

# South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

Released: February 4, 2008-- 3:00 p.m. CST  
For Month of January 2008  
SD-CW5706 Volume 57 Issue 06



National Agricultural Statistics Service  
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Cooperating with:  
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE and  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

## AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

The month of January brought extreme temperatures and modest precipitation. The southeast part of the state received the most precipitation overall, and the northeast and north central areas received the least precipitation. The average snow depth for the state is 2.4 inches. Central and western parts of the state are short of moisture. Farm activities focused on spring planting intentions, financing, caring for livestock, marketing grain and repairing machinery.

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

## WEATHER INFORMATION

January was a month of extremes in temperature across the state, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Both very warm and very cold temperatures occurred during the month. All of the state experienced very cold temperatures for several days with the majority of the state dipping below -10° F and many areas dropping below -20° F. In contrast, much of the state also experienced temperatures above 50° F. During January, average temperatures were within 2° F of normal throughout the whole state with the eastern quarter and areas in and adjacent to the Black Hills below average and the rest of the state above average.

Current snow cover is similar to December with most of the cover in the east and far west and some along the southern border with Nebraska. Snow cover was minimal or non-existent in some of the winter wheat areas during the periods of extremely cold temperatures, introducing the possibility of damage to these crops.

Overall precipitation totals were relatively modest. Most locations received little precipitation, but a few locations reported more than half of an inch for the month. While above average for January, this light moisture will do little to change ongoing drought conditions.

## SOIL CONDITION

Soil temperatures for January 31, 2008 were generally in the 20s. The lowest four-inch soil temperature was recorded in Beresford at 18° F, and the highest was recorded in Redfield, at 33° F. The U.S. Drought Monitor continues to classify the western third of the state in moderate to severe drought conditions.

## FIELD CROPS REPORT

Producers in central and western South Dakota continue to be concerned about the lack of snow cover protection for the winter wheat crop. Winter wheat condition is rated as 2 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 52 percent good and 8 percent excellent, with snow cover rated at 81 percent poor, 18 percent adequate and 1 percent excellent. Alfalfa snow cover is rated as 57 percent poor, 39 percent adequate and 4 percent excellent.

## LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

The extended grazing into December, in some parts of the state, helped keep feed supplies plentiful throughout January. Feed supplies are rated at 92 percent adequate to surplus, up 29 percentage points from last year. Stock water supplies are rated 74 percent adequate to surplus, up 18 percentage points from last year. Cattle conditions are rated 88 percent good to excellent, with calf deaths from the fall crop rated at 14 percent below average, 85 percent average and 1 percent above average. Sheep conditions are rated 90 percent good to excellent, with lamb deaths from the fall crop rated at 8 percent below average and 92 percent average.

### Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending February 3, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Beresford	18	Oacoma	27
Brookings	26	Pierre	26
Caputa	28	Redfield	33
Cottonwood	23	South Shore	27
Nisland	25		

### Crop and Livestock Conditions as of February 3, 2008

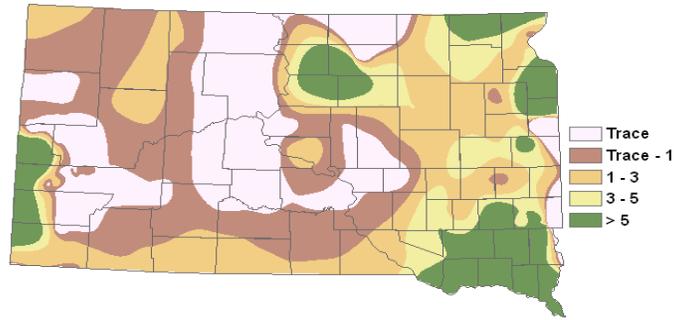
Item	V Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Winter Wheat	2	6	32	52	8
Cattle	0	1	11	71	17
Sheep	0	1	9	74	16

### Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of February 3, 2008

Rating	Feed Supplies			Stock Water Supplies		
	This Week	Last Year	5 Yr. Avg.	This Week	Last Year	5 Yr. Avg.
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Very Short	1	15	10	15	19	20
Short	7	22	17	11	25	21
Adequate	85	61	68	70	54	58
Surplus	7	2	5	4	2	1

The next Crop Weather Report will be for the month of February and will be released March 3, 2008

**SNOW DEPTH (inches)**  
As of Thursday, January 31, 2008



**TEMPERATURE and PRECIPITATION**  
Month Ending January 31, 2008

District And Station	Temperatures Past Month				Precipitation		
	Average	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Monthly Total	Total Since Oct. 1	Departure from Normal Since Oct. 1
	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>
<b>Northwest</b>							
Bison	18	1	54	-19	0.05	1.03	-1.94
Buffalo	20	3	54	-18	0.08	0.82	-2.06
Dupree	18	2	53	-16	0.13	1.52	-1.30
McIntosh	14	0	52	-20	0.00	0.81	-1.84
Newell	19	0	56	-18	0.58	1.71	-1.00
Timber Lake	16	1	48	-18	0.19	1.16	-2.06
<b>North Central</b>							
Aberdeen	7	-4	42	-25	0.07	2.47	-0.77
Faulkton	13	1	53	-13	0.00	2.83	-0.57
Mobridge	17	3	50	-17	0.04	1.85	-0.95
Roscoe	11	1	47	-17	0.07	2.35	-0.96
<b>Northeast</b>							
Britton	10	0	44	-27	0.00	2.22	-1.20
Clear Lake	11	1	45	-16	0.09	4.52	-0.14
Sisseton	13	1	50	-16	0.03	3.84	-0.30
Watertown	9	-1	41	-22	0.01	3.60	-0.19
Webster	9	-1	46	-18	0.00	3.75	-0.02
<b>West Central</b>							
Faith	20	2	55	-14	0.22	1.44	-1.53
Milesville	19	0	54	-15	0.13	2.23	-0.93
Philip	23	4	57	-14	0.31	2.56	-0.05
Rapid City	21	-1	60	-17	0.34	1.49	-1.27
Spearfish	24	0	53	-15	0.55	4.39	0.02
<b>Central</b>							
Chamberlain	21	4	54	-13	0.34	6.38	2.65
Highmore	16	2	52	-14	0.00	3.15	-0.17
Huron	14	0	53	-19	0.17	3.98	0.62
Onida	17	3	50	-15	0.00	5.19	1.63
Pierre	18	0	55	-15	0.00	6.12	2.78
<b>East Central</b>							
Brookings	9	-2	41	-23	0.10	4.21	0.83
Forestburg	16	1	55	-23	0.21	4.96	1.14
Madison	10	-1	53	-26	0.15	5.74	1.47
Mitchell	19	4	47	-19	0.20	4.90	1.16
Sioux Falls	14	0	43	-19	0.23	7.65	3.33
<b>Southwest</b>							
Custer	21	-3	46	-8	0.22	2.04	-1.01
Hot Springs	25	0	53	-12	0.31	2.58	0.08
Oelrichs	20	-1	50	-11	0.20	2.41	-0.38
Porcupine	20	0	51	-10	0.12	2.32	-0.49
<b>South Central</b>							
Kennebec	21	2	56	-16	0.15	4.54	1.79
Mission	20	-1	54	-11	0.44	4.94	1.86
Murdo	20	1	54	-10	0.40	5.33	2.00
Winner	24	1	57	-11	0.04	4.09	0.15
<b>Southeast</b>							
Armour	19	-1	52	-17	0.18	7.10	3.03
Centerville	12	-3	41	-24	0.37	6.66	2.52
Pickstown	21	2	55	-11	0.42	7.24	3.55
Vermillion	17	-2	47	-26	0.54	7.51	3.18
Yankton	16	-2	49	-26	0.57	8.43	4.39

DATA AND MAP SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota