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National Weather Summary September 20 - 26, 2009

Highlights: Severe flooding affected a broad area centered on **northern Georgia**, while weekly rainfall totaled at least 4 inches for the second consecutive week from **northern and central Mississippi eastward into the southern Appalachians**. The persistent rainfall threatened the quality of unharvested summer crops, including cotton and soybeans. Farther north, a period of warm, favorably dry weather for late-maturing summer crops came to an end across the **Midwest**, where as much as 2 to 4 inches of rain soaked the **Ohio and middle Mississippi Valleys**. The **Midwestern** rain temporarily halted early-season winter wheat planting and initial corn and soybean harvesting. Meanwhile, cool weather and occasional showers on **central and southern Plains** contrasted with warm, dry weather on the **northern High Plains**. Weekly temperatures ranged from as much as 10 degrees F below normal on the **central High Plains** to 10 degrees F above normal in parts of **western Montana**. Elsewhere, warm, dry weather also prevailed in the **Far West**, promoting fieldwork but resulting in an increase in wildfire activity. Weekly temperatures also averaged as much as 10 degrees F above normal in **northern California**.

Early in the week, a long period of dry weather came to an end across the **upper Midwest**. Both **La Crosse, WI**, and **Rochester, MN**, set records for the greatest number of days to start September without measurable rain. **La Crosse** finally received 0.58 inch on September 22, while **Rochester** netted 0.50 inch on September 21-22. **Rochester** also completed its longest stretch without measurable rain (26 days from August 26-September 20) since 1952, when there was a 30-day dry spell from October 17-November 15. Similarly, **La Crosse** experienced its longest spell without a drop of rain (22 days from August 30-September 20) since 1953, when there were 24 consecutive days with no precipitation from October 26-November 18. Elsewhere in **Wisconsin**, **Madison** noted 19 consecutive rain-free days to start the month, but endured its wettest September day on record on September 22. **Madison's** daily sum of 3.67 inches surpassed its former monthly record of 3.40 inches, set on September 18, 1874. Farther south, **Pine Bluff, AR**, received measurable rain on 11 consecutive days from September 9-19, tying its all-time record set from June 17-27, 1888; January 5-15, 1937; and April 24-May 4, 1958. Meanwhile, record flooding engulfed parts of **northern Georgia**. In the **Chattahoochee River basin**, December 1919 crest records were surpassed on September 23 in locations such as **Whitesburg** (14.84 feet above flood stage) and **Franklin** (7.55 feet above flood stage). An October 1996 high-water mark was topped by more than 2 feet along **Suwanee Creek at Suwanee, GA** (6.30 feet above flood stage on October 21). From September 18-21, unofficial 4-day rainfall totals in the **southern Appalachians** included 17.59 inches near **Brevard, NC**; 17.27 inches in **Toccoa, GA**; and 15.15 inches in **northwestern South Carolina at the Walhalla Fish Hatchery**. Through September 26, month-to-date rainfall climbed to 10.68 inches in **Macon, GA**; 11.04 inches in **Greenwood, MS**; 11.08 inches in **Nashville, TN**; 12.38 inches in **Chattanooga, TN**; and 12.90 inches in **Searcy, AR**.

Meanwhile, heat built into the **Far West**, where **Portland, OR** (92 degrees F on September 22), observed its 24th 90-degree reading of the year. **Portland's** former annual record of 23 days was established in 1987. Elsewhere on September 22, highs of 105 degrees F in **California** locations such as **Redding** and **Paso Robles** were records for the date. **Redding** later topped that reading with a daily-record high of 108 degrees F on September 26. Meanwhile in **Montana**, the **Bozeman Airport** (91 degrees F on September 24) set a record for its latest reading above 90 degrees F. Two days later, selected daily records for September 26 included 112 degrees F in **Indio, CA**; 98 degrees F in **Lovelock, NV**; 90 degrees F in **Wendover, UT**; and 89 degrees F in **Worland, WY**. Farther south, however, chilly weather lingered from much of the week across the **central and southern portions of the Rockies and Plains**. **Grand Junction, CO** (34 degrees F), notched a daily-record low for September 22, followed the next day by daily records in **Texas** locations such as **Dalhart** (36 degrees F) and **Lubbock** (41 degrees F). Later, chilly air settled across **New England**, where daily-record lows in **Maine** for September 26 dipped to 26 degrees F in **Caribou** and 29 degrees F in **Bangor**. By week's end, **southern California's** two largest blazes—the Station and Guiberson fires—were nearly contained. The Station fire, which began in late August, had consumed more than 160,000 acres of vegetation, while the Guiberson fire, near **Fillmore, CA**, had charred 17,500 acres. Meanwhile in **western Oregon**, both the Boze fire and the Tumblebug complex had consumed well over 10,000 acres of timber.

