

NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



Cooperating With:
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,
FARM SERVICE AGENCY,
ND AG WEATHER NETWORK (NDAWN)
and
UND AEROSPACE REGIONAL WEATHER
INFORMATION CENTER

Released: April 17, 2006
For Week Ending: April 16, 2006
ND-CW1506

General: Planting of small grains, dry edible peas and canola began across the state, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. Producers in the north central and northeast districts continued to wait for soil to dry out. Reporters noted in the south central district that moisture was needed to germinate crops and for alfalfa and grasses to start growing. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 3 percent very short, 14 short, 72 adequate and 11 surplus, compared with the five-year (2001-2005) average of 6 percent very short, 17 short, 65 adequate and 12 surplus.

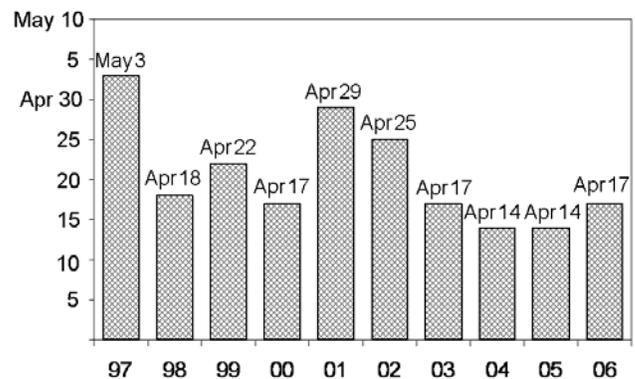
The statewide average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be April 17, one day earlier than last week's expected starting date. The expected starting dates ranged from April 12 in the south central district to April 25 in the north central and northeast districts.

Crops: Warm and dry conditions during the week allowed producers to begin seeding, which was behind last year and average. Three percent of spring wheat was seeded, compared with 10 percent last year and 8 percent on average. Durum wheat seeded was 2 percent compared with 3 percent seeded on average. Barley and oats were 2 percent and 3 percent seeded, respectively. Canola was 1 percent planted and dry edible peas were 2 percent planted. This compared with 4 percent planted for both crops last year. Sugarbeets were less than one-half of one percent planted.

Livestock: Calving and lambing, at 74 and 85 percent complete, respectively, were near last year and the average pace. Shearing neared completion at 94 percent, compared with 89 percent on average.

Hay and forage supplies were rated 3 percent short, 87 adequate and 10 surplus, compared with the average rating of 3 percent very short, 15 short, 77 adequate and 5 surplus. Grain and concentrate supplies were rated 1 percent short, 90 adequate and 9 surplus. Pastures and ranges were 47 percent growing, compared with 51 percent a year ago. Pasture and range conditions were rated 7 percent very poor, 13 poor, 43 fair, 36 good and 1 excellent.

**Average Start Date for Fieldwork
North Dakota, 1997-2006**



**Planting: Percent Completed
North Dakota, Week Ending April 16, 2006 ^{1/}**

Crop	Week Ending			2001-2005 Avg
	April 16, 2006	April 9, 2006	April 16, 2005	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
SMALL GRAINS				
Barley	2	0	5	3
Durum Wheat	2	0	5	3
Spring Wheat	3	0	10	8
Oats	3	0	8	4
OTHER CROPS				
Canola	1	0	4	2
Dry Edible Peas	2	NA	4	NA
Sugarbeets	0	0	1	4

^{1/} Progress is based on current intended acreage. NA = Not Available

Soil Temperatures: Average soil temperatures on April 16 ranged from a low of 48 degrees F in Bottineau to a high of 61 in Watford City. These readings reflect daily average temperatures under 4 inches of bare soil recorded by the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN).

Average Soil Temperatures*, April 16, 2006

Station	Temperature	Station	Temperature
	Degrees F		Degrees F
NORTHWEST		CENTRAL	
Bowbells	49	Carrington	60
Minot	56	Robinson	53
Williston	59	Streeter	57
NORTH CENTRAL		EAST CENTRAL	
Baker	54	Dazey	53
Bottineau	48	Fargo	55
Rolla	58	SOUTHWEST	
NORTHEAST		Bowman	58
Cavalier	60	Dickinson	58
Grand Forks	56	SOUTH CENTRAL	
Langdon	50	Linton	60
WEST CENTRAL		SOUTHEAST	
Turtle Lake	60	Oakes	56
Watford City	61	Wyndmere	55

*Thermometers located 4 inches under bare soil.
Source: NDAWN, Department of Soil Science, NDSU.

