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Agricultural News: Weather this month has been a mix of warmer and cooler temperatures with periods of rain and some snow. Farming activities for the month included calving and feeding hay and grain to livestock.

SOIL MOISTURE and SUPPLIES for week ending 12/29/19

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	3	13	84	-
Subsoil	7	26	64	3
Hay & Roughage	7	24	63	6
Feed grain	-	10	84	6

-Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 12/29/19

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Winter Wheat	-	9	69	21	1
Cattle & Calves	1	6	34	50	9
Sheep & Lambs	-	2	35	53	10

- Represents zero.

**December Summary of Weather and Agricultural Conditions
November 25 - December 29**

Although the State began the last week of November with temperatures on the cool side, the temperatures the week ending **December 1st**, were all above average, except for Bluefield (-2), which was the only station that reported below normal temperatures. The above average temperatures occurred as warm air filtered in before turning colder as two cold fronts moved over the State. All stations reached the 60s, with several stations getting into the 70s. Lows for the week were near normal in the 20s and 30s. Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 72 degrees. Terra Alta and Elkins had the lowest recorded temperature of 22 degrees. The state average temperature was 43 degrees. Precipitation amounts were up. The two systems that crossed over the State during the week brought anywhere from around a half inch up to nearly three inches. Williamson had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 2.81 inches. Clarksburg had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.38 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 1.17 inches.

For the week ending **December 8th**, West Virginia temperatures averaged near to below normal for the week. Stations ranged from -6 to +1 degrees away from normal values. Cooler temperatures through mid-week gave way to warming temperatures over the weekend. Huntington, Charleston and Moorefield had the highest recorded temperature of 59 degrees. Terra Alta had the lowest recorded temperature of 12 degrees. The state average temperature was 36 degrees. Below average precipitation was reported across the State with no stations reaching their climate average value. Several rounds of light precipitation were reported early in the week. Weston had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.62 of an inch. Martinsburg had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.05 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 0.31 of an inch.

West Virginia started the week ending **December 15th**, in a warming pattern as a slow moving cold front moved toward the State from the Midwest; the week began 10 to 20 degrees above normal for this time of year. The post frontal air was much cooler in the middle of the week, and then returned close to normal for the last part of the week. Overall, most stations were very close to average. Clarksburg and Weston had the highest recorded temperature of 63 degrees. Beckley and White Sulphur Springs had the lowest recorded temperature of 13 degrees. The state average temperature was 37 degrees. There was significant precipitation this week. All stations received over one inch of precipitation and nine stations reported over two inches. The first batch of rain moved over the State at the beginning of the week, and the second rain event was a moisture laden air mass from the Southeast, once again preceding a cold front. Snow was reported over the mountains and Northern third of the State. Elkins had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 2.99 inches. Wheeling had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 1.18 inches. The state average precipitation was 1.93 inches.

For the week ending **December 22nd**, West Virginia began the week very cold in the wake of a strong front that moved over the State early in the week. During the last half, temperatures began to warm to near normal under high pressure. Most stations reached the mid-50s late in the week, and during the cold temperatures mid-week, most stations dropped into the teens. Elkins, Pineville and Bluefield had the highest recorded temperature of 57 degrees. Wheeling, Terra Alta and Elkins had the lowest recorded temperature of 11 degrees. The state average temperature was 32 degrees. The heavy precipitation from the previous week continued into this week as a slow moving cold front pushed over the State. Several stations received over one inch in 24 hours, with others reaching over two inches in 24 hours. Parkersburg reported 3.01 inches in just one day. Some flooding was reported. While several stations received large amounts of precipitation, the Northwest and Southeast got very little. The last half of the week was dry. Parkersburg had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 3.03 inches. Wheeling had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.17 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 1.43 inches.

Temperatures were well above normal across the region the week ending **December 29th**. The greatest temperature departures from normal occurred at Elkins and Clarksburg. The exceptionally warm conditions can be attributed to the influence of a ridge of high pressure anchored across the Eastern United States. The warmest temperatures occurred mid to late in the week as Southerly flow strengthened underneath the dominant ridge of high pressure. Clarksburg and Pineville had the highest recorded temperature of 69 degrees. Terra Alta had the lowest recorded temperature of 18 degrees. The state average temperature was 47 degrees. The majority of the week was dry, but a late week storm system brought heavy precipitation to parts of the State. Huntington had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 1.50 inches. Bluefield had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.07 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 0.50 of an inch.

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending 12/29/19

Station	Temperature				Precipitation				
	High	Low	Average	Weekly Departure	Week's Total	Week's Norm	Since April 1st 2019	Same Week Last Year	Season Normal
--NORTHWEST									
WHEELING	62	24	45	15	0.73	0.69	30.18	46.42	29.99
PARKERSBURG	66	25	46	13	1.21	0.68	36.71	41.75	31.63
CRESTON	65	22	45		1.26		41.63	48.28	
--NORTHCENTRAL									
MORGANTOWN	67	27	47	15	0.58	0.62	33.88	42.08	32.60
CLARKSBURG	69	27	49	17	0.51	0.77	31.43	43.01	35.03
BELINGTON	67	23	47		0.31		30.10	52.95	
WESTON	67	25	48		0.49		36.24	59.69	
--SOUTHWEST									
WILLIAMSON	68	36	54		0.33		36.49	39.46	
HUNTINGTON	66	29	51	16	1.50	0.73	38.53	45.50	32.45
CHARLESTON	68	26	49	14	0.30	0.72	37.15	48.16	33.74
RIPLEY	65	22	45		1.26		39.21	46.11	
--CENTRAL									
TERRA ALTA	61	18	42		0.55		42.03	60.00	
ELKINS	67	20	47	17	0.11	0.70	40.56	55.55	35.45
MARLINTON	62	21	42		0.29		34.52	46.64	
--SOUTHERN									
BECKLEY	66	24	47	15	0.21	0.67	34.80	42.48	31.87
PINEVILLE	69	31	52		0.34		30.92	42.16	
BLUEFIELD	65	27	47	12	0.07	0.63	28.89	42.79	30.28
WHITE SUL SP	63	22	44		0.08		30.49	45.43	
BLUESTONE DAM	66	36	52		0.20		28.81	41.45	
--NORTHEASTERN									
MARTINSBURG	61	20	40	8	0.38	0.53	27.90	56.81	30.27
KEYSER	63	22	41		0.25		29.81	54.75	
MOOREFIELD	64	20	43		0.09		32.06	40.23	
State Average Temperature	47								
State Average Precipitation	0.50								

Source: Weather comments and data - Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service, Charleston, WV.

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