

NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



Cooperating With:
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,
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INFORMATION CENTER

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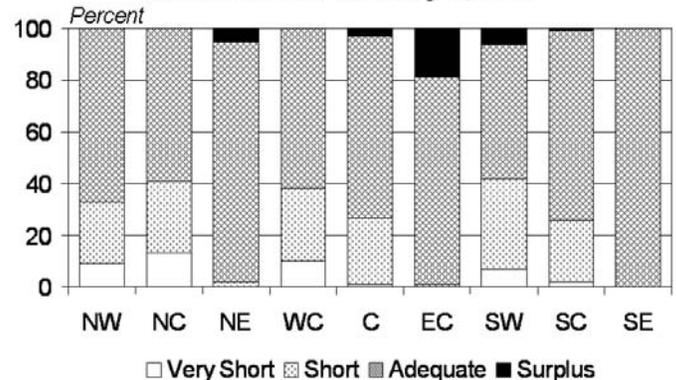
General: Heavy snowfall and cold temperatures during December slowed the remaining crop harvest, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. Corn producers in some areas do not expect to finish harvest until spring, according to reporters. Main activities included snow removal and tending to livestock. All districts had below normal temperatures during December. County and secondary roads were rated 67 percent open, 26 difficult and 7 closed to traffic. Road conditions were 46 percent drifted, 14 icy, 1 muddy and 39 dry.

Statewide, average snow depth was 17.1 inches on January 4, compared with 3.2 inches last year. This is the highest statewide total at this time since January 5, 1997 when there were 19.3 inches of snow. The north central and central districts reported the most snow depth with 24.8 and 23.6 inches, respectively. The southwest district reported the least snow depth with 7.2 inches followed by 14.4 inches in the west central district.

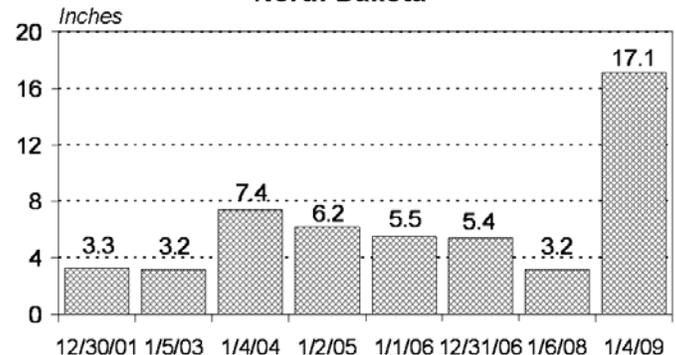
Crops: As of January 4, snow cover protection for alfalfa was rated 1 percent poor, 41 adequate and 58 excellent. Snow cover protection for winter wheat was rated 1 percent poor, 43 adequate and 56 excellent.

Livestock: Snow cover has led some livestock producers to use feed supplies ahead of normal, according to reporters. Cattle conditions were rated 3 percent poor, 26 fair, 63 good and 8 excellent. Sheep conditions were rated 3 percent poor, 26 fair, 60 good and 11 excellent. Hay and forage supplies were rated 5 percent very short, 23 short, 69 adequate and 3 surplus.

Hay and Forage Supplies by District
North Dakota, January 4, 2009



Average Snow Depth by Date
North Dakota



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Weather: Overall, December had below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation due to several storm systems moving through the state. The month started out with near to above normal temperatures with light precipitation across much of the state. The second week had near to below normal temperatures. A major storm system affected the state December 13-14 creating blizzard conditions. Widespread heavy snowfall occurred with the heaviest amounts in the southeast, central and west. The third week of December was the coldest week of the month with temperatures well below normal. Widespread light precipitation occurred with a heavier snowfall event on December 20 mostly in the eastern half of the state. Below normal temperatures continued through the remainder of the month with continued light precipitation and heavier snow on December 23 for the southern and eastern parts of the area. Another snow system dropped a band of heavy snow from northwest through central and southeast part of the state on December 29-30. Moderate drought conditions are still present for the southwestern part of the state.

Outlook, January: January looks to start off with below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation across much of the state. A system moved through on January 2-3 with snow falling mainly across the northern and eastern parts of the state. Light precipitation chances will continue through the second week of January with near to below normal temperatures. There is a chance for above normal temperatures for the third week of January with near normal precipitation. Current predictions show that drought conditions will persist in the southwestern part of the state. Overall for the month of January, the state will see near normal temperatures and near normal precipitation.

TEMPERATURE, December 1-31, 2008

District & Stations	Temperature			
	High	Low	Average	Depart/Norm ^{1/}
	Degrees F	Degrees F	Degrees F	Degrees F
NORTHWEST				
Bowbells	41	-29	3	-9
Williston	43	-26	7	-6
Mohall	40	-33	2	-9
Minot	39	-24	6	-9
NORTH CENTRAL				
Baker	35	-24	3	-7
Bottineau	36	-33	0	-9
Rugby	35	-26	3	-8
NORTHEAST				
Cando	33	-25	2	-13
Cavalier	36	-21	2	-7
Forest River	35	-24	5	-6
Grand Forks	38	-21	7	-4
Langdon	32	-23	0	-6
St. Thomas	35	-23	3	-8
WEST CENTRAL				
Hazen	41	-24	7	-8
Turtle Lake	37	-28	5	-8
Watford City	43	-26	6	-12
CENTRAL				
Carrington	36	-25	5	-7
Harvey	36	-30	4	-10
Jamestown	38	-23	7	-7
Robinson	38	-28	4	-11
Streeter	38	-23	7	-5
EAST CENTRAL				
Dazey	38	-22	7	-4
Fargo	39	-17	9	-3
Hillsboro	38	-20	6	-6
SOUTHWEST				
Beach	46	-27	10	-9
Bowman	43	-26	10	-8
Dickinson	43	-25	10	-8
Hettinger	43	-23	11	-6
SOUTH CENTRAL				
Mandan	41	-24	8	-7
Linton	39	-22	8	-6
SOUTHEAST				
Edgeley	41	-19	9	-5
Oakes	42	-22	8	-6
Wyndmere	39	-23	9	-6

^{1/} Normal is the 1971-2000 average. Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.