2% poor, 27% fair, 66% good, 5% excellent. Throughout December weather has been highly variable, with cool to near normal temperatures early in the month, ending in unseasonably warm temperatures. Precipitation for the month was near to slightly below normal. Late season rainfall and high humidity delayed harvest of remaining soybean fields and limited field work. Wheat condition mostly good to fair with no issues reported. Main farm activities include tending livestock, equipment maintenance, and planning for 2020. Current hay supplies are considered adequate but could become short if farmers face a harsh winter.

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**NORTH DAKOTA:** For the month of December 2019, topsoil moisture supplies rated 0% very short, 0% short, 48% adequate, 52% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 0% very short, 0% short, 53% adequate, 47% surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 0% very poor, 7% poor, 18% fair, 64% good, 11% excellent. Corn harvested 48%. Sunflowers harvested 66%. Cattle and calf conditions, 0% very poor, 1% poor, 17% fair, 78% good, 4% excellent. Cattle and calf death loss, 3% heavy, 71% average, 26% light. Sheep and lamb conditions, 1% very poor, 1% poor, 23% fair, 71% good, 4% excellent. Sheep and lamb death loss, 0% heavy, 66% average, 34% light. Hay and roughage supplies, 5% very short, 27% short, 60% adequate, 8% surplus. Stock water supplies, 0% very short, 1% short, 77% adequate, 22% surplus.

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**OHIO:** Topsoil moisture for the month was 3% short, 50% adequate, and 47% surplus. Subsoil moisture for the month was 2% very short, 9% short, 66% adequate, and 23% surplus. Winter wheat condition was rated 2% very poor, 8% poor, 36% fair, 42% good, and 12% excellent. The statewide average temperature was 35.9 degrees, 4.2 degrees above normal. Precipitation averaged 2.92 inches statewide, 0.68 inches above normal for December, much of which fell during the middle of the month. The warmer than normal temperatures and above normal rainfall left many fields saturated which limited fieldwork activities in some areas. A small amount of corn and soybeans remained unharvested. Other activities during the month included cleaning and repairing harvest equipment, ordering supplies for spring, and working on tax returns.

**OKLAHOMA:** Oklahoma experienced warm and dry conditions during the month of December. Rainfall totals averaged 1.13 inches throughout the state for the full month, with the East Central district recording the highest precipitation at 1.45 inches and the Southwest district recording the lowest at 0.78 of an inch. According to the December 31 US Drought Monitor Report, 10 percent of the state was in the moderate to exceptional drought categories, up 10 points from the previous year. Additionally, 4 percent of the state was in the severe to exceptional drought categories, up 4 points from the previous year. Statewide temperatures averaged in the low 40's, with the lowest recording of 8 degree at Kenton on Tuesday, December 17th and the highest recording of 77 degrees at Boise City on Monday, December 23rd. Topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions were rated mostly adequate to short.

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**OREGON:** The statewide temperatures in Oregon for the month of December were normal to above average throughout the state. Some major storm activity reported in late December arrived with high winds and heavy rainfall. Several flood watches and warnings were reported along the northern and central coasts of Oregon. Despite the heavy rainfall, much of the western half of Oregon was below average for cumulative precipitation in December. Most of the moisture received in December fell as rain. This weather combination resulted in some initial concerns over the level of snowpack in the Oregon Mountains at this point in the season. The mild weather was great for calving. Hay was readily available for livestock producers throughout Oregon. No major concerns were reported for crop producers at this point. Most operations had sufficient work windows to complete winter preparations and fieldwork in early December. Many operations focused on machinery repair and some final orchard and vineyard maintenance.

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**PENNSYLVANIA:** Traces of snow in December but no real accumulation for long periods. Mostly cold wet weather with hard rains and wind at times. Still some corn and soybeans standing in a few areas to be harvested but ground hasn't frozen enough to get crops off. Overall producers are readying their equipment for next year and attending farm meetings for education credits.

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**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Temperatures averaged 42.8 to 56.4 degrees Fahrenheit throughout the state last month. Total precipitation ranged from no rain in some places to 13.75 inches in Charleston County. There was frequent rainfall throughout the month. Wet weather kept producers out of the field at times. Field crops were mostly harvested with a small amount of cotton remaining in the fields. Winter greens were being harvested and in good condition due to adequate rainfall and mild temperatures. Wheat and winter grazing forages were in good condition and progressing well due to adequate rainfall.

