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USDA, NASS, MINNESOTA FIELD OFFICE, IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
TWIN CITIES INT'L AIRPORT, UNIV. OF MINN. EXTENSION SERVICE, AND STATE CLIMATOLOGY, FSA, NRCS, DNR

SLOW START TO FIELDWORK

Warm dry weather has allowed producers to begin fieldwork in some areas of the state, according to UDSA-NASS Minnesota Field Office. Small grain plantings were under way in areas with light sandy soils, while heavy soils and low spots are still muddy or filled with standing water. Fertilizers and manure were being applied in drier areas of the state. Producers in the Red River Valley, the major wheat area of the state, have yet to begin planting due to flooding. In the far northern counties, producers were still waiting for ground frost to dissipate.

The average temperature for the week was 57.5 degrees, 15.5 degrees above normal. Statewide topsoil moisture supplies as of April 16th were rated 0% very short, 3% short, 64% adequate, and 33% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated at 0% very short, 3% short, 67% adequate, and 30% surplus.

An estimated 2% of Spring Wheat acreage has been planted as of Sunday, compared with 4% for the same date in 2005 and 8% for the five-year average.

Oats planting was 17% complete compared with 13% a year ago and 15% on the five-year average. Barley was 7% planted versus 3% last year and 4% on the five year average.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: 2.0				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture (%)	0	3	64	33
Subsoil Moisture (%)	0	3	67	30

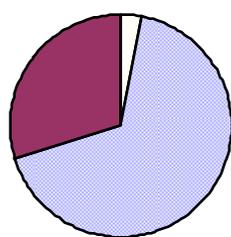
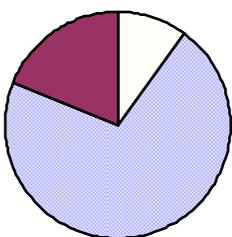
Crop Progress as of April 16, 2006					
Crop	Stage of Development	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
		Percent			
Corn	Land Prepared	3	NA	3	6
Soybeans	Land Prepared	0	NA	1	2
Oats	Planted	17	NA	13	15
Barley	Planted	7	NA	3	4
Spring Wheat	Planted	2	NA	4	8
Sugarbeets	Planted	0	NA	0	8

Approximate Date to Begin Full-Scale Fieldwork: April 20

SUBSOIL MOISTURE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR

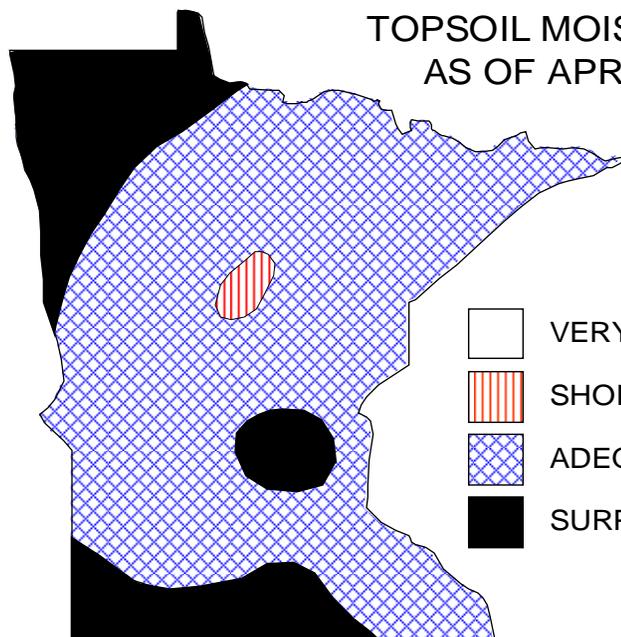
2005

2006



- Very Short and Short
- Adequate
- Surplus

TOPSOIL MOISTURE AS OF APRIL 14th



- VERY SHORT
- SHORT
- ADEQUATE
- SURPLUS

PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURES FOR THE WEEK ENDING April 16, 2006:

Temperatures averaged from 11.9 degrees above normal in the Northeast District to 16.9 degrees above normal in the Southwest District. Extremes: 87 degrees in Waseca; 27 degrees in Hibbing. Precipitation averaged from 0.46 inch below normal in the Central District to 0.09 inch below normal in the Southeast District. Greatest weekly total was 1.21 inches recorded in Rochester.

