

# Weekly Market Summary

Published by  
**Missouri Department of Agriculture**  
**Division of Market Information & Outreach**



Peter W. Hofherr, Director  
 Loyd Wilson, Division Director  
 Mike Davis, Editor  
<http://www.mda.mo.gov>  
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm>

Bob Holden, Governor

Volume XXIV, Number 16 ♦ P.O. Box 630, Jefferson City, MO 65102 ♦ (573) 751-4211 ♦ Friday, April 16, 2004

## MISSOURI WEEKLY FEEDER CATTLE WEIGHTED AVERAGE REPORT

Receipts 25,017; Week ago 33,740; Year ago 22,863  
 Medium and Large 1 (Medium Flesh)

Fdr. STEERS:		Fdr. HEIFERS:		Hols. STEERS	
368 lbs.	129.25	359 lbs.	119.20	350 lbs.	106.23
454 lbs.	121.62	459 lbs.	110.20	434 lbs.	95.53
545 lbs.	112.53	546 lbs.	103.42	550 lbs.	87.10
648 lbs.	102.46	652 lbs.	95.71	674 lbs.	83.36
736 lbs.	95.44	737 lbs.	89.93	755 lbs.	79.00
835 lbs.	89.72	832 lbs.	87.00		
904 lbs.	85.00				

## SOUTHERN MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(West Plains, Gainesville)

Receipts 3950; Week ago 4587; Year ago 4299

Compared to last week steers under 500 lbs 1.00-3.00 lower, over 500 lbs mostly steady. Heifers under 450 lbs steady to weak, with 450-600 lbs 1.00-3.00 higher, over 600 lbs scarce. Slaughter cows and Bulls 2.00-4.00 higher.

STEERS:		HEIFERS:	
Medium and Large 1		Medium and Large 1	
300-400 lbs.	121.00-133.00	300-400 lbs.	110.00-120.00
400-450 lbs.	112.00-129.00	400-500 lbs.	100.00-113.00
450-500 lbs.	109.00-120.00	500-600 lbs.	96.00-107.00
500-550 lbs.	108.00-116.00	600-700 lbs.	89.00-96.00
550-600 lbs.	97.50-111.00	750-800 lbs.	79.00-85.00
600-700 lbs.	94.00-105.50		
700-800 lbs.	88.50-94.00		
800-850 lbs.	84.50-88.75		

### Large 3 Holsteins

300-400 lbs.	99.00-107.50
Pkg 724 lbs.	80.25

**REPLACEMENT COWS:** Medium and Large 1-2, 2 to 6 yrs, 875-1360 lbs. 3rd stage, 730.00-895.00, 2nd stage, 700.00-800.00 per head.

**COW & CALF PAIRS:** Medium and Large 1-2, few 2-6 yrs., 1050-1300 lbs. baby to 250 lbs. calves 800.00-970.00 per pair.

**SLAUGHTER COWS:** Breaking and Boning (70-85% lean) 47.50-55.50, high dressing 54.00-60.50. Lean (85-90%) 45.00-53.00, low dressing 39.50-46.50.

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:** Yield Grade 1-2, 1290-2175 lbs., 63.00-69.50, high dressing 70.00-74.50, low dressing 55.00-60.00.

## SOUTHWEST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY

(Joplin, Springfield)

Feeder Cattle Receipts 6716, Week ago 7436, Year ago 8132  
 Cows and Bulls Receipts 1500; Week ago 1300; Year ago 1400  
 Dairy Cattle Receipts 2123; Norwood 04-08-2004

Compared to last week steers under 600 lbs steady to 2.00 lower, over 600 lbs steady to 2.00 higher, heifers steady to 3.00 higher. Slaughter cows 3.00- 4.00 higher, Bulls 1.00-2.00 higher.

STEERS:		HEIFERS:	
Medium and Large 1		Medium and Large 1	
300-400 lbs.	123.00-135.00	300-400 lbs.	116.00-124.00
400-500 lbs.	117.00-124.00	400-500 lbs.	105.00-112.50
500-600 lbs.	103.00-113.00	500-600 lbs.	97.00-105.00
600-700 lbs.	96.00-103.00	600-700 lbs.	91.50-99.50
700-800 lbs.	91.00-97.00	700-800 lbs.	83.50-91.50
800-900 lbs.	86.50-91.90		

### HOLSTEINS:

Large Frame 3

300-400 lbs.	103.00-114.00
400-500 lbs.	96.00-100.00
500-600 lbs.	87.00-88.50
600-700 lbs.	81.50-85.00
700-800 lbs.	76.00-80.50

**REPLACEMENT COWS:** Medium and Large 2, 2 yrs to ss, 2nd and 3rd stage, 700.00-960.00 per head.

**COW & CALF PAIRS:** Medium and Large 1-2, 2 yrs. to ss, 950-1450 lbs. baby to 450 lb calves, some rebred, 800.00-1300.00 per pair.

