

SOUTH DAKOTA MONTHLY CROP-WEATHER REPORT


 SOUTH DAKOTA
 FIELD OFFICE
 NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL
 STATISTICS SERVICE
 P.O. Box 5068
 Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57117-5068
 Cooperating with
 SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY
 AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
 and
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 FARM SERVICE AGENCY

Released: February 6, 2006 -- 3:00 p.m. CST
 For Month of January 2006
 SD-CW5506 Volume 55 Issue 06

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: January proved to be an abnormally warm month, with precipitation totals falling below normal for much of the state. Mild weather has been beneficial to livestock producers throughout the state, while crop producers worry that the lack of snow cover may cause significant damage to winter crops if temperatures turn colder. Having little snow to contend with, farmers and ranchers have kept busy with routine chores, hauling and marketing grain, tending to livestock, and repairing machinery.

This report is based on information from county extension educators, Farm Service Agency county directors, and other reporters across the state.

WEATHER INFORMATION: Temperatures during January ranged from 10 to 20 degrees above normal, with averages mostly in the 30's throughout the state. The low temperature for the month was 0 degrees, reported in Webster, while the high for January was 71 degrees, reported in Winner. Precipitation was varied, with 29 of the 43 reporting weather stations having precipitation totals below normal for the month. Armour, at 1.06 inches, reported the most precipitation received. As of February 5th, the average snow depth for the state was 0.9 inch. Statewide, road conditions are slightly worse than last year at this time. County roads are 99 percent open and 1 percent difficult, while township roads are 97 percent open, 2 percent difficult, and 1 percent closed.

SOIL CONDITION: Soil temperatures from reporting stations averaged 31.9 degrees for the past week. Statewide, soil temperatures averaged 4.6 degrees above normal. The soil temperature in Chamberlain was 8.8 degrees above normal, while the Redfield soil temperature was 0.4 degree below normal.

FIELD CROPS REPORT: Producers in much of the state continue to be concerned over the lack of snow cover on winter crops and alfalfa. The winter wheat crop is rated at 46 percent good to excellent, with snow cover amounts, which are similar to last year at this time, rated at 90 percent poor, 9 percent adequate, and 1 percent excellent. Alfalfa snow cover is in similar condition, with 87 percent rated poor, 12 percent adequate, and 1 percent excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT:

Another month with minimal snowfall has allowed for extended use of field residue for grazing throughout the state. Feed and stock water supplies are more plentiful than last year at this time, with feed supplies rated 94 percent adequate to surplus and stock water supplies rated 71 percent adequate to surplus. Feed supplies were 98 percent readily available, above last January's 96 percent, while stock water supplies were 94 percent readily available, above last January's 92 percent. Mild weather has been very beneficial for livestock producers, as both calf deaths and sheep and lamb deaths since January 1st were rated 99 percent at or below average. Cattle death losses since January 1st were rated 42 percent below normal, 57 percent normal, and 1 percent above normal.

SOIL TEMPERATURES WEEK ENDING FEB. 5, 2006 (4-inch Depth)

LOCATION	TEMP	LOCATION	TEMP
Beresford	30	Gettysburg	33
Brookings	32	Nisland	34
Caputa	32	Pierre	35
Chamberlain	35	Redfield	30
Cottonwood	32	Watertown	31

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS AS OF FEBRUARY 5, 2006

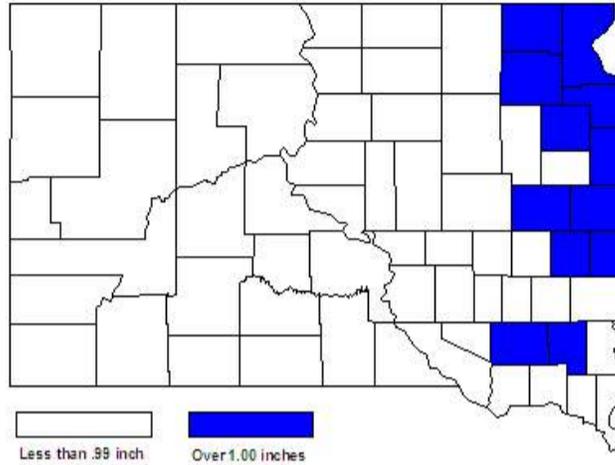
ITEM	V	POOR	POOR	FAIR			GOOD	EXCEL
				Percent				
Winter Wheat	4	13	37	43	3			
Cattle	0	1	11	69	19			
Sheep	0	0	9	69	22			

