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Week of September 26 – October 2, 2011

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Warm, dry conditions prevail.

Warm and dry weather dominated most of the State. Very little measureable moisture fell anywhere in the State. Converse County reported very dry conditions. Previous light frost has slowed hay growth. Platte County reported dry conditions. Corn silage and beans are being harvested. Beet harvest will start soon. Winter wheat looks good but could use some moisture. Lincoln County reported clear and dry conditions. Weston County reported warm and dry conditions. Most harvesting has been completed except some last hay cutting. Cattle are being moved home and are in good condition. Activities for the week include: hay, silage, and small grain harvest, windrowing beans and moving livestock. High temperatures ranged from the low 70s into the low 90s. Low temperatures ranged from the low 20s to the mid 40s.

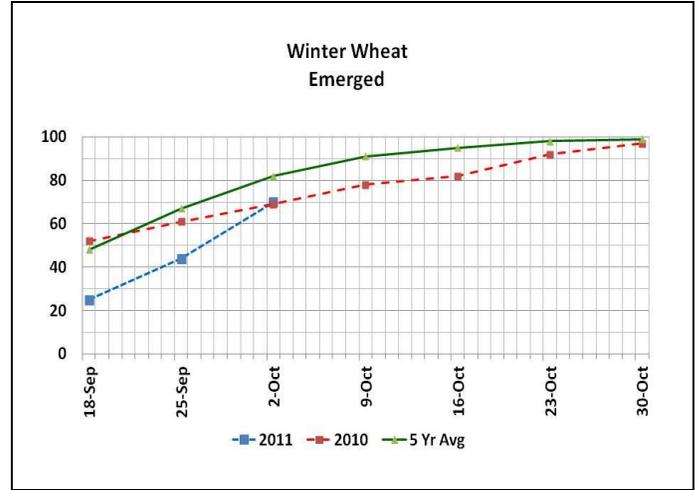
SOIL MOISTURE SUPPLIES

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Topsoil				
Very Short	9	7	15	13
Short	46	44	45	36
Adequate	45	48	40	51
Surplus	0	1	0	0
Subsoil				
Very Short	14	12	13	26
Short	37	31	47	37
Adequate	49	57	40	37
Surplus	0	0	0	0

FIELD CROP REPORT: Days suitable for field work were 6.8. Topsoil moisture, rated adequate or better, was down 4 percent compared to last week's estimate and remains above last year but below the 5-year average. Subsoil moisture was 49 percent adequate or better, down 8 percent from last week but up from last year and the 5-year average. Barley harvest was 97 percent completed, even with last year and one percent behind the 5-year average. Corn progress was behind last year and the 5-year average as 3 percent of the corn had been harvested. Corn silage harvest at 70 percent was behind both last year and the average for this time of year. Alfalfa hay harvest at 62 percent for third cutting, was behind both last year and the 5-year average. Winter wheat was at 70 percent emerged, slightly above last year but 12 percent behind the 5-year average. Crop conditions of percent good or excellent were unchanged from last week for corn and sugarbeets, but were down slightly for alfalfa.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Barley Harvested	97	93	97	98
Winter Wheat Planted	97	91	81	95
Winter Wheat Emerged	70	44	69	82
Dry Beans Windrowed	94	75	91	89
Dry Beans Combined	71	47	64	66
Corn Dent	95	79	93	82
Corn Mature	78	28	57	51
Corn Harvested	3	0	24	6
Corn Silage Harvested	70	55	73	83
Alfalfa 3rd Cutting	62	36	63	65



CROP CONDITION

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
Corn	0	0	17	78	5
Sugarbeets	0	0	35	60	5
Dry Beans	0	5	36	55	4
Alfalfa Hay	0	0	15	84	1

PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT: Range and pasture conditions of good or excellent were 59 percent, down 1 percent from last week. This is above last year and the 5-year average. Stock water supplies were 85 percent adequate or better, down 4 percent from last week and below last year but above the 5-year average.