In **Alaska**, cool weather accompanied widespread precipitation. On September 25-26, 24-hour snowfall totals reached 3.8 inches in **Circle Hot Springs** and 2.3 inches in **Central**. From September 22-26, **McGrath** netted 2.2 inches of snow.

Meanwhile in **southern Alaska**, weekly rainfall totaled 7.06 inches in **Yakutat** and 4.75 inches in **Juneau**. Farther south, significant **Hawaiian** rainfall remained confined to windward locations. On September 25-26, 24-hour totals reached 3.61 inches on **Kauai's Mount Waialeale** and 3.02 inches at the **Oahu Forest National Wildlife Refuge**.

*National Weather Summary provided by USDA's World Agricultural Outlook Board.
For more information, call (202) 720-2397.*

Agricultural Summary September 21 – 27, 2009

Highlights: Abnormally dry conditions persisted in areas west of the Rocky Mountains, many receiving less than 2 percent of their normal precipitation. In contrast, many locations from the Great Plains eastward received total accumulations greater than 200 percent of normal, with locations in Alabama and Mississippi receiving over 5 inches during the week. Below average temperatures were recorded in the southern Rocky Mountains and southern Great Plains, while temperatures elsewhere were warmer than normal aiding late-summer crop development.

Corn: Ninety percent of the Nation's corn crop was at the dent stage or beyond, 5 points behind last year and 7 points, or slightly more than 1 week behind the 5-year average. Denting was most active in the Great Lakes States and the Dakotas where above average temperatures aided crop development. Crop maturity advanced 16 points during the week to 37 percent complete, 12 points behind last year and 35 points, or 2 weeks, behind the average. Despite active maturity rates during the week, delays of 42 points or more remained in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, and North Dakota. Nationally, producers had harvested 6 percent of the 2009 corn crop by September 27, compared with 8 percent last year and 18 percent for the 5-year average. Harvest was most advanced in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. Overall, 68 percent of the corn crop was rated in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 7 points better than last year.

Soybeans: Leaves had dropped on 63 percent of the soybean acreage, 2 points behind last year and 14 points behind the 5-year average. Although leaf drop was active across much of the growing region, overall progress remained behind normal in all estimating States. Harvest was underway in most States as the week ended, with the most progress seen in the Delta. By September 27, producers had harvested 5 percent of the Nation's acreage, 3 points behind last year and 13 points behind the average. Overall, 66 percent of the soybean acreage was rated in good to excellent condition, down 1 point from last week but 9 points better than last year. Excessively wet weather across the Delta led to a decline in soybean conditions as producers in Arkansas and Mississippi reported sprouting and seed rot in several fields.

Winter Wheat: Producers seeded 12 percent of their winter wheat acreage during the week, leaving progress, at 36 percent, 1 point behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Seeding was most active in Colorado, Idaho, and Montana where mostly dry weather afforded producers over 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Thirteen percent of the winter wheat crop was emerged, 1 point ahead of last year but 1 point behind the average. Emergence was most advanced in Nebraska and Washington where 45 percent of the crop had emerged, well ahead of normal.

Cotton: Acreage with opened bolls advanced to 57 percent, 1 point behind last year and 11 points, or 1 week, behind the 5-year average. Bolls opened across much of the growing region; however, overall progress remained behind normal in all estimating States except South Carolina. The harvest pace was slow, advancing just 1 point during the week, as fields in the Northern High Plains of Texas needed heat units and dry weather to further development. At 8 percent, harvest was 3 points behind last year and 7 points behind the average. Overall, 49 percent of the cotton crop was rated in good to excellent condition, down slightly from last week and 2 points below last year. Significant declines in crop condition were evident in Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas, and Mississippi. Abnormally wet weather in Alabama, Arkansas, and Mississippi caused boll rot, hard lock, and sprouting in some fields, while below average temperatures in Kansas left cotton plants without enough heat units to allow for normal boll development.

Sorghum: Coloring advanced to 87 percent complete by week's end, 4 points ahead of last year but 2 points behind the 5-year average. Five percent of the sorghum crop matured during the week leaving progress, at 45 percent, 4 points behind last year and 14 points behind the average. The most significant delays were evident in Illinois and Nebraska where overall progress was over 3 weeks and over 1 week behind normal, respectively. Producers harvested just 2 percent of the Nation's sorghum crop during the week. With 33 percent of the crop harvested, progress was 2 points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 49 percent of the sorghum crop was rated in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 4 points below last year.

Rice: Harvest advanced to 45 percent complete, 7 points behind last year and 21 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest slowed in the Delta as producers battled rain-soaked fields. Overall, 59 percent of the rice crop was rated in good to excellent condition, down 2 points from last week and last year. Tremendous amounts of rainfall in the Delta caused lodging in some rice fields in Arkansas and lodging and downed stands in Mississippi.

Small Grains: Spring wheat producers harvested 9 percent of their acreage during the week, leaving progress, at 94 percent, 5 points behind last year and 4 points behind the 5-year average. The pace was most active in Minnesota and North Dakota as producers hurried to finish harvest.

Ninety-five percent of the barley crop was harvested by September 27, two points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. The largest delay remained in Montana where overall progress was 7 points, or over 2 weeks, behind normal.

Other Crops: Peanut harvest advanced to 10 percent complete, 3 points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest was underway in all estimating States except Oklahoma and Virginia, where progress was 4 and 8 points behind normal, respectively. Harvest was most active in Texas as producers in the Southern High Plains began to dig nuts. Overall, 70 percent of the peanut crop was rated in good to excellent condition, a slight improvement from last week and 4 points better than last year.

Sugarbeet producers harvested 6 percent of the crop during the week. With 10 percent of the 2009 crop harvested, progress was 3 points ahead of last year and 1 point ahead of the 5-year average. In North Dakota, the largest sugarbeet-producing State, harvest fell slightly behind the normal pace.

**Corn: Percent Dented,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CO	87	77	98	94
IL	84	73	95	99
IN	84	72	93	98
IA	95	89	92	97
KS	100	96	100	100
KY	99	97	100	100
MI	80	64	95	93
MN	91	76	97	97
MO	95	89	94	99
NE	96	91	97	99
NC	100	100	100	100
ND	75	49	93	92
OH	87	80	100	99
PA	80	70	92	94
SD	89	73	98	98
TN	100	99	100	100
TX	100	96	98	100
WI	84	66	81	86
18 Sts	90	80	95	97

¹ These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.

**Corn: Percent Mature,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CO	43	31	62	55
IL	24	13	49	84
IN	31	14	55	73
IA	47	22	42	74
KS	77	53	73	90
KY	78	61	92	94
MI	19	10	55	63
MN	17	4	38	59
MO	68	53	56	88
NE	33	15	40	66
NC	100	96	100	100
ND	6	0	36	55
OH	24	14	57	62
PA	37	18	60	69
SD	34	11	41	59
TN	83	69	94	98
TX	79	73	76	92
WI	20	10	33	47
18 Sts	37	21	49	72

¹ These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.