### Dairy Cattle Sales

Springer Heifers: Supreme 1850.00-2450.00, Approved 1600.00-1875.00, Crossbred 1250.00-1575.00, Open Heifers; Approved 700-800 lbs 1225.00-1380.00, 600-700 lbs 925.00-1330.00, 500-600 lbs 975.00-1290.00, Bred Heifers 4-6 months Supreme 1760.00-2350.00. Baby Calves: Holstein Heifers 400.00-630.00, Bulls 120.00-200.00.

**SLAUGHTER COWS:** Breaking and Boning (70-85% lean) 54.00-60.00, high dressing 61.00-64.50. Lean (85-90%) 47.00-52.75, low dressing Scarce.

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:** Yield Grade 1-2, 1300-2675 lbs., 63.75-69.50, high dressing 72.00-74.00, low dressing Scarce.

## INTERIOR MISSOURI DIRECT HOGS

Weekly Receipts 11,215; Week ago 12,382; Year ago 16,482

Compared to last weeks close barrows and gilts 2.00-4.00 higher.

### BARROWS AND GILTS:

Base carcass meat prices 60.00  
 Weekly top price Friday 60.00

### SOWS:

Steady to 2.00 higher  
 300-500 lbs 37.00-38.00  
 Over 500 lbs 39.00-44.00.

The Weekly Market Summary is available to anyone for an \$18.00 annual subscription fee. To subscribe, send your check or money order to: Weekly Market Summary, Missouri Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 630, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

**WEST CENTRAL MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(Kingsville and Sedalia)

Receipts 2198; Week ago 3064; Year ago 3704

Compared to last week steers under 600 lbs firm to 4.00 higher, over 600 lbs and heifers under 600 lbs firm to 7.00 higher. Slaughter cows 2.00-5.00 higher, Slaughter bulls 1.00-2.00 higher.

**FEEDER STEERS:**

Medium and Large 1&amp; 1-2

300-400 lbs.	120.00-135.00
400-500 lbs.	112.00-133.50
500-600 lbs.	106.00-122.00
600-700 lbs.	95.00-115.00
700-800 lbs.	91.25-103.75
800-850 lbs.	91.75-97.75

**FEEDER HEIFERS:**

Medium and Large 1 &amp; 1-2

300-400 lbs.	111.00-126.00
400-500 lbs.	103.00-132.00
500-600 lbs.	96.00-112.00
600-700 lbs.	89.00-102.50

**REPLACEMENT COWS:**

Medium and Large 1-2 2-5 yrs, 1180-1340 lbs 2nd and 3rd stage 905.00-930.00 per head.

**SLAUGHTER COWS:**

Breaking and Boning (70-85% lean) 47.50-55.00 high dressing 5200-62.00. Lean (85-90%) 46.00-52.00, low dressing 38.00-48.00.

**COW & CALF PAIRS:**

Medium and Large 1-2, 2 yrs to ss 1000-1200 lbs baby 340 lb calves 920.00-1075 per pair.

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:**

Yield Grade 1-2, 1200-2190 lbs. 61.00-65.75, high dressing 65.75-69.50, low dressing 51.25-59.25.

**EAST CENTRAL MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(Bowling Green, Kingdom City, and Boonville)

Receipts 5389; Week ago 5791; Year ago 7229

Compared to last week steers and heifers firm to 5.00 higher. Slaughter cows and bulls firm to 2.00 higher.

**FEEDER STEERS:**

Medium and Large 1

300-400 lbs.	124.00-138.50
400-500 lbs.	114.00-134.00
500-600 lbs.	105.00-125.00
600-700 lbs.	100.00-116.50
700-775 lbs.	95.00-103.25
800-875 lbs.	85.25-92.75

**FEEDER HEIFERS:**

Medium and Large 1 &amp; 1-2

300-400 lbs.	110.00-125.00
400-500 lbs.	103.00-120.00
500-600 lbs.	98.00-115.00
600-700 lbs.	91.00-111.50
700-750 lbs.	87.00-95.00

**SLAUGHTER STEERS:** Choice with Prime ends 2-4, 87.00-92.00, few 93.50-95.50.**SLAUGHTER COWS:** Breaking, Boning, and Lean (70-90% lean) 45.00-54.00, high dressing 50.50-56.50, low dressing 40.00-48.00.**SLAUGHTER HEIFERS:**

few Choice with Prime ends 2-4, 86.50-91.50.

