

SOUTH DAKOTA WEEKLY CROP-WEATHER REPORT


 SOUTH DAKOTA
FIELD OFFICE
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STATISTICS SERVICE
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Cooperating with
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
and
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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For Week Ending April 30, 2006
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AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Weather patterns varied last week, bringing scattered showers to many areas in the west, while the eastern side of the state received more precipitation, keeping many farmers and ranchers out of fields. While some fields dried quickly, allowing fieldwork to advance, others remained wet and producers now feel a week of dry weather will be necessary before fieldwork continues. Livestock remain stressed as storms during the previous weeks have caused calf and lamb deaths to rise, while range and pastures and stock water supplies have benefitted from recent precipitation. Major farm activities last week included caring for livestock, calving and lambing, moving cattle to grazing, fertilizing, small grain seeding, and preparing for and planting of row crops. State-wide, there were 4.2 days reported suitable for fieldwork.

This report is based on information from county extension educators, Farm Service Agency county directors, and other reporters across the state.

WEATHER INFORMATION: Temperatures last week averaged 2.6 degrees below normal. Last week's low temperature was 21 degrees, reported in both Mobridge and Oelrichs, while the high for the week was 76 degrees, reported in Faulkton and Yankton. Precipitation was received at all of the 43 reporting weather stations last week, with Webster, at 1.61 inches, receiving the most precipitation.

SOIL CONDITION: Last week's rains allowed for marginal improvements in topsoil and subsoil moisture levels. Topsoil moisture improved from 89 percent adequate to surplus the previous week, to 92 percent adequate to surplus last week. Subsoil moisture levels improved two percentage points last week, with a current rating of 76 percent adequate to surplus. Soil temperatures from reporting stations averaged 50.1 degrees last week.

FIELD CROPS REPORT: Small grain seeding progress remains behind that of last year, with barley 53 percent seeded, oats 71 percent seeded, and spring wheat 83 percent seeded. Emergence of small grains also remains behind last year's progress, yet ahead of the five-year averages, with barley 22 percent emerged, oats 32 percent emerged, and spring wheat 41 percent emerged. Wet fields have delayed corn planting in several areas, with the state's corn crop 11 percent planted, behind last year's 22 percent and the five-year average of 17 percent. Soybeans planted, at 1 percent, is just starting and is in line with both last year and the five-year average. Winter wheat development is similar to last year's progress, with 16 percent rated in the boot stage. The winter wheat crop is rated at 58 percent in good to excellent condition, below last year's 80 percent in good to excellent condition.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT: Storms during the previous weeks have stressed livestock and, while cattle and sheep remain rated in mostly good to excellent condition, calf deaths increased from 5 percent above average the previous week to 8 percent above average last week. Sheep and lamb deaths increased from 3 percent above average the previous week, to 17 percent above average last week. Rains helped improve range and pasture conditions, as well as stock water supplies, which improved 4 percentage points last week, with a current rating of 79 percent adequate to surplus. Calving and lambing progress have reached 85 percent and 82 percent complete, respectively, with 24 percent of cattle moved to pasture throughout the state.

FEED AND WATER SUPPLIES COMPARISON AS OF APRIL 30, 2006

RATING	FEED SUPPLIES			STOCK WATER SUPPLIES		
	This Year	Last Year	5-Yr. Ave.	This Year	Last Year	5-Yr. Ave.
	Percent					
Very Short	2	14	12	8	21	16
Short	4	11	21	13	24	19
Adeq.	85	66	63	72	52	59
Surplus	9	9	4	7	3	6

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION COMPARISON AS OF APRIL 30, 2006

RATING	TOPSOIL			SUBSOIL		
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	Percent					
Very Short	1	2	5	5	6	9
Short	7	9	20	19	20	27
Adeq.	77	78	70	65	66	62
Surplus	15	11	5	11	8	2

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS AS OF APRIL 30, 2006

ITEM	V POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	1	11	30	46	12
Cattle	0	1	9	69	21
Sheep	0	0	12	68	20
Range & Pasture	1	8	30	50	11

