

AGRICULTURE

Temperatures averaged well above normal for much of the week, reaching into the low 90's by Thursday. A cold front pushed through the area over the weekend, bringing much cooler temperatures and triggering scattered showers and thunderstorms across the state. Outdoor activities included field preparation, top-dressing pastures, and spraying. Days suitable for field work averaged 6.3. Top soil moisture was rated 8% short, 91% adequate and 1% surplus. Livestock producers reported mild heat stress and reduced milk production in some dairy herds due to the recent warm spell. Producers reported rapid growth in some small grain and hay fields. Some producers began planting field corn. Vegetable producers planted squash, tomatoes, melons, and sweet corn. Mild weather allowed producers to make good progress harvesting asparagus, leeks, onions, and spinach. Producers reported rapid growth in spinach fields and expressed concern that continued warm temperatures would cause some plants to bolt prematurely. Orchard producers continued thinning trees in preparation for the growing season. Apples and peaches were reported mostly in bloom. Strawberries, blueberries, and grapes were rated in mostly good condition by reporters.

SOIL MOISTURE TABLE

	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	PREVIOUS YEAR
VERY SHORT	0%	0%	0%
SHORT	8%	0%	0%
ADEQUATE	91%	100%	52%
SURPLUS	1%	0%	48%

RANGE AND PASTURE

	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	PREVIOUS YEAR
VERY POOR	0%	0%	0%
POOR	0%	0%	0%
FAIR	0%	0%	0%
GOOD	100%	100%	100%
EXCELLENT	0%	0%	0%