

NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK, & WEATHER REPORT



USDA, NASS
North Dakota
Field Office

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

Released: February 27, 2012
For Month Ending: February 26, 2012

General: Favorable weather conditions allowed livestock producers to make considerable progress in shearing, calving, and lambing, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. A winter storm late in February provided snow protection for crops in some areas where it was needed. County and secondary roads on February 26 were rated 86 percent open, 13 difficult, and 1 closed. Road conditions were 20 percent drifted, 17 icy, 2 muddy, and 61 dry. Agricultural activities during February included feeding livestock, calving, lambing, shearing, hauling and cleaning grain.

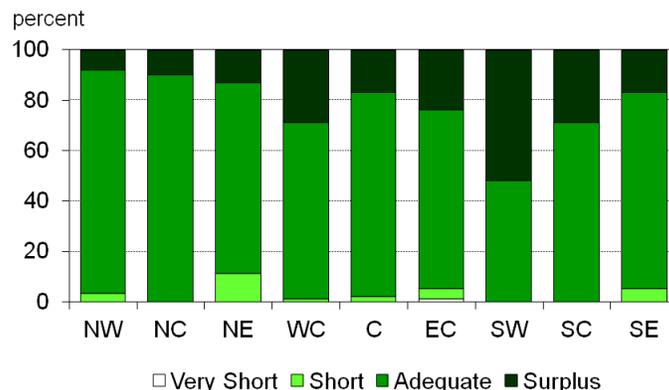
Statewide, average snow depth was 3.8 inches on February 26, compared with 15.6 inches on February 27, 2011. The northwest district reported the highest snow depth with 5.20 inches. The southwest district reported the lowest snow depth with 2.20 inches.

Crops: As of February 26, snow cover protection for alfalfa was rated 52 percent poor, 45 adequate, and 3 excellent. Snow cover protection for winter wheat was rated 45 percent poor, 49 adequate, and 6 excellent.

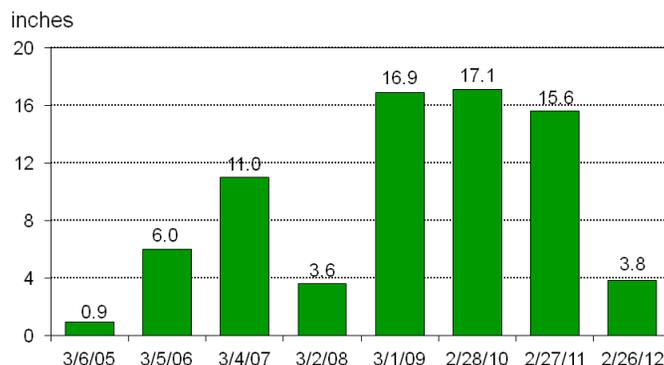
Livestock: Calving was 8 percent complete, while lambing was 13 percent complete. Shearing was 44 percent complete. Cattle conditions were rated 9 percent fair, 67 good, and 24 excellent. Sheep conditions were rated 9 percent fair, 69 good, and 22 excellent.

Livestock continued: Hay and forage supplies were rated 2 percent short, 75 adequate, and 23 surplus. The percentage of feed obtained from pasture and range was 15 percent for cattle and 7 percent for sheep.

**Hay and Forage Supplies by District
North Dakota: February 26, 2012**



**Average Snow Depth by Date
North Dakota**



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Weather: Overall, February had above normal temperatures. Precipitation was below normal across much of the state with near to above normal precipitation in parts of the south central and east. The majority of February precipitation occurred in the second half of the month. There were three measurable snowfall events in February. Snowfall amounts of 2 to 6 inches were reported in the eastern part of the state on February 20. On February 22-23, parts of the south central and southwest reported snow amounts of 4 to 10 inches. Reports of widespread snow amounts of 2 to 8 inches were reported on February 25-26 with the higher amounts across parts of the central and northwest.

Outlook, March: March will start out with near normal temperatures and above normal precipitation across much of the state. Above normal temperatures will be possible across much of the state for the second week of the month with near normal precipitation statewide. Temperatures for the second half of the month should be near normal with near to above normal precipitation. Overall for the month of March, the state will see near to above normal temperatures and near to above normal precipitation.

TEMPERATURE, February 1-26, 2012

District & Stations	Temperature			
	High (degrees F)	Low (degrees F)	Average (degrees F)	Depart/norm ¹ (degrees F)
NORTHWEST				
Bowbells	46	-9	23	11
Williston	51	-7	25	9
Mohall	46	-11	21	9
Minot	51	-9	25	9
NORTH CENTRAL				
Baker	44	-13	22	11
Bottineau	42	-17	16	6
Rugby	45	-14	21	8
NORTHEAST				
Cando	40	-16	15	-1
Cavalier	48	-13	21	12
Forest River	39	-13	17	5
Grand Forks	42	-11	19	8
Langdon	36	-16	16	10
St. Thomas	38	-12	17	5
WEST CENTRAL				
Hazen	54	-15	22	4
Turtle Lake	50	-9	24	10
Watford City	51	-9	25	5
CENTRAL				
Carrington	48	-11	22	9
Harvey	49	-10	24	8
Jamestown	48	-10	22	7
Robinson	48	-10	22	6
Streeter	49	-10	22	9
EAST CENTRAL				
Dazey	46	-10	22	10
Fargo	46	-9	22	9
Hillsboro	44	-10	19	8
SOUTHWEST				
Beach	51	-12	24	3
Bowman	51	-11	23	3
Dickinson	52	-12	25	5
Hettinger	51	-13	23	4
SOUTH CENTRAL				
Mandan	52	-9	24	8
Linton	50	-10	23	7
SOUTHEAST				
Edgeley	49	-9	23	8
Oakes	48	-7	24	10
Wyndmere	49	-8	23	9

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