

# 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: April 2, 2012  
For Week Ending: April 1, 2012

**General:** The statewide average starting date for fieldwork was expected to be April 3, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. This date is over a month earlier than last year and ahead of the five-year (2007-2011) average starting date of April 20. Some respondents noted dry conditions where rain was sought while others commented that field conditions were too wet for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 10 percent very short, 24 short, 57 adequate, and 9 surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 16 percent short, 70 adequate, and 14 surplus.

**Crops:** Seeding of small grains had begun, well ahead of last year and the average. Other activities during the week included making preparations for seeding and applying fertilizer.

**Livestock:** Calving was 44 percent complete, while lambing was 64 percent complete. Shearing was 82 percent complete. Cow conditions were rated 1 percent poor, 7 fair, 73 good, and 19 excellent. Calf conditions were rated 7 percent fair, 70 good, and 23 excellent. Sheep conditions were rated 6 percent fair, 69 good, and 25 excellent. Lamb conditions were rated 6 percent fair, 67 good, and 27 excellent.

Hay and forage supplies were rated 2 percent short, 79 adequate, and 19 surplus. The percentage of feed obtained from pasture and range was 17 percent for cattle and 9 percent for sheep. Grain and concentrate supply was rated 4 percent short, 82 adequate, and 14 surplus. Pastures and ranges were rated 69 percent still dormant.

## Livestock Condition North Dakota: April 1, 2012

Livestock	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cows .....	-	1	7	73	19
Calves .....	-	-	7	70	23
Sheep .....	-	-	6	69	25
Lambs .....	-	-	6	67	27

- Represents zero.

## Planting Percent Completed

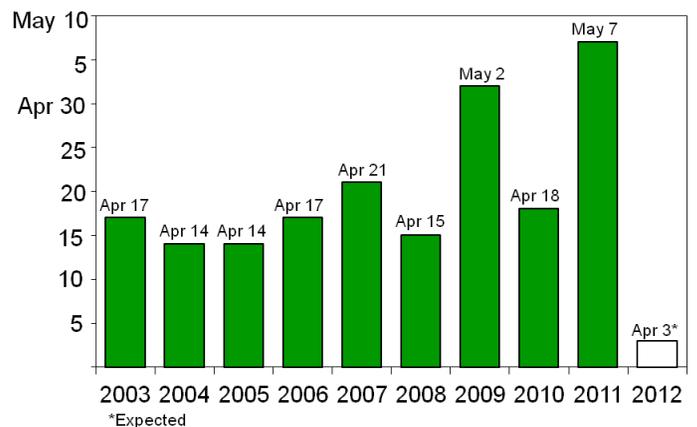
### North Dakota: April 1, 2012

(Progress is based on current intended acreage.)

Crop	April 1, 2012 (percent)	March 25, 2012 (percent)	April 1, 2011 (percent)	2007- 2011 Average (percent)
<b>Small Grains</b>				
Barley.....	3	-	-	-
Durum wheat.....	4	-	-	-
Spring wheat.....	6	1	-	-
Oats .....	6	-	-	-
<b>Other Crops</b>				
Corn.....	-	(NA)	-	-
Dry edible peas .....	2	(NA)	-	-
Sugarbeets.....	-	(NA)	-	-

- Represents zero. (NA) Not available.

## Average Start Date for Fieldwork North Dakota



**Soil Temperatures:** On April 1, average soil temperatures ranged from a low of 46 degrees F in Langdon to a high of 62 degrees F in Linton. Last year on April 3, average soil temperatures ranged from 31 degrees F to 33 degrees F. 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 1, 2012

Station	Temperature (degrees F)	Station	Temperature (degrees F)
<b>NORTHWEST</b>			
Bowbells.....	50	CENTRAL	
Minot.....	49	Carrington.....	56
Williston.....	58	Robinson.....	50
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>			
Baker.....	52	Streater.....	55
Bottineau.....	48	<b>EAST CENTRAL</b>	
Rolla.....	49	Dazey.....	52
<b>NORTHEAST</b>			
Cavalier.....	52	Fargo.....	56
Grand Forks.....	51	<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	
Langdon.....	46	Bowman.....	55
<b>WEST CENTRAL</b>			
Turtle Lake.....	57	Dickinson.....	60
Watford City.....	56	<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>			
		Linton.....	62
		Oakes.....	56
		Wyndmere.....	53

\*Thermometers located 4 inches under bare soil.

