

2019 Weather Summary

Crop planting in 2019 started out well behind the normal pace for all crops due to excessive precipitation causing localized flooding in Minnesota, as well as a spring snowstorm. Persistent cool temperatures and wet conditions hindered most field activity until mid-May. The week ending May 19 had 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork, which was the most days suitable for fieldwork up to that point and wasn't surpassed until 3 weeks later on June 9, with 5.3 days suitable. A majority of Minnesota crops were planted later than normal and with a cooler than normal spring, emergence also got off to a slow start and never caught up. The weeks ending July 7 and 14 saw the best pasture and range conditions of the season with 77% rated in good to excellent condition. Soil moisture did dry out a little from mid-August to the beginning of September with some short and very short ratings, but in general, moisture supplies were in excess for nearly the whole season. Small grain harvest didn't get underway until the beginning of August. Dry conditions allowed for decent harvest progress throughout August, but slowed down going into September as above normal precipitation arrived. Soybean harvest began in late September, with corn for grain harvest not far behind, starting in early October. Wet conditions throughout September and October limited farmers' ability to complete harvest, with only 1.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending October 6. Harvest for a majority of Minnesota crops started late and never caught up to the average pace. As November came to a close some farmers were still trying to complete harvest. Field activities such as tillage and fertilizer applications were delayed until the spring.