FEED AND WATER SUPPLIES COMPARISON AS OF FEBRUARY 5, 2006

RATING	FEED SUPPLIES			STOCK WATER SUPPLIES		
	This Year	Last Year	5-Yr. Ave.	This Year	Last Year	5-Yr. Ave.
	Percent					
Very Short	2	13	NA	13	21	NA
Short	4	11	NA	16	16	NA
Adeq.	88	68	NA	70	62	NA
Surplus	6	8	NA	1	1	NA

The next Crop Weather Report will be for the month of February and will be released March 6, 2006.

SNOW DEPTH
As of Sunday, February 5, 2006



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION
For Month Ending January 31, 2006

Dist.	Station	Temperature past month				Precipitation	
		Average	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Total	Departure from Normal
		----- Degrees -----				----- Inches -----	
NW	Bison	33	17	53	14	0.26	-0.10
	Buffalo	35	18	58	16	0.18	-0.11
	Dupree	33	18	55	13	0.36	0.12
	McIntosh	30	18	50	8	0.27	-0.02
	Newell	34	17	60	17	0.27	-0.05
	Timber Lake	31	17	50	8	0.25	-0.07
NC	Aberdeen	28	18	43	6	0.10	-0.27
	Eureka	29	20	47	7	0.12	-0.15
	Faulkton	30	20	57	7	0.11	-0.17
	Mobridge	31	19	51	9	0.22	-0.12
	Roscoe	27	16	49	2	0.07	-0.29
NE	Britton	27	18	43	2	0.08	-0.37
	Clear Lake	25	14	42	3	0.38	-0.22
	Sisseton	27	17	47	2	0.13	-0.40
	Webster	25	16	42	0	0.30	-0.28
	Watertown	26	16	42	1	0.53	-0.01
WC	Faith	35	18	58	16	0.39	0.12
	Milesville	35	18	63	14	0.45	0.13
	Long Valley	36	15	65	14	0.48	0.23
	Philip	37	18	67	14	0.32	0.06
	Rapid City	38	16	69	13	0.12	-0.27
	Spearfish	40	17	62	16	0.24	-0.32
C	Chamberlain	35	18	63	15	0.45	0.23
	Highmore	33	19	58	12	0.23	-0.10
	Huron	31	19	58	13	0.07	-0.34
	Onida	33	19	58	10	0.66	0.21
	Pierre	36	20	64	18	0.30	-0.13
EC	Brookings	26	17	48	5	0.32	0.00
	Madison	29	19	53	7	0.06	-0.46
	Mitchell	31	18	57	13	0.30	-0.12
	Sioux Falls	32	19	57	14	0.75	0.24
SW	Custer	33	10	54	12	0.23	-0.13
	Hot Springs	37	13	62	10	0.53	0.23
	Oelrichs	36	14	65	10	0.34	-0.06
	Porcupine	36	17	65	13	0.59	0.36
SC	Murdo	37	20	70	12	0.39	0.06
	Winner	40	19	71	16	0.32	-0.19
SE	Armour	35	18	62	15	1.06	0.54
	Centerville	32	19	57	15	0.42	-0.02
	Marion	31	19	55	13	0.31	-0.23
	Pickstown	36	18	68	18	0.33	-0.07
	Vermillion	37	19	62	15	0.20	-0.19
	Yankton	33	17	62	12	0.53	0.15

SOURCE: National Weather Service, provided by AWIS, Inc.