Dry weather and above average temperatures advanced crop maturity and harvest progress during the week ending September 27, 2020, according to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. There were 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork. Field activities included harvesting corn for grain, soybeans, corn for silage, potatoes, sugarbeets, sunflowers, and dry beans.

Topsoil moisture condition rated to 3% very short, 12% short, 79% adequate and 6% surplus. Subsoil moisture condition rated 3% very short, 10% short, 80% adequate and 7% surplus.

Corn for grain had reached maturity on 85% of the acres, 22 days ahead of last year and 13 days ahead of the 5-year average. The corn for grain harvest started and was 6% complete. This is 17 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of average. Corn moisture content of grain at harvest averaged 24%. Corn harvested for silage reached 91% complete, 24 days ahead of last year and 15 days ahead of normal. Corn condition improved slightly to 78% good to excellent. Soybean acres were 90% dropping leaves, 15 days ahead of last year and one week above average. Soybeans were 31% harvested, 20 days ahead of last year and 6 days ahead of average. Soybean condition improved slightly to 77% good to excellent.

Sunflowers were 7% harvested, 26 days ahead of last year and 1 day ahead of normal. Sunflower condition remained at 76% good to excellent. The potato harvest was 68% complete, 9 days ahead of last year and 2 days ahead of normal. Eighteen percent of the sugarbeet acres have been harvested with condition remaining at 93% good to excellent.

Dry beans dropping leaves was nearly complete at 97%. The dry bean harvest was 71% compete, 26 days ahead of last year but 2 days behind average. Pasture condition increased slightly to 57% good to excellent.
Minnesota Temperatures and Precipitation for the week ending September 27, 2020

Maps from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center reflect data collected from 7:00 A.M. Central Time on September 21, 2020, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on September 27, 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/