RANGE AND PASTURE CONDITION

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Very Poor	3	2	1	10
Poor	12	12	13	18
Fair	26	26	37	37
Good	54	55	41	31
Excellent	5	5	8	4

STOCK WATER SUPPLIES

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Very Short	0	1	1	9
Short	15	10	12	22
Adequate	85	89	87	68
Surplus	0	0	0	1

WEATHER SUMMARY: Weekly air temperatures averaged at or above normal for all of the 33 reporting stations. Temperature average ranged from 7 degrees above normal at Shirley Basin, Wheatland, and Old Fort Laramie to 16 degrees above normal at Buford. The high temperature for the State was 93 degrees at Sheridan while a State low of 23 degrees was recorded at Shirley Basin. Lake Yellowstone recorded the most precipitation for the week with 0.01 inches, 0.34 inches below normal for the reference week and raising the cumulative precipitation since January 1, 2011 to 4.30 inches above normal. They were the only station to report some precipitation for the week. Big Horn is the location with the highest cumulative precipitation above normal since January 1 while Jackson Hole is the furthest behind at 2.40 inches below normal. Twenty-four reporting stations have recorded above normal for cumulative precipitation since January 1, 2011.

Weather Data for the Week Ending October 2, 2011 ^{1/}

	Weekly Air Temperature				Weekly Precipitation			Since Jan 1 Precipitation	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total Inches	Normal Inches	DFN	Total Inches	DFN
District 1									
Cody	88	41	66	13	0.00	0.27	-0.27	12.33	3.10
Dubois	79	30	54	8	0.00	0.26	-0.26	12.47	4.34
Greybull	91	41	66	14	0.00	0.18	-0.18	7.72	1.41
Jeffrey City	82	29	57	8	0.00	0.21	-0.21	7.28	-1.56
Lake Yellowstone	72	29	51	11	0.01	0.35	-0.34	20.09	4.30
Lander	86	43	66	14	0.00	0.32	-0.32	11.80	1.26
Powell	86	39	63	13	0.00	0.14	-0.14	6.68	0.57
Riverton	85	41	65	13	0.00	0.21	-0.21	8.54	1.79
Worland	91	40	65	11	0.00	0.21	-0.21	8.61	1.95
District 2									
Big Horn	91	36	65	14	0.00	0.35	-0.35	18.62	6.69
Buffalo-Johnson	89	46	67	15	0.00	0.31	-0.31	12.77	1.21
Gillette	91	37	65	13	0.00	0.35	-0.35	14.96	1.36
Midwest	90	39	64	11	0.00	0.24	-0.24	11.76	0.45
Newcastle	88	40	65	11	0.00	0.28	-0.28	16.83	3.31
Sheridan	93	36	65	12	0.00	0.35	-0.35	13.30	1.25
Sundance	91	43	65	13	0.00	0.35	-0.35	18.01	2.36
District 3									
Big Piney	80	30	56	12	0.00	0.14	-0.14	3.96	-2.19
Evanston	78	44	62	14	0.00	0.28	-0.28	7.07	-1.88
Jackson Hole	81	34	56	10	0.00	0.28	-0.28	13.31	-2.40
Thayne	83	36	59	12	0.00	0.35	-0.35	13.96	0.10
District 4									
Casper	88	37	65	13	0.00	0.28	-0.28	9.46	-1.07
Laramie	79	35	57	9	0.00	0.21	-0.21	7.47	-2.06
Rawlins	80	30	59	8	0.00	0.21	-0.21	6.03	-1.77
Rock Springs	80	43	62	13	0.00	0.21	-0.21	6.50	-0.91
Shirley Basin	77	23	50	7	0.00	0.21	-0.21	11.47	2.81
District 5									
Buford	84	38	61	16	0.00	0.29	-0.29	13.29	0.30
Cheyenne	84	40	63	12	0.00	0.27	-0.27	16.04	2.37
Chugwater	88	37	64	12	0.00	0.26	-0.26	14.56	1.05
Douglas	89	37	63	11	0.00	0.21	-0.21	10.57	-0.17
Lance Creek	90	37	62	8	0.00	0.23	-0.23	12.74	1.17
Old Fort Laramie	90	33	59	7	0.00	0.21	-0.21	13.53	1.91
Torrington	92	38	65	11	0.00	0.28	-0.28	14.62	2.58
Wheatland	87	37	63	7	0.00	0.28	-0.28	14.66	3.21

^{1/} Summary based on NWS data. DFN=Departure from Normal. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. Weather data prepared by AWIS, Inc. For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955