Minnesota farmers averaged 5.8 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending August 22, 2021, according to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. Some areas of the state received above normal rainfall and above normal temperatures occurred statewide. Field activities for the week included harvesting small grains and cutting corn for silage.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 44% very short, 38% short, 18% adequate and 0% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 44% very short, 39% short, 17% adequate and 0% surplus.

Corn in or beyond the dough stage reached 86%, three days ahead of the 5-year average. Corn dented reached 30%, the same as last year but two days ahead of average. Corn condition rated 34% good to excellent. Soybeans setting pods reached 96%, two days ahead of the 5-year average. Soybeans turning color reached 20%, nine days ahead of average. Soybean condition rated 31% good to excellent.

Spring wheat harvested reached 98%, over 3 weeks ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Dry beans dropping leaves reached 41%. Dry bean condition rated 19% good to excellent.

Oats were 95% harvested with barley 96% harvested. Potatoes were 21% harvested. Potato condition rated 61% good to excellent. Sunflower condition rated 31% good to excellent. Sugarbeet condition was 76% good to excellent.

The second cutting of alfalfa hay was 96% complete.

Pasture condition was 46% very poor, 37% poor, 15% fair, 2% good and 0% excellent.
Maps from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center reflect data collected from 7:00 A.M. Central Time on August 16, 2021, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on August 22, 2021.

National Weather Service data, courtesy of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources State Climatology Office, is available at: http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/climate/historical/summary.html

Growing Degree Days can be found at https://mrcc.illinois.edu/U2U/gdd/

Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/