



IDAHO CROP WEATHER

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Crop Season Begins Cool and Wet

Agricultural Summary

During the past week, temperatures throughout the state were mostly at or below average, ranging from 13 to 33 degrees at night and from 50 to 68 degrees during the day. The state received moisture in most areas, ranging from a low of 0.02 inches in the Salmon area to high of 2.77 inches around Sand Point. Snow is melting, and creeks are running. For the week ending April 3, major agricultural activities were halted due to rain and snow showers. Pea and lentil planting is expected to begin as soon as the rain subsides and the ground dries out.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Lambing and Calving have both progressed to 83% complete. Hay and Roughage supplies were reported to be 1% short, 91% adequate, and 8% surplus. Lambing and calving is reported to be going well. Cattle are being branded.

Field Crop Report

Statewide, winter wheat remains mostly in good or excellent condition. Several counties reported improved soil moisture condition because of the much needed rain that fell this past week. Onion and sugarbeet planting began throughout the state. Lincoln County Extension Educators reported cooler temperatures that slowed evaporation and allowed for moisture to remain in the top 3 to 4 inches of the soil profile. Latah County Extension Educators saw most of the spring small grains planted during an unusually warm period last week. Oneida County Extension Educators reported that several producers have already seen Mormon crickets this spring.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Topsoil moisture was reported to be 13% short, 78% adequate, and 9% surplus. Statewide, Idaho farmers had an average of 2.2 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Crop Progress Table

Percentages	2005	2004	Avg
Oats Planted	18	21	12
Onions Planted	25	40	50
Dry Peas Planted	12	31	9

Condition Table

Percentages	Very				
	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	--	--	5	83	12
Irr. Water Supply	3	39	54	2	2

Crop Progress District Table

Crop	North			Southwest			South-Central			East			State		
	2005	2004	Avg	2005	2004	Avg	2005	2004	Avg	2005	2004	Avg	2005	2004	Avg
Spring Wheat Planted	54	34	10	45	65	64	64	45	39	6	26	13	30	32	19
Barley Planted	24	21	8	45	64	57	42	53	42	--	4	3	19	20	14
Sugarbeets Planted	NA	NA	NA	45	64	49	25	40	16	--	39	16	19	45	22

Avg (2000-2004); NA = Very Small Percentage of Acreage in District.

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