

# NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



Released: April 20, 2009  
For Week Ending: April 19, 2009  
ND-CW1609

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

**General:** Above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation last week allowed for some fields to warm and dry, but fieldwork remains delayed statewide, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. The cold, wet winter and early spring have led to poor secondary road conditions and saturated fields. These were the major factors that delayed fieldwork and created difficult conditions for livestock across the state. Despite these conditions, reporters commented that some fertilizer application had begun. Statewide, on average, there were 0.6 days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 1 percent short, 54 adequate and 45 surplus, compared with the five-year (2004-2008) average of 10 percent very short, 19 short, 64 adequate and 7 surplus.

**Crops:** Saturated fields have delayed fieldwork for most producers across the state. Statewide as of April 19, no crops had been planted. Last year on April 19, 14 percent of spring wheat had been planted, while the five-year average is 12 percent. Besides soil saturation, deteriorated secondary roads have made getting machinery to the fields a challenge. The statewide average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be May 2, unchanged from the previous week's estimate, and over 2 weeks behind last year's average starting date. The expected starting dates ranged from April 29 in the south central district to May 9 in the north central district. The statewide five-year average starting date is April 16.

**Livestock:** Based on reporters comments, higher than normal calving losses appears to be the most significant detriment to livestock, although reporters noted that cow losses are also higher than in previous years. Calving and lambing were 74 and 82 percent complete, respectively, both behind their five-year averages. Cow conditions were rated 3 percent very poor, 10 poor, 36 fair, 47 good and 4 excellent. Calf conditions were rated 3 percent very poor, 11 poor, 34 fair, 49 good and 3 excellent. Sheep conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 10 poor, 36 fair, 49 good and 4 excellent. Lamb conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 9 poor, 34 fair, 51 good and 5 excellent. Shearing gained 6 percentage points to 89 percent complete.

Reporters noted that ranchers are concerned about dwindling hay supplies. Hay and forage supplies were rated 20 percent very short, 37 short, 42 adequate and 1 surplus, compared with the five-year (2004-2008) average rating of 4 percent very short, 13 short, 77 adequate and 6 surplus. Grain and concentrate supplies were 8 percent very short, 13 short, 77 adequate and 2 surplus. Pasture and ranges were 90 percent dormant across the state.

**Livestock Condition  
North Dakota, Week Ending April 19, 2009**

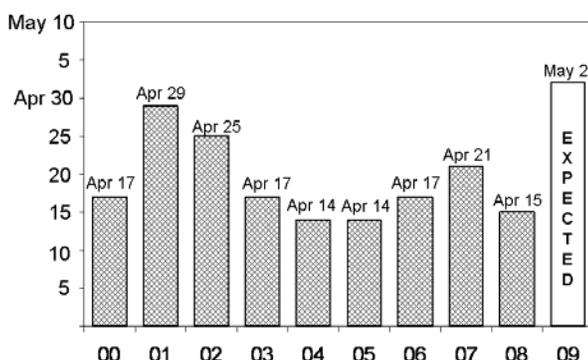
Livestock	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cows	3	10	36	47	4
Calves	3	11	34	49	3
Sheep	1	10	36	49	4
Lambs	1	9	34	51	5

**Planting: Percent Completed  
North Dakota, Week Ending April 19, 2009<sup>1</sup>**

Crop	Week Ending			2004-2008 Avg
	April 19, 2009	April 12, 2009	April 19, 2008	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
<b>SMALL GRAINS</b>				
Barley	0	0	9	7
Durum Wheat	0	0	6	6
Spring Wheat	0	0	14	12
Oats	0	0	12	10
<b>OTHER CROPS</b>				
Canola	0	0	3	3
Dry Edible Peas	0	0	13	NA
Sugarbeets	0	0	3	7

<sup>1</sup> Progress is based on current intended acreage. NA = Not Available

**Average Start Date for Fieldwork  
North Dakota, 2000-2009**



**Soil Temperatures:** Average soil temperatures on April 19 ranged from a low of 35 degrees F in Langdon to a high of 47 in Wyndmere. Last year on April 20, soil temperatures ranged from 46 degrees F to 56. 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 19, 2009**

Station	Temperature	Station	Temperature
	Degrees F		Degrees F
<b>NORTHWEST</b>		<b>CENTRAL</b>	
Bowbells	39	Carrington	40
Minot	40	Robinson	40
Williston	44	Streeter	41
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>		<b>EAST CENTRAL</b>	
Baker	37	Dazey	40
Bottineau	37	Fargo	40
Rolla	37	<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	
<b>NORTHEAST</b>		Bowman	41
Cavalier	37	Dickinson	46
Grand Forks	42	<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	
Langdon	35	Linton	42
<b>WEST CENTRAL</b>		<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	
Turtle Lake	43	Oakes	43
Watford City	43	Wyndmere	47

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

~ Compiled and Published by ~

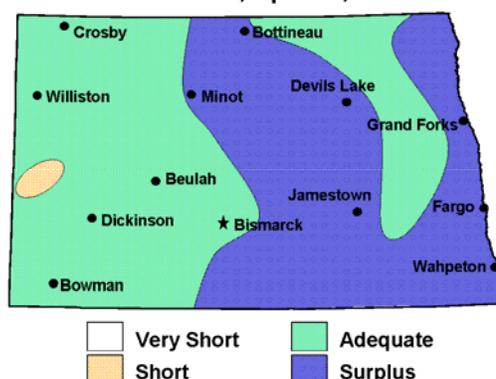
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**Soil Moisture Supplies  
 North Dakota, Week Ending April 19, 2009**