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**SOUTH DAKOTA:** For the month of December 2019, topsoil moisture supplies rated 0% very short, 0% short, 66% adequate, 34% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 0% very short, 1% short, 68% adequate, 31 surplus. Corn harvested 90%. Winter wheat condition rated 0% very poor, 1% poor, 26% fair, 59% good, and 14% excellent. Sunflowers harvested 87%.

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**TENNESSEE:** For week ending December 29, 2019; Days suitable 2.8 days. Topsoil moisture 3% short, 55% adequate, 42% surplus. Subsoil moisture 2% short, 63% adequate, 35% surplus. Winter wheat condition 2% poor, 30% fair, 58% good, 10% excellent. Pasture and Range condition 7% very poor, 32% poor, 41% fair, 18% good, 2% excellent. Cattle condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 57% good, 10% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 3% very short, 25% short, 64% adequate, 8% surplus. Tennessee experienced above normal temperatures and rainfall. The warmer temperatures resulted in improved wheat and pasture conditions and promoted some fescue growth. Cattle condition is currently reported as good, while hay and roughage supplies are considered adequate for the coming winter months.

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**TEXAS:** Weather was mostly dry across Texas during December. Precipitation ranged between trace amounts and 2 inches, with isolated areas in East Texas receiving upwards of 5 inches of rain. Cotton harvest was nearing completion throughout the state. Small grains seeding and development were below average due to lack of moisture. Livestock condition continued fair to good thanks to the use of supplemental feed.

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**UTAH:** This report for Utah is for the entire month of December, 2019. Topsoil moisture 10% very short, 18% short, 65% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture 19% very short, 14% short, 67% adequate. Pasture and range condition 8% poor, 45% fair, 47% good. Winter wheat condition 66% fair, 34% good. Hay and roughage supplies 10% short, 81% adequate, 9% surplus. Stock water supplies 8% short, 86% adequate, 6% surplus. Cattle and calves condition 2% poor, 11% fair, 72% good, 15% excellent. Sheep and lambs condition 1% poor, 11% fair, 70% good, 18% excellent. Livestock receiving supplemental feed for cattle 88%. Livestock receiving supplemental feed for sheep 77%. Cows calved 1%. Some much needed moisture was received in the form of snow in some parts of the state.

**VIRGINIA:** For week ending December 29; 2019, Days suitable 5.5. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 2% short, 91% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 4% short, 89% adequate, 6% surplus. Winter wheat condition 1% poor, 26% fair, 69% good, 4% excellent. Barley condition 1% poor, 34% fair, 62% good, 3% excellent. Livestock condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 21% fair, 55% good, 18% excellent. Pasture and Range condition 15% very poor, 33% poor, 31% fair, 21% good. Hay supplies 34% very short, 25% short, 41% adequate. Percent of feed obtained from pastures 9%. Virginia experienced average precipitation and above normal temperatures in December. Persistent dry conditions early on this winter have resulted in damage to some pastures and feeding areas. Hay and roughage supplies are mostly very short to short. Farming activities for the end of the month included finishing grain crop harvest, tending livestock, equipment maintenance, and preparations for 2020 season.

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**WASHINGTON:** The recent wet weather patterns around the Puget Sound helped soil moisture, penetrating the dry layers from autumn. These rains refreshed the soils and reduced fire danger. The last few days of December brought wind. Most livestock were moved to higher ground or heavy-use areas. Orchards and berry plantings were pruned. CSA operations have continued production for winter hardy vegetables. Snohomish County had flooding over Christmas week. The ground was completely saturated and there were reports of washout and erosion from the extensive rain. Yakima County received 1.2 inches of precipitation during December. No snow accumulated. The coldest nighttime temperature was 16 degrees Fahrenheit. All fruit trees were sufficiently cold tolerant and little damage occurred. Winter pruning of grape vineyards and fruit trees continued at a steady pace. Stevens County was very mild. Daytime temperatures averaged 36 degrees Fahrenheit while nighttime temperatures dipped to 27 degrees Fahrenheit. Total snow accumulation was 5.5 inches for the month of December. Ferry and Okanogan Counties had colder temperatures at the beginning of the month, then trended towards above-average temperatures at the end of the month. The Palouse had a mild December. Whitman County had saturated soils. Winter wheat, winter legumes, and rangeland were in good condition.