Source: NDAWN, Department of Soil Science, NDSU.

~ Compiled and Published by ~

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
 Penalty for Private Use, \$300

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**NORTH DAKOTA CROP WEATHER REPORT, Week Ending April 1, 2012**

**Soil Moisture Supplies  
 North Dakota: April 1, 2012**

Date	April 1, 2012	March 25, 2012	April 1, 2011	2007-2011 Average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short..	10	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Short .....	24	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Adequate...	57	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Surplus.....	9	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short..	-	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Short .....	16	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Adequate...	70	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Surplus.....	14	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

- Represents zero. (NA) Not available

The following links provides further weather-related information and maps for North Dakota:

North Dakota Climatology Working Group provides statewide precipitation maps for the previous week:  
<http://www.ndsu.edu/ndscw>

National Weather Service's North Dakota Data:  
<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/view/states.php?state=ND>

**Weather:** Temperatures were above normal statewide. Precipitation was above normal in parts of the central, north central, and northeast and below normal across much of the rest of the state. There were thunderstorms across the state on Monday with highs in the 50s to low 60s. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.2 to 0.5 inches with the higher totals in parts of the central and northeast. Highs on Tuesday were in the upper 30s to low 60s with rain early in the day in the east. There were rain showers in the south and snow showers in the north late Tuesday with snow accumulations ranging from 1 to 2 inches. Wednesday was dry with highs in the 40s to mid-60s. There was rain in the east on Thursday with highs in the 40s to mid-60s. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.10 to 0.40 inches. Friday was dry with highs in the 50s to low 70s. Highs on Saturday were in the 60s to 70s with dry conditions. Sunday was dry with highs in the 70s to low 80s.

**Outlook, April 2-8:** Temperatures will be above normal and precipitation will be near to above normal. Highs on Monday will be in the upper 40s to mid-50s with a chance of rain in the central and east. Tuesday will be dry with highs in the upper 50s to mid-60s. Highs on Wednesday will be in the 60s to low 70s with dry conditions. Thursday will be dry with highs in the upper 50s to 60s. There will be a chance of showers statewide on Friday with highs in the mid-50s to low 60s. Highs on Saturday will be in the 40s to mid-50s with a chance of snow in the west, rain or snow in the central, and rain in the east. There will be a chance of rain in the east on Sunday with highs in the mid-40s to low 50s.

**Temperature and Precipitation – Districts and Stations  
 North Dakota: Week ending April 1, 2012**

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	50	17			
N. Central	49	18			
Northeast (3)	47	15			
W. Central	49	13			
Central	49	15	NOT AVAILABLE		
E. Central(6)	50	17			
Southwest	52	16			
S. Central(8)	53	18			
Southeast	51	17			

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

<sup>2</sup> Normal is the 1971-2000 average. Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.

**Temperature and Precipitation – Districts and Stations  
 North Dakota: Week ending April 1, 2012**

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.....	71	29			
Williston.....	72	30			
Mohall.....	70	29			
Minot.....	71	31			
(2) Baker.....	70	28			
Bottineau.....	70	27			
Rugby.....	70	29			
(3) Cando.....	67	29			
Cavalier.....	70	25			
Forest River...	69	29			
Grand Forks...	71	30			
Langdon.....	63	27			
St. Thomas.....	66	28			
(4) Hazen.....	80	20			
Turtle Lake.....	72	29			
Watford City...	73	24			
(5) Carrington.....	69	28			NOT AVAILABLE
Harvey.....	70	29			
Jamestown.....	71	28			
Robinson.....	70	29			
Streeter.....	71	30			
(6) Dazey.....	71	30			
Fargo.....	71	30			
Hillsboro.....	71	32			
(7) Beach.....	75	27			
Bowman.....	78	26			
Dickinson.....	75	27			
Hettinger.....	84	27			
(8) Mandan.....	78	27			
Linton.....	80	29			
(9) Edgeley.....	73	32			
Oakes.....	74	30			
Wyndmere.....	70	30			

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

<sup>2</sup> Normal is the 1971-2000 average. Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.