**Corn: Percent Harvested,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CO	10	NA	15	8
IL	2	NA	4	28
IN	2	NA	7	15
IA	2	NA	2	6
KS	18	NA	20	41
KY	18	NA	36	53
MI	0	NA	3	6
MN	0	NA	1	4
MO	19	NA	16	51
NE	3	NA	4	9
NC	70	NA	67	76
ND	0	NA	0	2
OH	1	NA	7	6
PA	11	NA	24	24
SD	0	NA	2	6
TN	16	NA	63	76
TX	70	NA	66	74
WI	1	NA	2	4
18 Sts	6	NA	8	18

¹ These 18 States harvested 94% of last year's corn acreage.

**Soybeans: Percent Dropping Leaves,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
AR	38	27	33	56
IL	41	20	52	77
IN	63	40	77	81
IA	76	50	66	84
KS	58	41	56	69
KY	60	41	61	66
LA	78	73	81	85
MI	53	23	77	69
MN	81	49	81	84
MS	59	56	71	91
MO	40	26	26	56
NE	74	40	66	80
NC	26	19	29	34
ND	73	27	90	85
OH	76	52	78	83
SD	86	71	89	90
TN	59	41	61	72
WI	52	24	74	73
18 Sts	63	40	65	77

¹ These 18 States planted 95% of last year's soybean acreage.

**Soybeans: Percent Harvested,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
AR	8	NA	9	29
IL	1	NA	5	21
IN	3	NA	13	18
IA	6	NA	7	20
KS	1	NA	2	10
KY	2	NA	6	10
LA	50	NA	54	64
MI	1	NA	8	10
MN	5	NA	7	15
MS	30	NA	39	71
MO	2	NA	2	8
NE	7	NA	5	14
NC	0	NA	1	2
ND	3	NA	8	19
OH	6	NA	13	14
SD	2	NA	9	9
TN	1	NA	7	18
WI	1	NA	4	7
18 Sts	5	NA	8	18

¹ These 18 States harvested 95% of last year's soybean acreage.

**Cotton: Percent Bolls Opening,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
AL	46	34	80	84
AZ	85	82	94	92
AR	58	42	85	92
CA	65	39	62	67
GA	57	44	77	77
KS	31	15	46	36
LA	89	86	97	96
MS	74	70	86	93
MO	43	34	82	86
NC	79	66	80	86
OK	57	42	70	68
SC	76	74	69	73
TN	53	40	85	89
TX	52	41	39	54
VA	61	47	86	91
15 Sts	57	46	58	68

¹ These 15 States planted 99% of last year's cotton acreage.

**Cotton: Percent Harvested,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
AL	0	0	5	11
AZ	21	17	20	15
AR	0	0	4	16
CA	2	1	0	1
GA	0	0	5	6
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	5	5	25	28
MS	0	0	7	29
MO	0	0	5	15
NC	0	0	2	4
OK	0	0	0	1
SC	3	1	1	5
TN	0	0	6	11
TX	16	14	18	20
VA	2	0	3	5
15 Sts	8	7	11	15

¹ These 15 States harvested 99% of last year's cotton acreage.

**Sorghum: Percent Mature,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	99	96	99	99
CO	58	42	69	46
IL	24	21	36	78
KS	20	12	27	43
LA	100	100	100	100
MO	47	25	40	68
NE	16	5	14	50
NM	12	12	9	12
OK	32	23	32	43
SD	36	22	23	54
TX	68	67	70	75
11 Sts	45	40	49	59

¹ These 11 States planted 96% of last year's sorghum acreage.

**Sorghum: Percent Coloring,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	100	100	100	100
CO	95	90	100	83
IL	85	75	81	95
KS	85	79	83	90
LA	100	100	100	100
MO	89	77	82	93
NE	88	74	92	97
NM	89	57	70	67
OK	90	82	69	81
SD	95	84	95	97
TX	86	82	81	88
11 Sts	87	81	83	89

¹ These 11 States planted 96% of last year's sorghum acreage.