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**WEST VIRGINIA:** For the week ending December 29, Topsoil moisture 3% very short, 13% short, and 84% adequate. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 26% short, 64% adequate, and 3% surplus. Hay and roughage supplies 7% very short, 24% short, 63% adequate, and 6% surplus. Feed grain supplies 10% short, 84% adequate, and 6% surplus. Winter wheat condition 9% poor, 69% fair, 21% good, and 1% excellent. Cattle and calves condition 1% very poor, 6% poor, 34% fair, 50% good, and 9% excellent. Sheep and lambs condition 2% poor, 35% fair, 53% good, and 10% excellent. Weather conditions for the month have been a mix of warmer and cooler temperatures with periods of rain and some snow. Farming activities for the month included calving and feeding hay and grain to livestock.

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**WISCONSIN:** December temperatures at the five major weather stations were all above normal. They ranged from 2.9 degrees above normal in Eau Claire to 7.0 degrees above normal in both Madison and Milwaukee. Average highs ranged from 30.2 degrees in Eau Claire to 41.3 degrees in Milwaukee, while average lows ranged from 13.2 degrees in Eau Claire to 26.6 degrees in Milwaukee. Precipitation ranged from 1.43 inches in La Crosse to 2.49 inches in Green Bay. A weather front on December 29th and 30th brought record highs to most areas of the state. These same days brought record precipitation in Green Bay and Milwaukee, and record snowfall in Eau Claire. The warm weather resulted in muddy fields, slowing down harvest. Corn and soybean harvest, as well as manure spreading, continued through December. A fair amount of corn is still standing, but most soybean fields have been harvested.

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**WYOMING:** This report for Wyoming is for the entire month of December 2019. Topsoil moisture 5% very short, 25% short, 66% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture 8% very short, 33% short, 55% adequate, 4% surplus. Winter wheat condition 4% very poor, 13% poor, 25% fair, 53% good, 5% excellent. Hay and roughage supplies 3% very short, 6% short, 88% adequate, 3% surplus. Livestock condition 2% poor, 6% fair, 89% good, 3% excellent. Stock water supplies 1% very short, 3% short, 95% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture and range condition 3% very poor, 14% poor, 32% fair, 50% good, 1% excellent. Winter wheat condition is mostly good to fair and pasture and range is rated mostly good to fair. Temperatures were slightly above normal for most of the state and topsoil moisture levels have improved from last month.

## **Statistical Methodology**

**Survey Procedures:** Crop progress and condition estimates included in this report are based on survey data collected in December, January, February, and March. The non-probability crop progress and condition surveys include input from approximately 4,000 respondents whose occupations provide them opportunities to make visual observations and frequently bring them in contact with farmers in their counties. Based on standard definitions, these respondents subjectively estimate the progress of crops through various stages of development, as well as the progress of producer activities. They also provide subjective evaluations of crop and soil moisture conditions. Any weather data mentioned in this report is provided by outside sources such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Agricultural Weather Information Service (AWIS).

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@usda.gov](mailto:nass@usda.gov)

Lance Honig, Chief, Crops Branch.....	(202) 720-2127
Travis Thorson, Head, Field Crops Section.....	(202) 720-7369
David Colwell – Current Agricultural Industrial Reports.....	(202) 720-8800
Chris Hawthorn – Corn, Flaxseed, Proso Millet.....	(202) 720-9526
James Johanson – County Estimates, Hay.....	(202) 690-8533
Jeff Lemmons – Oats, Soybeans.....	(202) 690-3234
Irwin Anolik – Crop Weather, Barley.....	(202) 720-7621
Sammy Neal – Peanuts, Rice.....	(202) 720-7688
Jean Porter – Rye, Wheat.....	(202) 720-8068
Chris Singh – Cotton, Cotton Ginnings, Sorghum.....	(202) 720-5944
Travis Thorson – Sunflower, Other Oilseeds.....	(202) 720-7369

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