Dry conditions in northern Minnesota allowed for significant advancement of wheat harvest progress during the week ending August 30, 2020, according to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. There were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Other field activities included harvesting corn for silage and cutting hay.

Rain in Central Minnesota slightly increased the statewide topsoil moisture condition to 3% very short, 11% short, 77% adequate and 9% surplus. Subsoil moisture condition rated 3% very short, 11% short, 78% adequate and 8% surplus.

Corn had reached the dough stage or beyond on 97% of the acres, remaining well ahead of last year and 9 days ahead of the 5-year average. Corn acreage was 63% at or beyond the dent stage, 16 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of average. There were scattered reports of corn starting to mature. Corn harvested for silage reached 15% complete, 19 days ahead of last year and one week ahead of normal. Corn condition dropped to 79% good to excellent, its lowest rating so far this year compared to the previous low of 81% during the third week of May. Soybeans were 25% turning color, 10 days ahead of last year and 3 days above average. Scattered accounts of soybeans dropping leaves were reported. Soybean condition dropped to 80% good to excellent, tying the lowest rating this year.

Nearly one-third of the spring wheat acres were harvested last week, advancing the total progress to 85% complete. This was 17 days ahead of last year and 1 day ahead of normal. The oat and barley harvests were nearly finished at 94% and 95% complete, respectively.

Sunflower condition increased to 75% good to excellent. The potato harvest advanced 3 percentage points to 26% complete, remaining ahead of last year and normal. Potato condition rated 92% good to excellent. Six percent of the sugarbeet acres have been harvested with condition remaining at 93% good to excellent. Dry beans dropping leaves was at 42% with condition improving to 83% good to excellent. Pasture condition decreased to 57% good to excellent.
Minneapolis Temperatures and Precipitation for the week ending August 30, 2020

Maps from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center reflect data collected from 7:00 A.M. Central Time on August 24, 2020, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on August 30, 2020.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals
August 24, 2020 to August 30, 2020

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
August 24, 2020 to August 30, 2020

National Weather Service data, courtesy of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources State Climatology Office, is available at:
Growing Degree Days can be found at https://mygeohub.org/groups/u2u/gdd
Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/