

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

Released: April 3, 2006
For Week Ending: April 2, 2006
ND-CW1306

General: Rapid snow melt and precipitation caused flooding of some fields and rivers, particularly in the eastern districts, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. Reporters in these areas noted that some county and township roads were flooded. Fields in the central and western districts ranged from mostly wet to needing additional moisture. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 9 short, 70 adequate and 19 surplus.

Crops: Producers continued to prepare machinery and line up inputs for spring fieldwork wherever possible. The statewide average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be April 18, 4 days later than last year. The expected starting dates ranged from April 7 in the south central district to April 27 in the northeast district. The record statewide earliest starting data was April 6, 1981, and the latest was May 13, 1979.

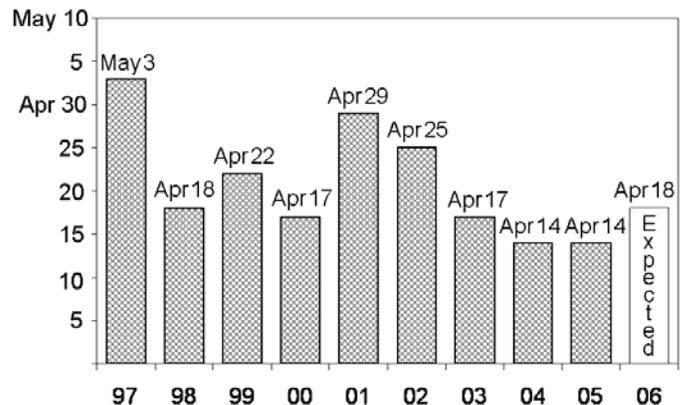
Livestock: Favorable weather in most districts allowed calving and lambing to progress. Calving, at 49 percent, and lambing, at 66 percent, equaled the five-year (2001-2005) average. Shearing gained nine percentage points to 84 percent complete. Cow conditions were rated 1 percent poor, 9 fair, 71 good and 19 excellent. Calf conditions improved from the previous week and were rated 8 percent fair, 76 good and 16 excellent. Sheep conditions were rated 2 percent poor, 8 fair, 70 good and 20 excellent. Lamb conditions were rated 1 percent poor, 8 fair, 70 good and 21 excellent.

Hay and forage supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 6 short, 83 adequate and 10 surplus compared with last year's rating of 2 percent very short, 17 short, 75 adequate and 6 surplus. Grain and concentrate supplies were rated 1 percent short, 90 adequate and 9 surplus. Ninety-eight percent of the pastures and ranges were dormant.

Livestock Condition North Dakota, Week Ending April 2, 2006

Livestock	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cows	0	1	9	71	19
Calves	0	0	8	76	16
Sheep	0	2	8	70	20
Lambs	0	1	8	70	21

Average Start Date for Fieldwork North Dakota, 1997-2006

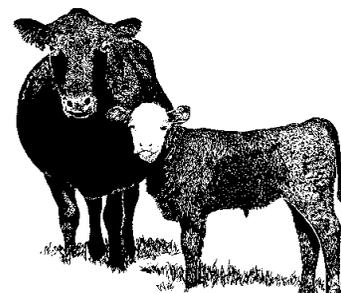


Soil Temperatures: Average soil temperatures on April 2 ranged from a low of 32 degrees F in Bottineau, Cavalier, Grand Forks, Langdon and Rolla to a high of 41 in Linton and Williston. These readings reflect daily average temperatures under 4 inches of bare soil recorded by the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN).

Average Soil Temperatures*, April 2, 2006

Station	Temperature Degrees F	Station	Temperature Degrees F
NORTHWEST		CENTRAL	
Bowbells	34	Carrington	38
Minot	36	Robinson	35
Williston	41	Streeter	37
NORTH CENTRAL		EAST CENTRAL	
Baker	34	Dazey	35
Bottineau	32	Fargo	34
Rolla	32	SOUTHWEST	
NORTHEAST		Bowman	40
Cavalier	32	Dickinson	39
Grand Forks	32	SOUTH CENTRAL	
Langdon	32	Linton	41
WEST CENTRAL		SOUTHEAST	
Turtle Lake	38	Oakes	38
Watford City	38	Wyndmere	39

*Thermometers located 4 inches under bare soil.
Source: NDAWN, Department of Soil Science, NDSU.



