This is Dan Lofthus, State Statistician for the USDA NASS Minnesota Field Office with the weekly crop progress and condition report for the week ending September 27, 2020.

Dry weather and above average temperatures advanced crop maturity and harvest progress during the week. 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 average. 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 average. 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.

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