



**USDA, NASS, West Virginia Field Office**

Alissa Cowell-Mytar, State Statistician  
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, E  
Charleston, WV 25305  
(304) 357-5123

Homepage: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wv>

Released: March 25, 2024

**In Cooperation with:**

U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA  
USDA Farm Service Agency  
WV Cooperative Extension Service  
WV Department of Agriculture

Issue: 03-24

**Agricultural News:** Weather conditions during the month of March have been a mix of warm and cool temperatures with some wet conditions. There was some area flooding when rains were heavy, along with some snow as temperatures fluctuated. Farming activities for the month included calving and lambing.

**SOIL MOISTURE and SUPPLIES for week ending 03/24/24**

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	7	12	76	5
Subsoil	5	17	72	6
Hay & Roughage	1	13	79	7
Feed grain	2	7	88	3

- Represents zero.

**CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 03/24/24**

Crop/Livestock	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Pasture	4	8	16	67	5
Winter Wheat	-	-	60	30	10
Cattle & Calves	-	3	15	73	9
Sheep & Lambs	-	6	17	68	9

- Represents zero.

**LIVESTOCK PROGRESS for week ending 03/24/24**

Livestock Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Calved	54	-	50	-
Lambled	65	-	55	-

- Represents data not available.

**March Summary of Weather and Agricultural Conditions  
February 26 - March 24**

**For the week ending March 3<sup>rd</sup>,** unseasonably warm temperatures began the week. On Monday, southerly air flow ahead of an approaching system brought very warm air into the region. Several stations exceeded 70 degrees and all stations were 10 to 20 degrees above average. A disturbance moved over West Virginia early on Tuesday, bringing rain and thunderstorms. A strong cold front crossed over the region early in the day on Wednesday. Severe thunderstorms, potential tornadoes, strong straight-line winds, and heavy rain/flooding all accompanied the front as it moved over the State. Thursday was much colder and cleared out through the day. Friday was clear and cold early, and warmed into the 50s. Precipitation ahead of the next system began late Friday into Saturday, and slowly moved from south to north. With southerly wind flow warm air was carried in and temperatures over the weekend were well above normal. Saturday afternoon and Sunday were sunny and warm. **For the week ending March 10<sup>th</sup>,** the week began mostly sunny and dry with well above normal temperatures. The region was trapped between two systems, one to the east and one to the west, which drew in air from the south. Almost all stations reached the 70s, and a few locations reached 80 degrees. Tuesday began warm again and stayed above normal through the day. Precipitation associated with upper-level instability to the west began Tuesday evening and continued into Wednesday. Wednesday was mostly cloudy with rain showers. Thursday was cool and dry. Friday began with bands of showers pushing over the region, and southerly wind flow. On Saturday, gusty winds and heavy rain began in the afternoon and continued through the evening. Temperatures dropped enough for snow to fall over the higher terrain and a few flakes were seen in the lowlands as well. Sunday was much cooler with lingering snow showers in the highest elevations. **For the week ending March 17<sup>th</sup>,** Monday began clear and cold under high pressure. The morning was in the 20s and 30s, with afternoon highs in the 40s and 50s. Tuesday was also mostly sunny under high pressure, but with increasing temperatures. Most stations reached the 60s and 70s during the afternoon. High pressure and increasing temperatures dominated the weather again on Wednesday. Most stations began the morning in the 30s or 40s and had afternoon highs in the 60s and 70s. Thursday began dry, but with clouds streaming into the region ahead of the next cold front. Temperatures reached the 70s and a few locations broke 80 degrees. In the early evening, showers and thunderstorms began, and the front crossed in the early morning hours of Friday. Rain showers continued through the day on Friday and cooler air arriving from the Great Lakes Region kept high temperatures in the 60s. High pressure moved back in over the weekend, with breezy winds and dry air taking hold. **For the week**

**ending March 24<sup>th</sup>**, high pressure with clear skies and cool conditions began the week. Wednesday was dry and breezy with increasing temperatures. The dry conditions and breezy winds made conditions right for wildfires. Thursday was much cooler than the previous day, with highs in the 40s and 50s, and lows into the 20s. Warm and moist air moved back into the region on Friday, ahead of the next cold front. Rain shower activity increased through the day. The front crossed overnight into Saturday, with the precipitation continuing. Temperatures over the weekend were cool, and Sunday was dry. The Eastern Panhandle was the only area to exceed average precipitation.