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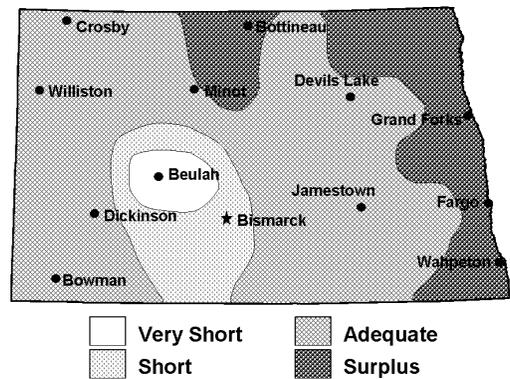
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NORTH DAKOTA CROP WEATHER REPORT, Week Ending April 2, 2006

Soil Moisture Supplies
 North Dakota, April 2, 2006 with Comparisons

Item	Week Ending	
	April 2, 2006	April 3, 2005
	Percent	Percent
Topsoil		
Very Short	2	6
Short	9	22
Adequate	70	65
Surplus	19	7
Subsoil		
Very Short	3	12
Short	14	21
Adequate	71	61
Surplus	12	6

Topsoil Moisture Supplies
 North Dakota, April 2, 2006



Weather: The last week of March started off dry with temperatures cooler than normal in the east and warmer than normal in the west. Temperatures soared into the low and mid-60s in areas of the west and south central parts of the state. Other locations in the west and central areas reached well into the 50s. Some remaining snow cover in the northeast and east central areas helped to keep daytime high temperatures in the 30s to around 40 degrees. Thursday there were scattered showers and even a few thundershowers. Some locations in the north-western part of the state saw close to an inch of rain. Areas in the central and east generally saw rainfall amounts between 0.10 and 0.50 inch. Daytime high temperatures cooled down into the 30s and 40s on Thursday and Friday under the clouds and rain. Windy conditions and scattered showers were found across the eastern half of the state on Friday. Sunny weather and warmer temperatures returned for the first day of April. Another system brought clouds and scattered light showers to the eastern half of the state on Saturday.

Outlook, April 3-9: The week will start off quiet with dry conditions and above normal temperatures for the first couple days. Look for fair skies with high temperatures in the 40s east to mid and upper 50s west on Monday. Temperatures will warm into the 50s east and upper 60s west on Tuesday. Midweek another spring storm system will move across the Midwest. Look for a chance of showers for the western half of the state, with possible thunderstorms in the south central areas. The wet weather will move into the eastern half of the state on Thursday with showers and a few thunderstorms likely. Temperatures will remain seasonal for Wednesday with highs in the 40s and 50s. Colder air will move in behind the system on Thursday and Friday. Rain may mix with or change to snow in some areas in the north on Thursday. High temperatures will generally be in the 40s across the state for the end of the week and slightly warmer for the weekend.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
 North Dakota, Week ending April 2, 2006

Stations by District	Temperature Past Week		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1 ^{1/}		
	High	Low	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal ^{2/}
	(Degrees F)	(Degrees F)	(Inches)	(Inches)	(Inches)
(1) Bowbells	57	21			
Williston	63	24			
Mohall	57	21			
Minot	60	26			
(2) Baker	49	26			
Bottineau	53	26			
Rugby	52	26			
(3) Cando	44	20			
Cavalier	40	22			
Forest River	42	23			
Grand Forks	43	28			
Langdon	37	18			
St. Thomas	41	22			
(4) Hazen	64	21	NOT AVAILABLE		
Turtle Lake	60	23			
Watford City	63	23			
(5) Carrington	56	28			
Harvey	53	21			
Jamestown	59	24			
Robinson	61	21			
Streeter	60	22			
(6) Dazey	56	26			
Fargo	52	28			
Hillsboro	46	30			
(7) Beach	64	24			
Bowman	66	26			
Dickinson	65	25			
Hettinger	66	29			
(8) Mandan	63	23			
Linton	63	25			
(9) Edgeley	65	25			
Oakes	64	27			
Wyndmere	56	30			

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
 North Dakota, Week ending April 2, 2006

District Averages	Average Temperature		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1 ^{1/}		
	Past Week	Depart Normal ^{2/}	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal ^{2/}
	(Degrees F)	(Degrees F)	(Inches)	(Inches)	(Inches)
Northwest (1)	41	8			
N. Central (2)	38	7			
Northeast (3)	31	0			
W. Central (4)	42	6			
Central (5)	40	6	NOT AVAILABLE		
E. Central (6)	39	6			
Southwest (7)	45	10			
S. Central (8)	43	8			
Southeast (9)	44	10			

^{1/} Precipitation amounts may vary due to an inaccurate snowfall melt. ^{2/} Normal is the 1971-2000 average. NA=Not available. Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.

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