CROP PROGRESS AS OF APRIL 30, 2006 1/

ITEM	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr. Ave.
	Percent			
Barley				
seeded	53	30	80	61
emerged	22	4	30	21
Spring wheat				
seeded	83	62	94	75
emerged	41	17	57	38
Oats				
seeded	71	54	85	68
emerged	32	14	44	30
Corn				
planted	11	3	22	17
Sorghum				
seeded	0	0	1	0
Soybeans				
planted	1	0	1	1
Winter wheat				
boot	16	0	16	5

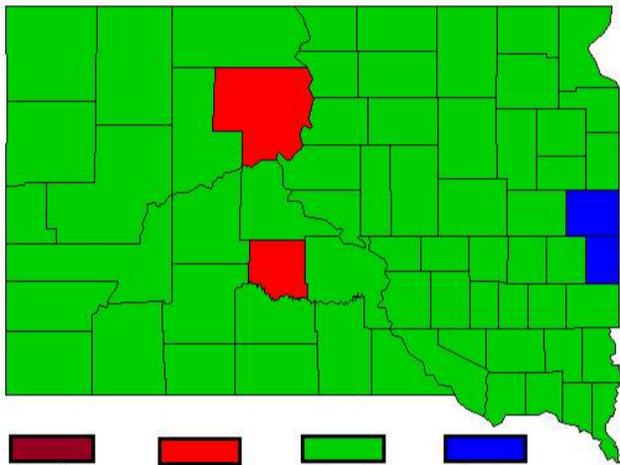
1/ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

SOIL TEMPERATURES WEEK ENDING APR 30, 2006 (4-inch Depth)

LOCATION	TEMP	LOCATION	TEMP
Beresford	51	Gettysburg	52
Brookings	49	Nisland	48
Caputa	46	Pierre	52
Chamberlain	53	Redfield	50
Cottonwood	50	Watertown	47

