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Central File
THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *by*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 6, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT *JK*
FROM: KEN COLE *K*
SUBJECT: Current Evaluation of Drought and
Crop Conditions

Rainfall in August did much to relieve critical stress conditions for many crops. However, production prospects are likely to be little changed for corn and wheat but some prospects appear possible for soybeans and grain sorghum.

Rains since August 1 gave little help except to stave off further losses is the general assessment of corn production prospects in the west North Central States. In Iowa, nearly all corn acreage was past the silking stage before the rains came. The corn crop in the deep South is nearing maturity and harvest is underway; therefore, early August rains contributed little to boost their prospective corn crop.

Rains since August 1 appear to have benefitted soybean production prospects as plant condition has improved and new growth has been stimulated. The 1974 crop is generally late in developing and any growth stimulated by recent rains must be evaluated in terms of average first killing frost dates.

The next forecast by the Department of Agriculture is scheduled to be published on September 11.