

November 27, 2000

KENTUCKY: Some areas saw their first snow for the season at the beginning of the week. The measurable amounts were very small with most people just seeing a few flakes falling. There was also precipitation across most of the State at the end of the week in the form of rain which limited the clean up of corn, soybean harvests. Below normal temperatures continued with a slight warming trend at the end of the week. Topsoil, subsoil moisture mostly adequate to short. Wheat seeding virtually complete, emerged generally good to fair condition. The increased humidity helped bring tobacco into case for stripping. The 2000-2001 Burley tobacco marketing season got under way Monday, November 20. Desirability of offerings was good, nearly all bid averages were higher than last season's opening week. Quality of sales was slightly lower, volume was moderate, loan receipts were fairly low. Due to Thanksgiving, sales were held three days last week, but will resume on Monday, November 27, 2000. Around 14% of the effective quota of 361.9 million pounds has been sold at auction. This week's state gross auction sales totaled 34,274,948 pounds, averaged \$196.04 per hundred out of 50,678,304 pounds at \$195.78 for the Belt. Burley Belt resales this week amounted to 1,579,721 pounds, producing a net figure of 49,098,583 pounds sold. Tobacco contracted directly from growers reported through November 22, amounted to 31.6 million pounds, averaged \$197.59 per hundred. Cattle good condition. Some supplemental feeding with declining pastures.