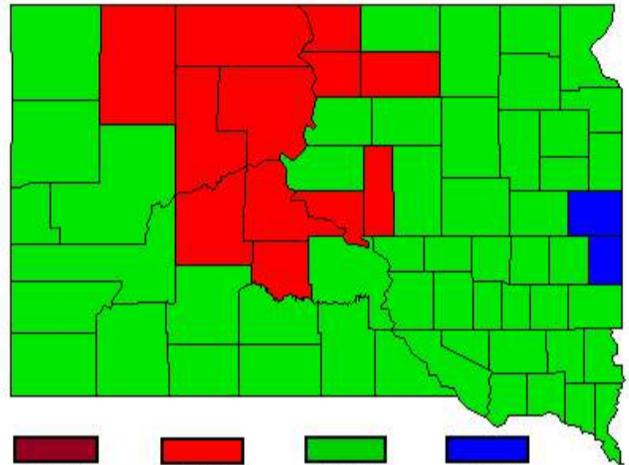
TOPSOIL MOISTURE

As of Sunday, April 30, 2006



SUBSOIL MOISTURE

As of Sunday, April 30, 2006



TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAYS

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2006

Dist.	Station	Temperature Past Week				Precipitation					Growing Degree Days	
		Average	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Total			Departure from Normal		Accum. Total	Departure from Normal
						Current Week	Since Jan. 1	Since Apr. 1	Since Jan. 1	Since Apr. 1		
		Degrees				Inches						
NW	Bison	47	-3	67	26	0.29	3.81	1.60	-0.37	-0.62	113	69
	Buffalo	46	-3	65	27	0.28	2.11	1.55	-0.46	0.16	105	63
	Dupree	48	-4	71	25	0.35	3.35	1.54	-0.25	-0.37	115	60
	McIntosh	48	-2	70	23	0.23	2.13	1.07	-1.20	-0.79	112	68
	Newell	44	-6	67	25	0.58	6.08	4.64	2.97	3.03	97	52
	Timber Lake	47	-4	72	23	0.34	2.34	1.11	-1.71	-0.98	108	56
NC	Aberdeen	51	0	73	24	0.20	3.14	2.10	-0.99	0.15	116	57
	Eureka	50	1	73	24	0.36	2.06	1.43	-1.39	-0.44	123	82
	Faulkton	49	0	76	24	0.42	2.46	1.07	-1.74	-1.03	118	74
	Mobridge	50	0	74	21	0.12	1.67	1.14	-2.32	-0.95	153	103
	Roscoe	48	-2	72	22	0.44	1.80	1.06	-2.40	-1.22	84	33
NE	Britton	50	-1	72	29	0.98	4.40	2.69	0.85	0.85	131	71
	Clear Lake	49	-2	72	29	1.14	4.82	2.69	-0.36	0.42	94	46
	Sisseton	51	0	72	27	1.44	4.57	3.00	-0.12	0.74	108	45
	Webster	49	-1	71	29	1.61	5.87	4.40	1.74	2.56	98	46
	Watertown	50	1	71	28	0.64	3.11	1.89	-1.60	-0.29	112	66
WC	Faith	48	-3	69	25	0.35	2.35	0.90	-1.40	-1.04	126	69
	Milesville	47	-5	72	26	0.73	3.24	1.59	-0.53	-0.26	114	44
	Long Valley	48	-4	71	25	0.52	3.53	1.74	-0.39	-0.31	151	89
	Philip	48	-5	72	25	0.60	3.38	1.32	0.01	-0.41	145	78
	Rapid City	46	-4	67	27	0.40	3.64	2.10	-0.19	0.21	140	99
	Spearfish	46	-3	63	26	0.36	5.43	3.30	-0.07	0.59	114	72
C	Chamberlain	49	-5	74	29	0.64	4.13	1.61	0.31	-0.44	125	46
	Highmore	51	-2	73	28	0.52	3.85	2.53	-0.48	0.27	147	88
	Huron	51	0	74	29	0.16	2.25	1.42	-2.59	-0.67	145	82
	Onida	47	-5	74	28	0.32	3.64	1.72	-0.74	-0.33	121	59
	Pierre	50	-2	74	30	0.25	2.17	0.71	-1.95	-1.37	154	88
EC	Brookings	49	0	71	27	1.46	4.67	2.65	0.62	0.58	88	49
	Madison	50	0	72	29	1.22	4.79	2.99	-0.69	0.62	123	74
	Mitchell	50	-4	73	30	0.88	5.76	3.31	0.69	0.87	124	50
	Sioux Falls	51	-1	72	31	1.24	9.31	5.79	4.00	3.27	159	95
SW	Custer	39	-6	59	22	0.42	3.60	0.99	-0.15	-0.88	38	21
	Hot Springs	46	-6	69	23	0.84	5.25	1.70	2.13	0.07	130	57
	Oelrichs	44	-8	71	21	1.09	4.94	2.31	1.07	0.36	124	58
	Porcupine	44	-6	70	25	1.28	6.80	3.71	3.65	2.04	129	82
SC	Murdo	48	-3	73	26	0.48	4.74	1.78	0.30	-0.40	153	104
	Winner	54	0	74	30	1.24	6.03	3.15	0.48	0.43	211	112
SE	Armour	53	-2	70	29	0.39	4.51	2.58	-0.71	0.24	175	83
	Centerville	52	-1	74	29	0.73	5.84	3.44	0.79	1.17	168	97
	Marion	50	-2	73	30	1.23	6.92	3.88	1.35	1.30	129	72
	Pickstown	51	-2	74	30	0.53	7.15	4.00	2.31	1.65	163	89
	Vermillion	54	-2	74	29	1.53	6.91	3.81	1.90	1.43	222	106
	Yankton	51	-3	76	29	1.06	9.44	4.74	4.83	2.64	177	99

SOURCE: National Weather Service, provided by AWIS, Inc.