



CROP-WEATHER REPORT

Released: 2:00 p.m., Monday
May 1, 2006

Week of April 24 – April 30, 2006

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Cooler seasonal temperatures.

Wet conditions slow fieldwork in Northeast.

Stock water supplies mostly adequate.

Winds continued to blow and the weather turned cooler across the State last week. Stations reported below normal temperatures and precipitation for the most part. Temperatures ranged widely with high temperatures mostly in the low 70's to low 80's, and lows in the teens to upper 20's. Precipitation was mostly below normal across the State except for areas in the East where spring storms brought welcome moisture but caused some heavy calf and lamb losses.

Topsoil moisture was rated adequate to surplus in 57 percent of the State, 4 points above last week. Subsoil moisture held steady with 41 percent adequate or surplus. High mountain snow was beginning to melt. Producers continued to hope for more spring moisture to help grass growth and irrigation supplies. Fieldwork continued behind the average pace for small grains, while producers had seeded over three-fourths of the sugarbeets.

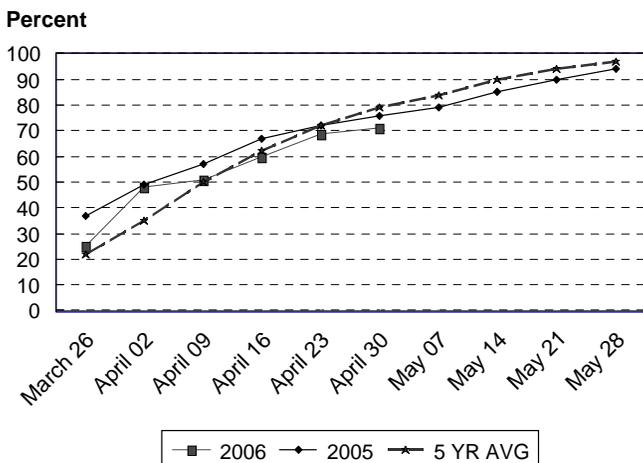
SOIL MOISTURE TABLE

	TOPSOIL				SUBSOIL		
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr Avg	This Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	Percent						
Very Short	3	5	11	13	18	27	25
Short	40	42	27	37	41	34	41
Adeq	57	51	56	48	40	38	33
Surp	0	2	6	2	1	1	1

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

ITEM	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Barley Pltd	71	69	76	79
Barley Emgd	45	30	27	39
Oats Pltd	41	28	53	45
Oats Emgd	19	6	20	16
Spring Wheat Pltd	29	23	43	48
Spring Wheat Emgd	10	2	10	14
Winter Wht Jntd	9	3	2	7
Sugarbeet Pltd	84	67	82	73
Sugarbeet Emgd	8	2	6	9
Corn Pltd	12	1	2	13

Barley Planted



FIELD CROP REPORT: An average of 5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork during the past week. Wet conditions in some northeastern counties prevented any fieldwork. The winter wheat crop was just beginning to joint and condition held steady with 72 percent rated good. Small grain seeding continued to lag behind but emergence made good progress. Barley had been planted on 71 percent of the expected acreage, behind both last year and the average, while emergence remained a little ahead of the average pace. Producers finished seeding 41 percent of the oats and 29 percent of the spring wheat, both behind the 5-year average. Sugarbeet planting progressed to 84 percent in the ground, approximately a week ahead of average. Corn planting was off to a normal start.

CROP CONDITION TABLE

ITEM	V POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL
	Percent				
Winter Wht	0	2	26	72	0

LIVESTOCK PROGRESS TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Spring Calves Born	88	83	88	88
Farm Flock Ewes Lambd	87	82	91	90
Farm Flock Sheep Shorn	91	84	94	91
Range Flock Ewes Lambd	30	25	32	31
Range Flock Sheep Shorn	58	50	71	69

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT: Range and pasture conditions improved slightly and continued to be better than the last few years. At week's end, 45 percent was rated good and zero excellent, compared with 15 percent good and 4 percent excellent last year. Stock water supplies were 69 percent adequate to surplus. A few areas were looking for more moisture to help fill reservoirs. Calving maintained an average pace with 88 percent of the calves on the ground. Both farm flock and range flock lambing were slightly behind last year and the 5-year average at 87 and 30 percent complete. Shearing of the farm flock was on schedule while weather held progress on range flock shearing 11 points behind the average. Calf and lamb losses remained mostly normal but spring storms over scattered areas in the East resulted in some heavy losses.

