

United States Department of Agriculture **National Agricultural Statistics Service**



USDA, NASS, West Virginia Field Office

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Agricultural News: Weather conditions during the month of February have been wet, with some area flooding, along with a mix of snow as temperatures fluctuated. Farming activities for the month included calving and lambing, cleaning up debris from area flooding, and repairing fences.

SOIL MOISTURE and SUPPLIES for week ending 02/25/24

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	1	16	74	9
Subsoil	1	19	73	7
Hay & Roughage	2	11	83	4
Feed grain	25	29	45	1

⁻ Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 02/25/24

Crop/Livestock	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Winter Wheat	-	-	3	96	1
Cattle & Calves	-	2	17	76	5
Sheep & Lambs	-	2	7	88	3

⁻ Represents zero.

LIVESTOCK PROGRESS for week ending 02/25/24

Livestock Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg	
	%	%	%	%	
Calved	26	-	23	-	
Lambed	22	-	18	-	

⁻ Represents data not available.

February Summary of Weather and Agricultural Conditions January 29 - February 25

The week ending February 4th, started mostly cloudy with light rain/snow showers drifting across West Virginia. The showers ended in the evening as weak high pressure took hold. Temperatures warmed a little on Tuesday, but a fastmoving system produced a few rounds of light showers. Wednesday began mostly cloudy with a lingering zone of lowland rain showers and mountain snow showers. Temperatures midweek were very close to normal. Thursday warmed again as high pressure took hold over the area and mostly sunny skies dominated the afternoon. On Friday, a mostly dry cold front moved over the State dropping temperatures slightly. High pressure again moved back in for the weekend. Saturday and Sunday were mostly sunny with slightly above normal temperatures. For the week ending February 11th, the high pressure that set in during last week, along with above average temperatures and plenty of sunshine, dominated most of this work week. Through Thursday, most high temperatures ranged from the upper 40s in the coldest locations to over 60 degrees in the warm regions. Due to clear skies and radiational cooling, most overnight temperatures dropped into the teens and 20s. An active weather pattern began on Friday as warm, moist air arrived from the south. Clouds and a few showers moved over the State and temperatures remained unseasonably warm. One major difference from earlier in the week was cloud cover. With plenty of moisture and cloud cover to trap radiating heat, overnight low temperatures remained in the 40s and 50s instead of dropping into the 20s. Warm air from the south continued to flow into the region on Saturday ahead of the next cold front. Rain showers affected most of West Virginia ahead of and along with the front. Cold air began to move into the area on Sunday. Overall, it was a transition from clear and cool to milder temperatures and wet weather. For the week ending February 18th, a cold front moved over West Virginia, bringing heavy precipitation and localized flooding on Monday. The extreme northwest and Northern Panhandle were missed by this rain event. The region transitioned quickly to high pressure, bringing in clear conditions and chilly temperatures. High pressure lasted for most of the work week with near normal temperatures. Another quick system arrived Friday evening, and with low temperatures, most of the precipitation fell as snow. Most locations across the Mountain State received from two to ten inches of snow. Temperatures after this system dropped again to below normal as high pressure arrived. At the end of the week, temperatures were very close to normal. Most of the State exceeded average precipitation, except for locations missed or grazed by the heavy rains early in the week. For the week ending February 25th, from Monday to Wednesday, high pressure and mostly clear conditions provided West Virginia with near normal afternoon highs and cold mornings. On Thursday, a low-pressure system moving toward West Virginia brought a warm front through in the morning. Later in the day, a strong cold front, along with rain showers, moved over the region and dropped temperatures quickly. A few

lingering showers remained on Friday as the temperatures continued to drop. Another small disturbance produced a few showers on Saturday, and with cold air flowing in from the previous system, the lowlands got a mix of rain and snow, and the mountains got snow. The week dried out on Sunday, with near normal temperatures.

<u>Week ending 2/4</u>: Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 65 degrees. Beckley had the lowest recorded temperature of 20 degrees. The state average temperature was 38 degrees. Pineville had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.22 inches. Wheeling, Belington, White Sulphur Springs, Martinsburg, Keyser, and Moorefield had the lowest with zero recorded precipitation. The state average precipitation was 0.07 inches.

<u>Week ending 2/11:</u> Martinsburg had the highest recorded temperature of 69 degrees. Elkins and Keyser had the lowest recorded temperature of 18 degrees. The state average temperature was 45 degrees. Pineville had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 1.21 inches. Keyser had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.01 inches. The state average precipitation was 0.39 inches.

<u>Week ending 2/18:</u> Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 67 degrees. Marlinton had the lowest recorded temperature of 12 degrees. The state average temperature was 35 degrees. Charleston had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 2.09 inches. Wheeling and Parkersburg had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.10 inches. The state average precipitation was 1.26 inches.

<u>Week ending 2/25:</u> Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 68 degrees. Elkins and Beckley had the lowest recorded temperature of 15 degrees. The state average temperature was 39 degrees. Terra Alta had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 1.70 inches. Marlinton had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.13 inches. The state average precipitation was 0.79 inches.

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending 02/25/24

	Temperature Temperature				Precipitation					
			Weekly		Week's		Since April 1st	Same Week	Season	
Station	High	Low	Average	Departure	Total	Norm	2023	Last Year	Normal	
NORTHWEST										
WHEELING	61	19	40	6	0.62	0.80	30.00	37.64	38.36	
PARKERSBURG	63	20	41	4	0.91	0.96	38.04	40.40	39.10	
CRESTON	63	22	42		1.19		34.53	35.64		
NORTHCENTRAL										
MORGANTOWN	61	21	40	4	1.13	0.86	33.90	44.49	39.72	
CLARKSBURG	60	20	40	5	1.13	0.90	36.35	34.87	41.52	
BELINGTON	59	16	39		0.97		39.61	40.30		
WESTON	62	17	38		0.86		44.66	43.99		
SOUTHWEST										
WILLIAMSON	68	22	45		0.46		37.20	41.37		
HUNTINGTON	66	20	44	4	0.58	1.04	31.47	48.77	41.17	
CHARLESTON	65	21	42	2	0.45	0.99	31.33	40.47	44.10	
RIPLEY	64	24	44		1.24		34.03	38.93		
CENTRAL										
TERRA ALTA	57	16	35		1.70		42.67	47.15		
ELKINS	58	15	37	2	0.82	0.99	39.61	37.14	43.49	
MARLINTON	55	18	37		0.13		33.66	34.34		
SOUTHERN		4.5					40.00			
BECKLEY	61 65	15	37	0	0.79	0.94	40.00	39.29	39.76	
PINEVILLE	65	17	41	3	0.69	0.00	34.07	36.03	27.04	
BLUEFIELD	62	18	39	3	0.56	0.89	40.21	35.21	37.64	
WHITE SUL SP	63	18	38		0.50		31.93	36.04		
BLUESTONE DAMNORTHEASTERN	64	20	40		0.51		30.69	29.36		
MARTINSBURG	 56	18	36	-1	0.67	0.61	31.73	34.36	35.74	
KEYSER	57	18	35	- 1	0.07	0.01	32.75	29.33	JJ.14	
MOOREFIELD	56	19	36		0.95		27.93	29.73 29.73		
WOOKETIELD	50	13	30		U. 1 3		21.33	23.13		

State Average Temperature 39 State Average Precipitation 0.79

Source:

Weather comments and data - Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service, Charleston, WV.