**Week ending 3/3:** Williamson and Pineville had the highest recorded temperature of 75 degrees. Terra Alta had the lowest recorded temperature of 14 degrees. The state average temperature was 46 degrees. Weston had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 1.73 inches. Parkersburg had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.56 inches. The state average precipitation was 1.14 inches.

**Week ending 3/10:** Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 80 degrees. Marlinton had the lowest recorded temperature of 23 degrees. The state average temperature was 50 degrees. Weston had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 2.54 inches. Wheeling had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.82 inches. The state average precipitation was 1.58 inches.

**Week ending 3/17:** Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 84 degrees. Beckley and Marlinton had the lowest recorded temperature of 23 degrees. The state average temperature was 50 degrees. Morgantown had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.78 inches. White Sulphur Springs had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.04 inches. The state average precipitation was 0.32 inches.

**Week ending 3/24:** Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 72 degrees. Marlinton had the lowest recorded temperature of 19 degrees. The state average temperature was 40 degrees. Martinsburg had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.93 inches. Wheeling had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.08 inches. The state average precipitation was 0.48 inches.

**Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending 03/24/24**

Station	Temperature				Precipitation					
	High	Low	Weekly Average	Weekly Departure	Week's Total	Week's Norm	Since April 1st 2023	Same Week Last Year	Season Normal	
<b>--NORTHWEST</b>										
WHEELING	56	22	36	-7	0.08	0.85	32.20	40.02	41.72	
PARKERSBURG	64	23	40	-5	0.33	0.80	41.01	43.38	42.44	
CRESTON	64	25	41		0.12		36.83	38.00		
<b>--NORTHCENTRAL</b>										
MORGANTOWN	67	24	40	-4	0.32	0.82	38.09	44.52	42.98	
CLARKSBURG	69	23	40	-3	0.29	0.81	39.66	44.59	44.82	
BELINGTON	68	22	39		0.35		42.85	48.55		
WESTON	67	23	38		0.37		49.67	51.33		
<b>--SOUTHWEST</b>										
WILLIAMSON	72	29	45		0.49		40.34	49.45		
HUNTINGTON	65	28	43	-5	0.10	0.93	35.60	42.08	44.99	
CHARLESTON	69	26	41	-7	0.24	0.96	34.78	46.59	48.05	
RIPLEY	64	27	42		0.12		37.08	46.30		
<b>--CENTRAL</b>										
TERRA ALTA	68	20	36		0.60		47.23	47.95		
ELKINS	66	20	37	-5	0.50	0.87	43.31	54.43	47.05	
MARLINTON	59	19	36		0.62		36.79	47.66		
<b>--SOUTHERN</b>										
BECKLEY	65	22	39	-5	0.67	0.89	44.11	47.77	43.37	
PINEVILLE	68	23	42		0.68		37.91	49.45		
BLUEFIELD	63	22	40	-4	0.77	0.86	44.07	52.80	41.11	
WHITE SUL SP	64	21	40		0.78		34.75	48.62		
BLUESTONE DAM	64	22	40		0.80		33.83	41.46		
<b>--NORTHEASTERN</b>										
MARTINSBURG	63	25	40	-4	0.93	0.81	35.83	37.83	38.70	
KEYSER	61	22	38		0.61		36.27	33.27		
MOOREFIELD	63	24	40		0.84		31.52	34.35		
State Average Temperature	40									
State Average Precipitation	0.48									

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

INTERNET ACCESS: ALL National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.