

NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



Cooperating With:
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,
FARM SERVICE AGENCY,
ND AG WEATHER NETWORK (NDAWN)
and
UND AEROSPACE REGIONAL WEATHER
INFORMATION CENTER

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For Month Ending: February 5, 2006
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General: Above normal temperatures resulted in a record warm January across the state, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. Temperatures along with very little snow cover made livestock feeding easier for producers. As a result, cattle and sheep were in good condition and ranchers were able to retain sufficient feed. Hay and forage supplies were rated 97 percent adequate to surplus. Reporters noted that livestock producers started early calving. Some grain was moved to elevators due to recent price rallies, and seed was being cleaned.

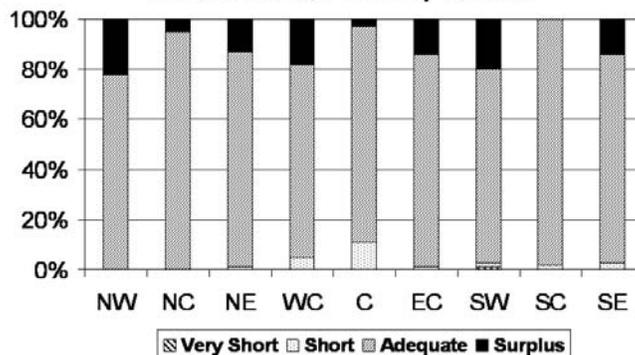
Statewide, average snow cover was 2.9 inches on February 5 compared with 2.7 inches a year ago. The northeast and east central districts reported the most snow cover with 7.9 and 5.0 inches, respectively. The northwest district reported the least snow cover with an average of only 0.4 of an inch followed by 0.7 of an inch in the south central district.

County and secondary roads were rated 93 percent open, 6 difficult and 1 closed to travel. Road conditions were 6 percent drifted, 17 icy, 3 muddy and 74 dry.

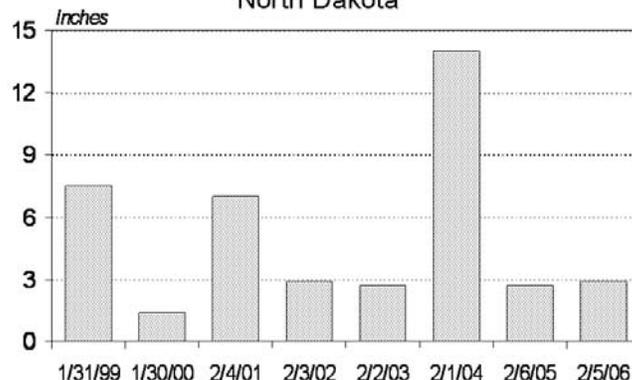
Crops: As of February 5, snow cover protection for alfalfa was rated 75 percent poor, 21 adequate and 4 excellent. Little to no snow cover was reported across the state due to the above average temperatures during January.

Livestock: Mild weather during January provided good conditions for livestock and allowed feed supplies to last longer. Cattle conditions were rated 1 percent poor, 14 fair, 70 good and 15 excellent. Sheep conditions were rated 1 percent poor, 9 fair, 77 good and 13 excellent. Hay and forage supplies were rated 3 percent short, 85 adequate and 12 surplus.

Hay & Forage Supplies by District
North Dakota, February 5, 2006



Average Snow Depth by Date
North Dakota



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NORTH DAKOTA CROP WEATHER REPORT, Month Ending February 5, 2006

Weather: Unprecedented warmth occurred for the month of January 2006. Many locations recorded their warmest January on record. Monthly average temperatures ranged anywhere from 9 to as much as 16 degrees above monthly seasonal averages. Almost every day during the month was above average for all locations. Some locations in the west and south did not record a single day below zero. Several record high temperatures were also reached during the month for central and western locations. January was also a dry month for the state. Precipitation across the state ranged from below average in the west and south to near average in the north and east. Snowfall was below average across the state. Western and southern portions in the state saw very little snow on the ground for the month. Heavy snow pack remained in the east central and northeastern portions of the state.

Outlook, February: February will start off colder than normal for the majority of the state. A shift in the jet stream pattern will allow colder air to filter in from Canada. Look for colder than normal temperatures in the eastern half of the state through February 19. Near normal to slightly above normal temperatures will occur in the western half of the state. No major storms are in sight for the first half of the month. There will be a few chances for light snowfall as a series of small disturbances make their way across the state from the northwest. Temperatures look to rebound to above average for the last week of the month as another shift in the jet stream may bring mild temperatures back to the state. Overall, the month of February should see normal to above normal temperatures. Precipitation for the month should be near normal across the state.

TEMPERATURE, January 1-31, 2006

District & Stations	Temperature			
	High	Low	Average	Depart/Norm ^{1/}
	<i>Degrees F</i>			
NORTHWEST	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bowbells	49	-6	26	9
Williston	52	2	28	10
Mohall	46	-8	25	12
Minot	52	-1	28	16
NORTH CENTRAL	NA	NA	NA	NA
Baker	42	-5	25	15
Bottineau	43	-18	23	15
Rugby	44	-10	25	14
NORTHEAST	NA	NA	NA	NA
Cando	38	-7	23	8
Cavalier	39	-6	23	12
Forest River	40	-6	23	12
Grand Forks	41	-5	22	12
Langdon	37	-6	20	12
St. Thomas	39	-6	20	11
WEST CENTRAL	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hazen	56	10	28	12
Turtle Lake	52	2	27	13
Watford City	56	9	30	10
CENTRAL	NA	NA	NA	NA
Carrington	44	0	26	14
Harvey	47	-4	26	13
Jamestown	43	0	25	10
Robinson	44	-1	25	13
Streeter	43	-3	25	10
EAST CENTRAL	NA	NA	NA	NA
Dazey	40	3	24	12
Fargo	41	2	24	12
Hillsboro	39	-7	21	9
SOUTHWEST	NA	NA	NA	NA
Beach	56	8	31	12
Bowman	54	8	30	11
Dickinson	54	10	30	11
Hettinger	53	11	30	10
SOUTH CENTRAL	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mandan	45	9	27	12
Linton	44	1	26	11
SOUTHEAST	NA	NA	NA	NA
Edgeley	43	1	26	11
Oakes	44	0	25	13
Wyndmere	43	-3	23	9

^{1/} Normal is the 1971-2000 average. NA=Not Available. Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.