PASTURE AND RANGE FEED

ITEM	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	Percent			
Very Poor	1	2	24	16
Poor	9	11	28	26
Fair	45	45	29	36
Good	45	42	15	21
Excellent	0	0	4	1

WEATHER SUMMARY: Temperatures during the week ending Friday, April 28th, were below normal across the State with exceptions in the West. Averages ranged from 4.6 degrees below normal in Dillinger to 4.9 degrees above normal in Jackson. The high temperature was 83 in Torrington and Wheatland while the low was 16 in Dillinger. Precipitation was below normal with exceptions in the East where many stations recorded over 0.40 inches of precipitation. The most precipitation was reported in Newcastle with 0.80 inches, Sundance with 0.75 inches, and Dillinger with 0.75 inches. A few stations in the Southwest reported only a trace or no precipitation.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDED APRIL 28, 2006

		TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION				CUMULATIVE 1/	
STATION	MAX	MIN	NORM	WEEK	NORM	DATE	WEEK	NORM	DEP.	FROM
SNAKE DRAINAGE										
Jackson	75	23	4.9	0.12	-0.28	5.53	4.98	0.56		
Afton	70	27	2.3	0.27	-0.21	5.23	5.82	-0.59		
GREEN & BEAR DRAINAGE										
Uinta County AP	70	27	3.4	T	-0.32	2.02	3.34	-1.32		
Big Piney AP	71	18	1.2	0.03	-0.11	1.56	1.72	-0.16		
Rock Springs AP	72	21	-0.4	0.00	-0.30	1.64	2.93	-1.29		
BIG HORN DRAINAGE										
Cody	77	26	0.1	0.34	-0.02	1.07	2.37	-1.30		
Deaver	82	26	-1.4	0.05	-0.12	0.85	0.89	-0.04		
Greybull AP	81	31	-3.9	0.12	-0.14	0.33	1.75	-1.42		
Powell Field St	79	28	-0.2	0.11	-0.13	0.39	1.17	-0.78		
Worland FAA AP	81	28	-3.5	0.45	0.16	1.00	1.78	-0.78		
POWDER, LITTLE MO. & TONGUE DRAINAGE										
Kaycee	68	21	-4.4	0.09	-0.38	2.15	3.17	-1.02		
Sheridan WSO AP	78	23	-3.6	0.48	-0.03	2.69	4.05	-1.36		
BELLE FOURCHE DRAINAGE										
Dillinger	81	16	-4.6	0.58	0.09	3.23	3.45	-0.22		
Sundance	71	19	-4.2	0.75	0.13	6.02	4.59	1.43		
CHEYENNE & NIOBRARA DRAINAGE										
Newcastle	77	25	-3.0	0.80	0.32	4.68	3.45	1.23		
Redbird	81	22	-4.2	0.32	-0.22	2.74	3.45	-0.71		
LOWER PLATTE DRAINAGE										
Casper AP	77	23	-3.2	0.01	-0.45	2.92	3.68	-0.76		
Cheyenne AP	76	20	-2.5	0.44	0.00	2.56	3.50	-0.94		
Chugwater	81	24	-1.9	0.49	0.03	3.61	3.76	-0.15		
Douglas AP	79	25	-4.4	0.51	0.06	2.13	3.31	-1.18		
Torrington AP	83	26	-3.2	0.31	-0.14	1.95	3.05	-1.10		
Wheatland 4 N	83	26	-3.1	0.24	-0.21	2.03	2.62	-0.59		
WIND RIVER DRAINAGE										
Lander AP	77	26	-1.0	0.42	-0.12	3.02	4.32	-1.30		
Riverton AP	79	26	-1.8	0.23	-0.10	2.27	2.04	0.24		
UPPER PLATTE DRAINAGE										
Laramie AP	72	19	-0.1	0.38	0.10	0.83	2.72	-1.89		
Rawlins AP	75	19	-1.2	T	-0.28	0.90	2.77	-1.87		

BLANKS - INDICATE MISSING DATA.

AP - AIRPORT. T - TRACE. () - ESTIMATES.

1/LATE REPORTS CAN CHANGE PREVIOUS WEEK'S CUMULATIVE TOTALS.