Dry, mild weather conditions allowed for rapid planting progress of corn, oats and sugarbeets according to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. There were 4.9 days suitable for fieldwork statewide during the week ending April 26, 2020. Other field activities for the week were tilling, fertilizer application, as well as row crop and small grain planting.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 8 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 4 percent short, 68 percent adequate, and 28 percent surplus.

Corn planting was in full swing at 40 percent complete, 20 days ahead of last year and 9 days ahead of the 5-year average. Soybean planting has begun and was 5 percent complete, 17 days ahead of last year and 4 days ahead of average.

Spring Wheat planting was 6 percent complete, one week ahead of last year but 15 days behind average. One-third of the oat crop was planted leading to 43 percent of the total planting progress complete. Barley was 11 percent planted compared to the average of 21 percent.

Potatoes were 17 percent planted, one week ahead of last year but 3 days behind average. Sugarbeets were 29 percent planted, 12 days ahead of last year but one week behind average.
Minnesota Temperatures and Precipitation for the week ending April 26, 2020

Maps from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center reflect data collected from 7:00 A.M. Central Time on April 20, 2020, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on April 26, 2020.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals
April 20, 2020 to April 26, 2020

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
April 20, 2020 to April 26, 2020

National Weather Service data, courtesy of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources State Climatology Office, is available at:
http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/climate/historical/summary.html

Growing Degree Days can be found at https://mygeohub.org/groups/u2u/gdd

Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/