



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

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NORTH DAKOTA CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

FARGO, ND April 15, 2013 – For the week ending April 14, 2013, a weekend blizzard dumped from 4 to 20 inches of heavy, wet snow across much of the state, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. This new snow will delay even further the start of fieldwork and may cause a higher likelihood of spring flooding. Also, poor conditions caused increased stress to livestock producers who were calving and lambing. The entire state experienced temperatures last week that were at least 9 degrees below normal.

With the recent snow cover, averaging 10.4 inches across the state, there was only 0.1 day suitable for fieldwork. Spring planting is being delayed further by the continued winter like weather. Reports indicated that, on average, producers intended to begin fieldwork by May 2. Although moisture supplies improved, the 2013 planting progress continues to be well behind last year's early progress and also behind the 5 year average. Topsoil moisture supplies rated 4 percent very short, 10 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 6 percent very short, 28 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus.

Weather Report: Precipitation and temperature data are now being provided through the High Plains Regional Climate Center. See link below for the latest updates. A link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor graphic is also provided.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Calving was 64 percent complete, while lambing was 74 percent complete and shearing 91 percent complete. Cattle and calf conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Cattle and calves death loss reported at 10 percent below average, 82 percent average, and 8 percent above average. Sheep and lamb conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Sheep and lambs death loss reported at 16 percent below average, 79 percent average, and 5 percent above average. Hay and forage supplies rated 3 percent very short, 25 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. Stock water supplies rated 5 percent very short, 14 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus.

Data for this news release were provided at the county level by USDA Farm Service Agency and NDSU Extension Service.

Access the National publication for Crop Progress and Condition tables at:
<http://usda01.library.cornell.edu/usda/nass/CropProg//2010s/2013/CropProg-04-15-2013.pdf>

Access the High Plains Region Climate Center for Temperature and Precipitation Maps at:
http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/maps/current/index.php?action=update_region&state=ND®ion=HPRCC

Access the US Drought Monitor at:
http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DM_state.htm?ND,HP