For a map of Minnesota's precipitation, please see the Minnesota Climatology Group's website; <http://climate.umn.edu/doc/weekmap.asp>.

Precipitation and Temperature Summary for 4/10/2006 through 4/16/2006

	Temperature				Precipitation			
	High	Low	Week Ave	Depart from Norm	Week Total	Depart Past Week	Four Weeks	From Norm Since 4/16
<u>NW DIST 1</u>								
Crookston	73	37	53.5	13.1	.15	-.14	.13	-.46
Moorhead	79	39	58.9	16.6	0	-.29	-.69	-.66
Warroad	75	33	52.0	16.0	.04	-.22	.28	-.40
<u>NC DIST 2</u>								
Grand Rapids	78	32	56.6	16.7	0	-.42	-.20	-.75
Intl. Falls	76	31	53.5	15.4	.10	-.21	.75	-.55
Itasca	79	30	53.4	16.8	.02	-.37	-.33	-.51
<u>NE DIST 3</u>								
Duluth	69	36	51.2	13.3	.10	-.38	-.86	-.72
Grand Marais	68	36	46.6	8.9	.40	.12	1.06	.16
Hibbing	74	27	51.6	13.4	0	-.35	-.75	-.71
<u>WC DIST 4</u>								
Alexandria	80	36	58.6	17.2	0	-.43	-.52	-.58
Browns Valley	82	34	57.4	14.1	0	-.47	1.50	1.39
Canby	84	41	59.8	15.5	.20	-.33	.29	-.15
Fergus Falls	79	39	57.8	16.3	.30	-.05	-.67	-.05
Montevideo	85	39	61.0	17.8	.20	-.31	-.50	.20
Morris	79	35	56.8	13.9	.01	-.45	-.26	.01
<u>CENT DIST 5</u>								
Becker	81	39	58.6	16.1	0	-.57	-.63	-.15
Collegeville	82	41	60.9	16.4	.06	-.42	-.30	-.08
Hutchinson	84	35	60.6	16.6	0	-.50	.38	.37
Olivia	84	33	59.4	16.4	.13	-.42	.43	.56
St. Cloud	81	37	58.6	16.1	.03	-.46	-.54	-.20
Staples	78	34	55.0	14.1	.06	-.39	-1.23	-.68
Willmar	82	36	59.1	16.1	.05	-.44	.19	.17
<u>EC DIST 6</u>								
Aitkin	73	34	55.2	15.3	.31	-.15	-.81	-.43
Forest Lake	81	37	59.4	16.2	0	-.55	.35	.72
MSP Airport	84	44	63.4	17.9	0	-.53	1.92	2.46
St. Paul - UofM	82	45	64.1	17.3	.01	-.57	.25	.84
<u>SW DIST 7</u>								
Lamberton	85	36	61.2	17.4	.48	-.15	.53	-.24
Pipestone	84	37	59.2	15.7	.27	-.28	1.54	.29
Redwood Falls	85	39	61.5	15.8	.13	-.45	-.29	-.41
Worthington	84	35	60.2	17.9	.71	.07	3.69	2.85
<u>SC DIST 8</u>								
Faribault	85	36	59.2	16.2	.25	-.39	-.46	-.36
Mankato	86	36	60.3	15.7	.36	-.37	-.32	.30
Waseca	87	38	60.8	17.1	.10	-.64	-.07	.24
Winnebago	86	36	62.0	17.9	.96	.28	3.53	3.21
<u>SE DIST 9</u>								
Preston	81	35	58.0	13.9	1.00	.25	3.56	2.89
Red Wing	81	30	58.5	13.8	.03	-.60	-.38	.03
Rochester	82	43	60.2	16.5	1.21	.51	2.59	2.52
Rosemount	83	34	58.0	13.7	.03	-.62	-.19	.47
Winona	80	33	59.3	12.7	.07	-.70	-.01	-.06

m=some data missing

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