**Sorghum: Percent Harvested,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	39	35	71	87
CO	10	6	10	7
IL	1	0	0	22
KS	3	1	4	12
LA	97	96	94	98
MO	6	4	15	33
NE	0	0	1	4
NM	0	0	0	0
OK	6	3	19	22
SD	7	1	3	9
TX	66	65	69	68
11 Sts	33	31	35	39

¹ These 11 States harvested 97% of last year's sorghum acreage.

**Peanuts: Percent Harvested,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	1	0	16	15
FL	27	21	28	24
GA	3	1	12	12
NC	4	0	6	9
OK	0	0	1	4
SC	18	13	17	18
TX	31	3	8	6
VA	0	0	2	8
8 Sts	10	4	13	12

¹ These 8 States harvested 98% of last year's peanut acreage.

**Sugarbeets: Percent Harvested,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
ID	7	4	0	7
MI	8	3	6	5
MN	11	8	9	11
ND	9	7	9	10
4 Sts	10	6	7	9

¹ These 4 States harvested 84% of last year's sugarbeets acreage.

**Winter Wheat: Percent Planted,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	5	4	2	3
CA	6	3	10	7
CO	69	50	73	74
ID	49	31	47	42
IL	5	1	4	6
IN	2	1	4	6
KS	23	9	33	33
MI	20	8	12	22
MO	3	2	3	7
MT	69	47	49	62
NE	72	56	66	69
NC	1	0	2	3
OH	1	0	8	7
OK	33	17	41	42
OR	37	27	27	27
SD	66	50	58	64
TX	40	32	39	43
WA	73	60	58	62
18 Sts	36	24	37	39

¹ These 18 States planted 87% of last year's winter wheat acreage.

**Winter Wheat: Percent Emerged,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	2	NA	1	0
CA	0	NA	0	1
CO	30	NA	36	34
ID	7	NA	4	9
IL	1	NA	2	1
IN	0	NA	0	0
KS	8	NA	10	11
MI	0	NA	1	3
MO	1	NA	1	2
MT	8	NA	6	11
NE	45	NA	23	33
NC	0	NA	0	0
OH	0	NA	0	0
OK	10	NA	12	15
OR	1	NA	1	8
SD	23	NA	20	23
TX	13	NA	13	15
WA	45	NA	30	32
18 Sts	13	NA	12	14

¹ These 18 States planted 87% of last year's winter wheat acreage.

**Spring Wheat: Percent Harvested,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
ID	97	95	99	100
MN	98	86	100	98
MT	95	89	95	97
ND	91	77	100	97
SD	100	100	100	100
WA	100	100	100	100
6 Sts	94	85	99	98

¹ These 6 States harvested 98% of last year's spring wheat acreage.

**Rice: Percent Harvested,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	32	23	44	65
CA	40	22	37	37
LA	88	87	85	94
MS	29	28	49	76
MO	26	18	27	51
TX	92	91	98	98
6 Sts	45	37	52	66

¹ These 6 States harvested 100% of last year's rice acreage.

**Barley: Percent Harvested,
Selected States ¹**

State	Week Ending			2004- 2008 Avg.
	Sep 27, 2009	Sep 20, 2009	Sep 27, 2008	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
ID	96	92	95	98
MN	99	90	100	99
MT	90	81	90	97
ND	97	94	100	99
WA	100	100	100	100
5 Sts	95	91	97	98

¹ These 5 States harvested 84% of last year's barley acreage.

**Corn: Crop Condition by Percent,
Selected States,
Week Ending Sep 27, 2009**

State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CO	3	11	26	46	14
IL	2	8	29	49	12
IN	3	7	27	51	12
IA	3	6	16	52	23
KS	2	7	22	50	19
KY	0	1	11	43	45
MI	4	13	27	44	12
MN	2	5	23	52	18
MO	2	7	26	46	19
NE	3	5	13	52	27
NC	5	15	24	43	13
ND	1	6	30	51	12
OH	1	5	22	50	22
PA	1	5	16	46	32
SD	0	3	17	56	24
TN	3	5	14	52	26
TX	25	14	24	31	6
WI	3	9	26	46	16
18 Sts	3	7	22	49	19
Prev Wk	3	7	22	48	20
Prev Yr	4	9	26	47	14