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:** Yield Grade 1-2, 1300-2200 lbs., 59.00-64.00, high dressing 64.00-66.50, low dressing 40.00-48.00.**NORTHEAST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(Palmyra, New Cambria, and Green City)

Receipts 1702; Week ago 6920; Year ago 3827

Compared to last week steers and heifers mostly steady. Slaughter cows 2.00-4.00 higher, Slaughter steers and heifers 1.00-2.00 higher.

**FEEDER STEERS:**

Medium and Large 1

300-400 lbs.	122.00-126.00
400-500 lbs.	115.00-130.00
500-600 lbs.	110.00-124.00
600-700 lbs.	101.50-112.00
700-800 lbs.	93.75-99.50
800-900 lbs.	Scarce

**FEEDER HEIFERS:**

Medium and Large 1 &amp; 1-2

300-400 lbs.	107.00-118.50
400-500 lbs.	101.00-109.75
500-600 lbs.	98.75-102.75
600-700 lbs.	90.85-97.50
700-800 lbs.	scarce

**SLAUGHTER STEERS:** Choice 2-3, 1100-1400 lbs., 84.75-87.00.**SLAUGHTER COWS:** Breaking and Boning (70-85% lean) 50.00-56.25, Lean (85-90%) 44.00-50.00.**SLAUGHTER HEIFERS:** Choice 2-3, 1000-1150 lbs., 85.35-87.80.**SLAUGHTER BULLS:** Yield Grade 1-2, 1400-2350 lbs.**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(Patton Junction and Fruitland)

Receipts 1283; Week ago 1154; Year ago 1519

Compared to last week steers and heifers uneven 2.00 lower to 2.00 higher. Slaughter Cows and Bulls 2.00 to 3.00 higher.

**FEEDER STEERS:**

Medium and Large 1-2

200-300 lbs	133.00-135.00
300-400 lbs.	110.00-134.00
400-500 lbs.	107.00-118.00
500-600 lbs.	96.50-110.00
600-700 lbs.	86.50-97.50
700-775 lbs.	84.00-88.00

**FEEDER HEIFERS:**

Medium and Large 1-2

200-300 lbs.	114.00-125.00
300-400 lbs.	100.00-119.00
400-500 lbs.	99.00-113.00
500-600 lbs.	93.50-105.50
600-700 lbs.	84.00-95.50
Pkg. 765 lbs.	78.00

**REPLACEMENT COWS:**

Medium and Large 1-2, 2-7 yrs 920-1360 lbs in 2nd and 3rd stage pregnancy 670.00-860.00 per head.

**SLAUGHTER COWS:**

Breaking and Boning (70-85% lean) 46.00-50.00, high dressing 51.00-57.50, Lean (85-90%) 35.00-42.00, low dressing 31.00-36.00.

**COW & CALF PAIRS:**

Medium and Large 1-2, 2-7 yrs, 845-1415 lbs with 150-250 lbs calves 875.00-1030.00 per pair.

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:**

Yield Grade 1-2, 1465-2085 lbs 58.25-63.50, high dressing 63.25-67.00, low dressing 55.50-56.50.

**SOUTH CENTRAL MISSOURI WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(Cuba and Vienna)

Receipts 2914; Week ago 3430; Year ago 2997

Compared to last week steers and heifers steady to 3.00 higher, with several 600-700 lb steers 5.00 higher. Slaughter Cows 3.00-5.00 higher.

**FEEDER STEERS:**

Medium and Large 1

350-400 lbs.	122.00-132.00
400-500 lbs.	112.00-131.00
500-600 lbs.	107.00-116.00
600-700 lbs.	97.50-109.50
700-800 lbs.	93.00-98.00
800-900 lbs.	84.00-91.00

**FEEDER HEIFERS:**

Medium and Large 1 &amp; 1-2

300-400 lbs.	116.00-118.00
400-500 lbs.	104.00-117.00
500-600 lbs.	97.00-110.00
600-660 lbs.	96.50-99.00
710-730 lbs.	88.75

**REPLACEMENT COWS:**

Scarce Medium and Large 1, package 2 years, 950 lbs with baby calves 1290.00 per pair.