Date	Week Ending			2004-2008 Avg
	April 19, 2009	April 12, 2009	April 19, 2008	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	0	0	33	10
Short	1	2	30	19
Adequate	54	52	35	64
Surplus	45	46	2	7
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	1	1	31	13
Short	5	7	34	26
Adequate	58	59	34	56
Surplus	36	33	1	5

**Topsoil Moisture Supplies  
 North Dakota, April 19, 2009**



**Weather:** Temperatures were above normal and precipitation was below normal across the state this past week. There were scattered showers in the east on Monday with highs in the 50s and 60s. Highs on Tuesday were in the 60s to low 70s with a few showers in the west. Scattered showers affected the central and west on Wednesday with highs in the 60s. A few showers continued in the west on Thursday with highs in the upper 40s to low 60s. Friday was dry with highs in the mid-40s to 50s. There were a few showers in the west on Saturday with highs in the upper 30s to 50s. Highs on Sunday were in the mid-40s to low 60s with a few showers in the east.

**Outlook, April 20-26:** Temperatures will be near normal this upcoming week. Near to above normal temperatures will persist through mid-to-late week and then transition to below normal temperatures by the weekend. Precipitation is expected to be near normal. The best chance for precipitation will occur late in the week. Monday will be dry with highs in the mid-50s to low 60s. Highs on Tuesday will be in the mid-50s to 60s with dry conditions. Wednesday will be dry with highs ranging from the upper 50s in the east to mid-70s in the west. There will be a chance of rain or snow in the north and a chance of rain in the south late Thursday with highs in the mid-50s to 60s. Highs on Friday will be in the upper 40s to mid-50s with a chance of rain or snow in the north and a chance of rain in the south. There will be a chance of rain or snow in the north on Saturday with a chance of rain elsewhere. Highs will be in the mid-40s to low 50s. Highs on Sunday will be in the upper 40s to mid-50s with a chance of rain.

**Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations  
 North Dakota, Week ending April 19, 2009**

Stations by District	Temperature Past Week		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1 <sup>1</sup>		
	High	Low	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal <sup>2</sup>
	(Degrees F)	(Degrees F)	(Inches)	(Inches)	(Inches)
(1) Bowbells	66	31	0.04	0.04	-0.71
Williston	68	32	0.12	0.12	-0.53
Mohall	67	30	0.02	0.02	-0.74
Minot	63	31	0.04	0.04	-0.95
(2) Baker	64	29	0.13	0.43	-0.36
Bottineau	65	30	0.06	0.13	-0.63
Rugby	64	30	0.15	0.41	-0.37
(3) Cando	62	30	0.01	0.17	-0.33
Cavalier	62	31	0.16	0.44	-0.23
Forest River	65	32	0.07	0.31	-0.38
Grand Forks	65	33	0.23	0.31	-0.42
Langdon	59	27	0.07	0.29	-0.27
St. Thomas	63	32	0.13	0.33	-0.36
(4) Hazen	68	27	0.00	0.00	-1.13
Turtle Lake	67	28	0.08	0.09	-0.85
Watford City	68	31	0.10	0.10	-0.71
(5) Carrington	63	32	0.05	0.32	-0.57
Harvey	67	32	0.13	0.23	-0.22
Jamestown	63	31	0.12	0.39	-0.49
Robinson	65	31	0.16	0.29	-0.55
Streeter	63	30	0.03	0.20	-0.58
(6) Dazey	63	31	0.02	0.20	-0.62
Fargo	66	34	0.00	0.09	-0.77
Hillsboro	66	32	0.09	0.11	-0.87
(7) Beach	66	32	0.20	0.24	-0.70
Bowman	63	32	0.10	0.14	-0.64
Dickinson	66	33	0.05	0.11	-1.00
Hettinger	67	30	0.10	0.19	-0.76
(8) Mandan	70	30	0.07	0.10	-0.81
Linton	68	36	0.09	0.32	-0.52
(9) Edgeley	64	32	0.04	0.52	-0.51
Oakes	66	34	0.28	0.31	-0.82
Wyndmere	66	34	0.02	0.19	-0.94

**Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations  
 North Dakota, Week ending April 19, 2009**

District Averages	Average Temperature		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1 <sup>1</sup>		
	Past Week	Depart Normal <sup>2</sup>	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal <sup>2</sup>
	(Degrees F)	(Degrees F)	(Inches)	(Inches)	(Inches)
Northwest(1)	48	6	0.06	0.06	-0.73
N. Central(2)	47	6	0.11	0.32	-0.45
Northeast (3)	46	4	0.11	0.31	-0.33
W. Central(4)	48	4	0.06	0.06	-0.90
Central (5)	47	4	0.10	0.29	-0.48
E. Central(6)	48	5	0.04	0.13	-0.75
Southwest(7)	48	5	0.11	0.17	-0.78
S. Central(8)	51	7	0.08	0.21	-0.67
Southeast(9)	49	6	0.11	0.34	-0.76

<sup>1</sup> Precipitation amounts may vary due to an inaccurate snowfall melt. <sup>2</sup> 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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