**Soybeans: Crop Condition by Percent,
Selected States,
Week Ending Sep 27, 2009**

State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	7	15	28	34	16
IL	3	7	31	49	10
IN	3	9	27	49	12
IA	2	5	19	55	19
KS	2	4	17	53	24
KY	0	1	9	53	37
LA	1	21	44	31	3
MI	3	12	31	45	9
MN	2	6	27	52	13
MS	6	14	28	41	11
MO	3	7	29	46	15
NE	2	5	14	58	21
NC	1	7	27	51	14
ND	1	4	26	58	11
OH	1	5	27	53	14
SD	1	3	24	51	21
TN	1	4	13	55	27
WI	2	6	26	52	14
18 Sts	2	7	25	50	16
Prev Wk	2	7	24	51	16
Prev Yr	4	10	29	46	11

**Cotton: Crop Condition by Percent,
Selected States,
Week Ending Sep 27, 2009**

State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	2	5	26	61	6
AZ	0	4	15	59	22
AR	6	11	35	35	13
CA	0	0	40	50	10
GA	2	7	32	45	14
KS	4	8	39	46	3
LA	1	13	38	42	6
MS	5	11	37	42	5
MO	1	12	27	53	7
NC	1	7	25	56	11
OK	0	7	27	62	4
SC	0	2	55	42	1
TN	0	2	24	55	19
TX	15	16	29	31	9
VA	0	3	23	63	11
15 Sts	9	12	30	39	10
Prev Wk	8	11	31	40	10
Prev Yr	5	13	31	40	11

**Sorghum: Crop Condition by Percent,
Selected States,
Week Ending Sep 27, 2009**

State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	8	16	33	38	5
CO	1	2	31	60	6
IL	0	6	21	71	2
KS	1	5	21	59	14
LA	3	19	47	28	3
MO	0	4	27	56	13
NE	1	3	20	56	20
NM	0	25	21	52	2
OK	2	5	33	53	7
SD	0	2	20	63	15
TX	23	16	38	20	3
11 Sts	11	10	30	41	8
Prev Wk	11	10	30	39	10
Prev Yr	3	11	33	45	8

VP-Very Poor, P-Poor, F-Fair, G-Good, EX-Excellent.
National crop conditions for selected States are weighted based on 2008 planted acres.

**Peanuts: Crop Condition by Percent,
Selected States,
Week Ending Sep 27, 2009**

State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	0	0	27	68	5
FL	0	0	27	36	37
GA	0	2	30	53	15
NC	1	1	32	62	4
OK	0	1	16	75	8
SC	0	3	50	45	2
TX	0	0	22	61	17
VA	0	0	13	76	11
8 Sts	0	1	29	55	15
Prev Wk	0	2	29	56	13
Prev Yr	1	3	30	54	12

**Rice: Crop Condition by Percent,
Selected States,
Week Ending Sep 27, 2009**

State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	4	11	33	38	14
CA	0	5	25	45	25
LA	4	6	21	45	24
MS	5	6	35	43	11
MO	0	1	16	54	29
TX	12	9	39	30	10
6 Sts	4	8	29	41	18
Prev Wk	3	7	29	42	19
Prev Yr	2	11	26	43	18