**SLAUGHTER COWS:**

Breaking and Boning (70-85% lean) 51.00-56.00 high dressing 55.75-60.00. Lean (85-90%) 46.00-54.00, low dressing 40.00-50.00.

**COW & CALF PAIRS:**

Medium and Large 1, package 2 years, 950 lbs with baby calves 1290.00 per pair.

**SLAUGHTER BULLS:**

Yield Grade 1-2, 1300-2000 lbs 60.00-66.00, high dressing 68.25-70.00, low dressing 58.25-58.50.

**MISSOURI WEEKLY DIRECT  
SLAUGHTER CATTLE REPORT**

Weekly Receipts 600; Week ago 2000; Year ago 400

Trade turning moderate to active mid-week. No confirmed live sales, dressed sales on a grid basis 2.00-4.00 higher.

**STEERS:**

Live sales: No Sales

**STEERS AND HEIFERS:**

Carcass sales: Steers and Heifers No Sales

**HEIFERS:**

Live Sales: No Sales

**GRADE AND WEIGHT (Grid):**Choice 550-950 lbs 136.00-144.00  
Select 550-950 lbs 126.00-130.00.

**MISSOURI WEEKLY DIRECT  
WEANER AND FEEDER PIG REPORT**

Receipts: 10,987 (FOB 4,755; Delivered 6,232) Compared to last week, weaner pigs and feeder pigs steady. Moderate demand for moderate supply.

Early weaned pigs 10 lb base weights  
Fob the farm 2.5% negotiated  
4405 head 10 lbs 26.00-33.00 weighted average price 30.66

Early weaned pigs 10 lb base weights  
Delivered 100% negotiated  
512 head 10 lbs 32.27

Early weaned pigs 10 lb base weights  
Delivered Ark to Ill and Neb  
5720 10 lbs 32.75-33.52, weighted average price 33.10

Feeder pigs in all lot sizes  
FOB the farm  
350 head 40-50 lbs 44.00-48.50, weighted average 45.4 lbs 46.61

**WEEKLY LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER**

	<u>CATTLE</u>	<u>HOGS</u>	<u>SHEEP</u>
Week to date	591,000	1,978,000	45,000
Last week	564,000	1,973,000	53,000
Last Year	666,000	1,877,000	63,000
2004 yr. to date	9,119,000	30,086,000	849,000
2003 yr. to date	10,042,000	29,603,000	883,000

**MIDWEST SHEEP REVIEW**

Slaughter Receipts

This week 45,000; Week ago 53,000; Year ago 63,000

Slaughter Lambs steady      Slaughter Ewes: Utility and Good  
Slaughter Ewes steady to 5.00      1-3 30.00-35.00, Cull 1 25.00-  
lower.      30.00  
Feeder Lambs steady

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and      Feeder Lambs: Medium and Large  
Prime 2-3 90-150 lbs shorn 93.00-      1-2 60-80 lbs 105.00-120.00, 80-  
95.00, woolled 90.00-92.00      100 lbs 95.00-105.00.

**WEEKLY HAY SUMMARY**

Warm days this week have some producers out greasing hay equipment and getting in the hay making state of mind. After making a trip to southern MO and spending a little more time on the phone, it has come to light that the weevils are out and abundant in areas. Hay movement is somewhat surprising for this time of year. Some sellers are staying very busy with dairies and others are moving a fair amount of beef hay in isolated areas where the grass is off to a slow start with the cool nights. Straw movement is slow at best. Hay supply is moderate; demand is light and hay prices are steady. The Missouri Department of Agriculture has a hay hotline available for both buyers and sellers. To be listed, or for a directory, call 1-800-877-HAY(4429). (All prices per ton unless specified and most reflect delivered price) Supreme quality alfalfa(RFV>185) 110.00-140.00, Premium alfalfa(RFV170-180) 80.00-110.00, Fair to Good alfalfa (RFV130-170) Round bales 40.00-70.00, Small and Big squares 70.00-100.00, Fair to good quality prairie hay 60.00-85.00, Good quality brome 50.00-85.00, Good quality timothy hay 3.00-3.50 per small square bale, Good quality red clover hay 40.00-70.00, Good quality mixed grass hay 12.00-25.00 per round bale, Fair quality large round bales fescue 10.00-20.00 per bale. Fair quality large round bales fescue 10.00-20.00 per bale. Wheat hay 50.00-60.00. Wheat straw 1.50-2.50 per small square bale.