~ Compiled and Published by ~

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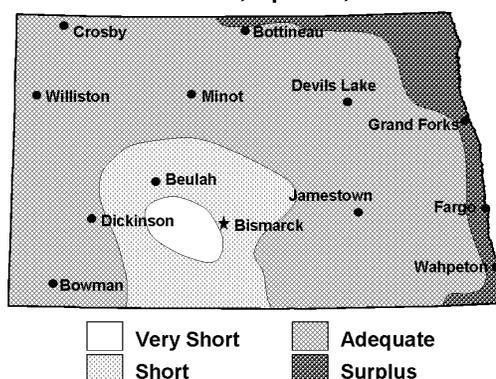
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NORTH DAKOTA CROP WEATHER REPORT, Week Ending April 16, 2006

**Soil Moisture Supplies
 North Dakota, April 16, 2006 with Comparisons**

Date	Week Ending			2001-2005 Avg
	April 16, 2006	April 9, 2006	April 16, 2005	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil				
Very Short	3	3	7	6
Short	14	10	21	17
Adequate	72	71	67	65
Surplus	11	16	5	12
Subsoil				
Very Short	3	3	11	9
Short	15	14	24	22
Adequate	69	70	60	61
Surplus	13	13	5	8

**Topsoil Moisture Supplies
 North Dakota, April 16, 2006**



Weather: The week began on a mild note with high temperatures reaching into the upper 60s east to mid-70s southwest. A few showers occurred over the western and north central areas on Monday and into Tuesday, bringing some light rainfall amounts. A weak cold front moved across the state on Wednesday bringing slightly cooler temperatures and windy conditions. High temperatures reached the upper 50s to low 60s east to the mid- and upper 60s west. Temperatures quickly rebounded on Thursday with highs in the 70s across the state. A line of showers and some embedded thunder moved across the eastern third of the state late on Thursday. Fair skies and mild weather continued through the holiday weekend. Highs reached around 70 degrees east to upper 70s west. Easter Sunday brought the warmest temperatures so far this year across the state with highs in the low 80s west to mid-70s east.

Outlook, April 17-23: Look for showers and thunderstorms across the western areas beginning late on Monday. Colder air will begin to move in behind the system late on Monday. This may lead to a rain/snow mix across the western areas. Rain and thunderstorms will spread east across the state on Tuesday. Rain may mix with or change to all snow again on Tuesday especially in the southwest. Some minor accumulation may be possible in those areas. Rain showers should continue across the state on Wednesday, with rain and snow possible again in the west and southwest. Temperatures will be mild to start off the week with highs in the 60s west to the low 70s in the valley region. High temperatures will be much colder for midweek, with daytime highs in the 40s west to the mid-50s east. Lows will be in the 30s. Rain should end from west to east on Thursday with high temperatures in the 50s statewide. The week's end should see dry conditions with seasonal temperatures in the mid-60s west to around 60 degrees east.

**Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
 North Dakota, Week ending April 16, 2006**

Stations by District	Temperature Past Week		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1 ^{1/}		
	High	Low	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal ^{2/}
	(Degrees F)	(Degrees F)	(Inches)	(Inches)	(Inches)
(1) Bowbells	81	36	0.08	0.09	-0.54
Williston	80	35	0.11	0.11	-0.43
Mohall	80	34	0.07	0.08	-0.56
Minot	81	37	0.02	0.03	-0.81
(2) Baker	75	37	0.03	0.03	-0.64
Bottineau	82	31	0.24	0.24	-0.40
Rugby	76	35	0.16	0.16	-0.50
(3) Cando	75	34	0.04	0.09	-0.32
Cavalier	76	32	0.07	0.09	-0.46
Forest River	75	36	0.00	0.02	-0.55
Grand Forks	72	38	0.02	0.10	-0.51
Langdon	74	35	0.13	0.15	-0.31
St. Thomas	74	38	0.04	0.10	-0.47
(4) Hazen	80	31	0.03	0.03	-0.92
Turtle Lake	78	36	0.00	0.00	-0.79
Watford City	80	35	0.16	0.16	-0.50
(5) Carrington	78	35	0.00	0.06	-0.68
Harvey	79	34	0.09	0.09	-0.27
Jamestown	78	37	0.00	0.01	-0.72
Robinson	77	32	0.00	0.02	-0.67
Streeter	77	36	0.00	0.00	-0.66
(6) Dazey	76	39	0.01	0.04	-0.66
Fargo	77	42	0.00	0.00	-0.72
Hillsboro	75	37	0.02	0.02	-0.81
(7) Beach	76	34	0.02	1.14	0.37
Bowman	77	34	0.01	0.44	-0.20
Dickinson	77	36	0.02	0.32	-0.61
Hettinger	79	35	0.01	0.13	-0.64
(8) Mandan	77	38	0.10	0.10	-0.65
Linton	80	40	0.00	0.02	-0.67
(9) Edgeley	80	38	0.00	0.06	-0.81
Oakes	79	35	0.08	0.37	-0.58
Wyndmere	79	39	0.01	0.03	-0.92

**Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
 North Dakota, Week ending April 16, 2006**

District Averages	Average Temperature		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1 ^{1/}		
	Past Week	Depart Normal ^{2/}	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal ^{2/}
	(Degrees F)	(Degrees F)	(Inches)	(Inches)	(Inches)
Northwest (1)	58	17	0.07	0.08	-0.59
N. Central (2)	56	17	0.14	0.14	-0.51
Northeast (3)	54	14	0.05	0.09	-0.44
W. Central (4)	56	14	0.06	0.06	-0.74
Central (5)	56	14	0.02	0.04	-0.60
E. Central (6)	57	16	0.01	0.02	-0.73
Southwest (7)	56	14	0.02	0.51	-0.27
S. Central (8)	58	16	0.05	0.06	-0.66
Southeast (9)	58	16	0.03	0.15	-0.77

^{1/} Precipitation amounts may vary due to an inaccurate snowfall melt. ^{2/} Normal is the 1971-2000 average. NA=Not available. Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.

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