**Pasture and Range: Crop Condition by Percent,
Selected States,
Week Ending Sep 27, 2009**

State	VP	P	F	G	EX	State	VP	P	F	G	EX
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	0	1	18	69	12	NJ	0	0	5	85	10
AZ	47	20	22	8	3	NM	15	34	37	13	1
AR	1	2	23	62	12	NY	2	7	32	49	10
CA	65	25	10	0	0	NC	0	7	34	53	6
CO	5	12	33	38	12	ND	1	8	34	50	7
CT	0	6	24	58	12	OH	4	8	34	45	9
DE	0	3	25	54	18	OK	1	10	33	50	6
FL	0	5	25	55	15	OR	24	24	37	15	0
GA	1	8	35	48	8	PA	3	10	30	45	12
ID	2	13	32	48	5	RI	0	0	0	100	0
IL	1	4	24	59	12	SC	4	17	38	39	2
IN	4	11	30	45	10	SD	1	7	28	51	13
IA	2	12	29	47	10	TN	0	3	22	60	15
KS	1	6	29	54	10	TX	14	18	35	27	6
KY	2	5	21	52	20	UT	4	10	36	44	6
LA	1	10	47	37	5	VT	0	21	40	31	8
ME	0	13	39	48	0	VA	2	9	34	45	10
MD	2	7	24	49	18	WA	8	23	41	27	1
MA	0	0	5	95	0	WV	2	13	45	36	4
MI	6	15	44	30	5	WI	9	18	41	29	3
MN	10	21	35	33	1	WY	1	10	39	46	4
MS	0	7	26	55	12						
MO	0	3	27	62	8	48 Sts	9	13	30	40	8
MT	16	32	40	10	2						
NE	2	5	20	59	14	Prev Wk	9	14	30	40	7
NV	4	20	52	22	2	Prev Yr	12	15	32	35	6
NH	0	0	44	46	10						

VP-Very Poor, P-Poor, F-Fair, G-Good, EX-Excellent.
National crop conditions for selected States are weighted based on 2008 planted acres.

Crop Progress and Condition Survey and Estimating Procedures

Survey Procedures: Crop progress and condition estimates are based on survey data collected each week from early April through the end of November. The non-probability crop progress and condition surveys include input from more than 5,000 reporters 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 reporters subjectively estimate progress of farmers' activities and progress of crops through various stages of development. They also provide subjective evaluations of crop conditions.

Most reporters complete their questionnaires on Friday or early Monday morning and submit them to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Field Offices in their States by mail, telephone, fax, e-mail, or through a secured internet website. A small number of reports are completed on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Regardless of when questionnaires are completed, reporters are asked to report for the week ending on Sunday. For reports submitted prior to the Sunday reference date, a degree of uncertainty is introduced by projections for weekend changes in progress and condition. By the end of the 2001 season, nearly two-thirds of the data were being submitted through the internet website. As a result, about one-half of all data are submitted on Monday morning, significantly reducing projection uncertainty.

Reporters are sent written reporting instructions at the beginning of each season and are contacted periodically to ensure proper reporting. Terms and definitions of crop stages and condition categories used as reporting guidelines are available on the NASS website at: www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/National_Crop_Progress/terms_definitions/index.asp.

Estimating Procedures: Reported data are reviewed for reasonableness and consistency by comparing with data reported the previous week and data reported in surrounding counties for the current week. Each State Field Office summarizes the reported data to district and State levels, weighting each county's reported data by NASS county acreage estimates. Summarized indications are compared with previous week estimates, and progress items are compared with earlier stages of development and historical averages to ensure reasonableness. Weather events and reporter comments are also taken into consideration. State estimates are submitted to the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB) along with supporting comments, where they are compared with surrounding States and compiled into a National level summary by weighting each State by its acreage estimates.

Revision Policy: Progress and condition estimates in the *Crop Progress* report are released after 4:00 pm ET on the first business day of the week. These estimates are preliminary and subject to corrections or updates in the *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin* that is released after 12:00 pm ET on the second business day of the week. These estimates are subject to revision the following week.

Crop Progress and Condition tables expected next week:

- Corn – Dented, Mature, Harvested, Condition
- Cotton – Bolls Opening, Harvested, Condition
- Pasture & Range – Condition
- Peanuts – Harvested, Condition
- Rice – Harvested, Condition
- Sorghum – Coloring, Mature, Harvested, Condition
- Soybeans – Dropping Leaves, Harvested, Condition
- Spring Wheat – Harvested
- Sugarbeets – Harvested
- Sunflowers – Harvested
- Winter Wheat – Planted, Emerged

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