North Dakota Crop, Livestock, & Weather Report

Released: August 27, 2012
For Week Ending: August 26, 2012

General: Hot, dry conditions last week led to maturing of row crops as small grain harvest and hay cutting neared completion across the state, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. Reporters noted that recent heat has sped up maturity for row crops in many areas. Precipitation was limited to the central and northeastern parts of the state last week. Damaging weather was reported in isolated areas in the central part of the state. Statewide, on average, there were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 18 percent very short, 49 short, and 33 adequate. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 16 percent very short, 48 short, 35 adequate, and 1 surplus.

Crops: Small grain harvest of barley, spring wheat, and oats were virtually complete by week’s end reaching 97 percent, 96 percent, and 96 percent harvested, respectively. Durum wheat was 81 percent harvested. Canola harvest advanced 33 percentage points to 71 percent complete, compared with 23 percent last year and 32 percent on average. Corn denting and beyond reached 82 percent, compared with 10 percent last year and 19 percent on average. Dry edible beans lower leaves yellowing reached 84 percent complete, compared with 63 percent were dropping leaves. Seventeen percent of dry edible beans were cut. Fifty-one percent of the flaxseed harvest was complete, compared with 7 percent last year and 13 percent on average. Lentils harvested were 91 percent complete, compared to 56 percent last year and the 64 percent average. Vines killed for potatoes advanced to 25 percent by the end of the week. Forty-two percent of soybeans had lower leaves yellowing, compared with 5 percent last year and 12 percent on average. Sugar beets lifted reached 6 percent by week’s end. Sunflowers with ray flowers dried or dropped advanced 39 percentage points to 70 percent complete, nearly 2 weeks ahead of the average pace. Twenty-six percent of the sunflower crop had bracts turn yellow.

Livestock: Pasture and range conditions were 18 percent very poor, 32 poor, 33 fair, and 17 good. Cutting of other hay was virtually finished at 97 percent complete. The second cutting of alfalfa was 93 percent complete. Stockwater supplies were rated 16 percent very short, 48 short, and 48 adequate.
The following links provide 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/nwcs

National Weather Service’s North Dakota Data:

Soil Moisture Supplies
North Dakota: August 26, 2012

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topsoil</th>
<th>Subsoil</th>
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<td></td>
<td>(percent)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 26, 2012</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>Aug 19, 2012</td>
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<td>Aug 26, 2011</td>
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<td>Average</td>
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Precipitation amounts may vary due to an inaccurate snowfall melt.

Weather: Temperatures were near to above normal statewide. Precipitation was near to above normal in parts of the central and northeast and below normal across much of the rest of the state. Monday was dry with highs in the upper 70s to low 90s. Highs on Tuesday and Wednesday were in the mid-80s to mid-90s with dry conditions. There were a few showers and thunderstorms in the west and central on Thursday with highs in the upper 80s to mid-90s. Highs on Friday were in the mid-80s to 90s with showers and thunderstorms in the central and northeast. Severe thunderstorms with large hail and damaging winds were reported in parts of the central and northeast on Friday. There were a few showers and thunderstorms in the southeast on Saturday with highs in the 70s. Sunday was dry with highs in the upper 70s to mid-80s.

Outlook, August 27-September 2: Temperatures will be above normal statewide. Precipitation will be below normal across much of the state. Highs on Monday will be in the 80s to low 90s with dry conditions. There will be a chance of showers and thunderstorms in the northwest and north central on Tuesday with highs in the upper 80s to 90s. Highs on Wednesday will be in the 90s to low 100s with dry conditions. There will be a chance of showers and thunderstorms in the southeast on Thursday with highs in the 80s to low 90s. Friday will be dry with highs in the upper 70s to mid-80s. Highs on Saturday will be in the mid-70s to low 80s with a chance of showers and thunderstorms across most of the state. Sunday will be dry with highs in the mid-70s to low 80s.

Precipitation amounts may vary due to an inaccurate snowfall melt. Normal is the 1971-2000 average. Weather data collected from NDNAM stations and compiled by NDSU Agricultural Weather Information Center.