**MIDWEST EGG REVIEW**

Prices on large .08 lower, medium .03 lower, small steady. IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN: Prices paid to producers. (cents per dz.) Large .52-.59, Medium .43-.47, Small .31-.33

**WHOLESALE FEEDSTUFFS PRICES  
(DOLLARS PER TON-BULK BASIS)**

Area	Soybean Meal 48% Solvent	Cottonseed Meal 41% Solvent	Meat Meal	Wheat Middlings
Kansas City	305.50	250.00	275.00	82.50
St. Louis	327.50	238.50	270.00	90.00

**By-Product Feed Prices**

Soy Hulls Mexico, MO 80.00, Alfalfa Pellets 17% St Louis, MO 135.00, Distillers Grain dried Macon MO 139.00, corn Gluten Feed pelleted, Decatur, Il 95.00, Brewers Grain pressed 70% moisture, St Louis, MO 46.00. Prices per ton.

**WEEKLY COMMODITY GRAIN FUTURES TRENDS**

Compared to last Friday: Soybeans .20-.56 lower, Wheat .24-.27 lower, Corn .16-.25 lower, KC Wheat .22-.24 lower, Soybean Meal 11.90-18.70 lower. (all price trends approximate ranges).

**Daily Grain Futures Closes**

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
Soybeans					
May	967	971 1/2	1013	963	965
Jul	967	971 1/2	1014 1/2	964 1/2	966
Aug	920 1/2	918 1/4	953 1/2	903 1/2	910
Sept	816 1/2	803	824 1/2	774 1/2	788 1/2
Nov	752	738	765 1/2	717	732 1/2
Wheat					
May	407 1/2	393	401 1/4	383	388 1/2
Jul	416 1/2	402 1/4	410	392	397 1/4
Sept	420 1/2	407 1/4	414 1/2	396 1/2	402 1/2
Dec	429 3/4	416	423 1/2	406 3/4	411 3/4
Mar	433	420	425 1/2	410 1/2	416
Corn					
May	322 1/4	311 3/4	316 1/2	307 1/2	314 1/2
Jul	329 1/2	318 1/2	324 1/4	316 1/4	321
Sept	328 1/4	315 3/4	320 1/2	308 1/2	314
Dec	326 1/2	314	319 1/2	304 1/2	311
Mar	328 1/4	315 3/4	322	307 1/2	314 1/4
KC Wheat					
May	412	398	407 1/2	394	397 1/2
Jul	420	407 1/4	415	399 1/2	405
Sept	424	411 1/2	418	405	408 1/4
Dec	432	419 1/2	425	412	416
Mar	437 3/4	421	429	417	419
SB Meal					
May	309.50	310.30	322.00	303.40	304.90
Jul	308.20	307.90	319.70	302.30	302.70
Aug	295.50	294.00	303.70	290.30	291.20
Sept	275.50	270.30	297.70	266.00	267.00
Oct	240.00	235.90	243.50	227.50	232.50

**WEEKLY COMMODITY FUTURES TRENDS**

Compared to last Friday: Live Cattle Apr & Jun .12-.60 lower, others 1.25-1.43 higher, Lean Hogs May .22 higher others 3.15-4.35 lower, Pork Bellies .60-4.80 lower except Mar .03 higher, Feeder Cattle 1.30-1.82 higher.

**Daily Futures Closes**

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
Cattle					
Apr	84.43	84.60	85.10	82.67	92.95
Jun	79.94	78.67	78.52	76.95	89.22
Aug	77.85	77.45	77.72	77.25	90.22
Oct	78.77	78.32	78.92	78.67	89.20
Dec	79.77	79.40	77.72	79.60	89.40
Lean Hogs					
Apr	64.32	64.32	64.57	64.27	68.42
May	68.90	68.15	68.77	68.30	70.80
Jun	75.82	73.82	74.80	72.80	70.10
Jul	74.44	72.57	73.45	71.95	67.90
Aug	71.24	70.27	70.97	69.70	57.57
Prk Bel					
May	106.00	103.00	103.87	101.50	102.45
Jul	106.40	103.40	104.55	101.95	102.97
Aug	99.69	98.42	98.50	98.22	98.60
Feb	88.25	87.00	87.02	87.10	87.50
Mar	86.35	86.35	86.35	86.35	86.35
Fdr Cat					
Apr	92.42	92.35	92.50	92.45	92.95
May	90.02	89.62	90.12	89.22	89.22
Aug	91.04	90.67	91.10	90.75	90.22
Sep	89.90	89.50	90.00	89.90	89.20
Oct	89.84	89.42	89.90	89.90	89.40
Milk					
May	19.54	19.53	19.56	19.56	19.64
Jul	19.68	19.99	20.08	19.94	19.60
Aug	18.20	18.66	18.97	18.90	18.45

**Market News Hotline**  
**1-573-522-9244**

**April 16, 2004**

**MISSOURI GRAIN WEEKLY TRENDS**

Soybeans .01 lower to .08 higher  
 Wheat .12 to .14 lower  
 Corn .04 to .08 lower  
 Grain Sorghum .25 to .28 lower

**Weekly Missouri Selected Cash Grain Bids**

Area	#1 Soybean	#2 Soft Wheat	#2 Corn	#2 Grain Sorghum
<b>Kansas City</b>				
Monday	9.62-9.63	4.22	3.11-3.13	5.48
Tuesday	9.67-9.6	4.08	3.01-3.03	5.30
Wednesday	10.10-10.13	4.18	3.06-3.08	5.39
Thursday	9.60-9.64	4.04	2.97-2.99	5.23
Friday	9.66	4.08	3.04-3.06	5.36
<b>St. Louis</b>				
Monday	9.70-9.75	4.10	3.26-3.27	5.55
Tuesday	9.75-9.80	4.00	3.17-3.18	5.35
Wednesday	10.17-10.19	4.08	3.23	5.45
Thursday	9.47-9.49	3.90	3.14-3.15	5.32
Friday	9.69	3.98	3.22	5.44
<b>Central</b>				
Monday	9.48-9.60	3.73-3.80	3.06	4.92
Tuesday	9.53-9.65	3.58-3.69	2.96	4.75
Wednesday	9.95-10.08	3.66-3.77	3.01	4.84
Thursday	9.44-9.58	3.48-3.59	2.92	4.67
Friday	9.46-9.59	3.54-3.65	2.99	4.80
<b>S.E. MO</b>				
Monday	9.63-9.70	4.04-4.14	3.17-3.19	5.39
Tuesday	9.68-9.72	3.90-3.99	3.09	5.19-5.21
Wednesday	10.09-10.14	3.98-4.10	3.13-3.14	5.28
Thursday	9.59-9.63	3.84-3.94	3.04-3.05	5.12
Friday	9.62-9.65	3.89-3.96	3.11-3.13	5.25

(PRICES PER BU. EXCEPT GR. SORG. PER CWT)  
 \*NEW CROP

**WEEKLY CROP AND WEATHER REPORT**

**Agricultural Summary** Farmers were active with tillage, fertilizing and corn planting during the past week, as 5.2 days were suitable for fieldwork. Days suitable by area ranged from 4.0 days in the east central district to 6.5 days in the southeast. A majority of the ground in the southeast district that is intended for spring crops has been worked at least once. Progress of tillage in the rest of the State is less advanced but compares favorably with past years. The topsoil moisture supply was reported as 1 percent very short, 13 percent short, 78 percent adequate and 8 percent surplus. The northwest, south-central and southeast districts are the driest areas with ratings of 20 percent or more being short of moisture, while the west-central district is the only area showing as much as 20 percent surplus.

**Field Crops Report** The corn crop is 31 percent planted, 2 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of the 5-year average of 20 percent. Planting continues to be the most advanced in the southeast district with 87 percent in the ground, while the northeast and east-central districts are least advanced with 9 percent planted. Light rain and cooler weather at the end of the week slowed the generally rapid pace of planting. Farmers are waiting for warmer weather before planting cotton, sorghum or soybeans. Condition of the winter wheat is rated as 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 63 percent good and 11 percent excellent, a minor improvement from a week earlier and above the rating of 5 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 51 percent good and 12 percent excellent a year earlier. Weevil damage in alfalfa fields has been reported in some southern and western counties.

**Pasture & Livestock** Pasture condition is reported as 5 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 52 percent good and 6 percent excellent, similar to a week ago but well above the low ratings of the past 2 years at this time. Reporters in the areas with the poorest pastures indicated that more moisture and warmer weather is still needed before rapid growth occurs but pastures in most areas are beginning to provide a good feed supply for this time of year.

**Weather Summary** Temperatures over the State during the past week ranged from 1 degree below normal at Cook Station in the southeast, to as much as 7 degrees above normal in the northwest. Rainfall for the week averaged 0.24 inch, ranging by area from less than 0.10 inch across the northern third of the State to 0.68 inch in the southwest district. There were no counties reporting as much as an inch of rainfall.