

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE and
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

While some parts of the state continue to deal with the results of recent cool winter temperatures and heavy snowfall, other parts of the state have seen increased soil temperatures and the start of spring fieldwork activities. There were 1.3 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on preparing equipment for spring fieldwork, calving and lambing activities, and in limited areas, the planting of small grains.

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

WEATHER INFORMATION

Another major winter storm hit the northern third of the state following other storms over the last few weeks, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Several locations reported over 10 inches of snowfall with this storm. Much of the data is not reflected in precipitation reports here because the precipitation reporting period ended during the storm event.

A couple late week warm days provided a few stations their first 70° F temperatures of the season and general high temperatures in the 60s to low 70s across the state. But overall temperatures for the week were below average to as much as 8° F below average in the southern Black Hills. Soil temperatures have started to increase being generally above freezing across the state and reaching the 40s in many places west of the river.

Conditions on the US Drought Monitor map have shown changes due to these recent winter storm events. The most recent map indicated a reduced area of D0 (Abnormally Dry) over parts of central to east central South Dakota and a slight reduction in the D1 (Moderate Drought) area in Edmunds and Brown Counties.

SOIL CONDITION

Nearly all stations statewide reported above freezing soil temperatures for the week. The lowest four-inch soil temperature was recorded in Redfield at 32° F, and the highest was recorded in Nisland, at 53° F.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

While most parts of the state continue to face cool and wet soil temperatures or snow cover, spring fieldwork has been able to proceed in some areas of the state. Precipitation across the state has increased the area rated as adequate to surplus topsoil moisture to 83 percent, up three percentage points from last week. Subsoil moisture is rated 71 percent adequate to surplus, up one percentage point from last week. Forty-five percent of the winter wheat acreage has broken dormancy, well behind last year and the five-year average, 93 and 87 percent, respectively. Winter wheat conditions have improved, now rated at 52 percent good to excellent, compared to 47 percent last week. Barley, oats, and spring wheat seedings have been initiated, similar to previous years.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Feed and stock water supplies have remained stable over the past week, rated at 86 percent and 74 percent good to excellent, respectively. Calving is estimated at 50 percent complete, one percentage point behind last year and the five-year average. Lambing is estimated at 68 percent complete, five percentage points ahead of last year and seven percentage points ahead of the five-year average. Some producers have reported calving and lambing difficulties due to cool and muddy conditions, and overall calf and lamb death losses are

up from previous years. Calf death losses are rated at 83 percent average to above average, up nine percentage points from the five-year average. Sheep and lamb death losses are rated at 82 percent average to above average, up five percentage points from the five-year average. Range and pasture conditions are rated at 42 percent good or excellent, up 11 points from the five-year average.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of April 6, 2008

Rating	Feed Supplies			Stock Water Supplies		
	This Week	Last Year	5 Yr. Avg.	This Week	Last Year	5 Yr. Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Very Short	1	10	8	13	13	17
Short	13	21	20	13	17	24
Adequate	76	67	68	65	63	56
Surplus	10	2	4	9	7	3

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of April 6, 2008

Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Very Short	5	7	2	10	11	8
Short	12	13	6	19	19	25
Adequate	68	78	77	66	67	57
Surplus	15	3	14	5	3	10

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of April 6, 2008

Item	V Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	2	9	37	43	9
Cattle	0	1	13	70	16
Sheep	0	1	11	69	19
Range & Pasture	8	13	37	38	4

Crop Progress as of April 6, 2008 ¹

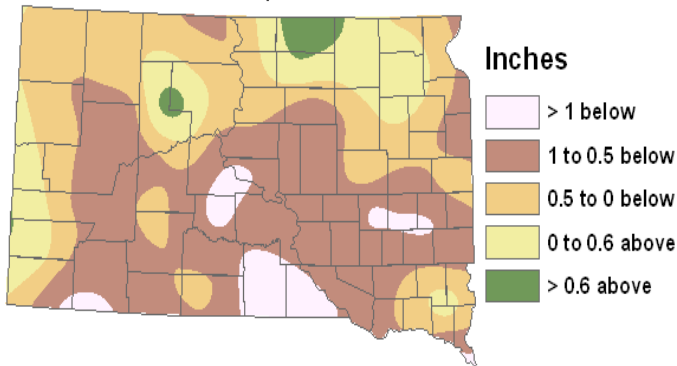
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley				
Seeded	3	NA	2	6
Oats				
Seeded	4	NA	4	12
Emerging	0	NA	0	1
Spring Wheat				
Seeded	7	NA	5	15
Emerging	0	NA	1	1

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

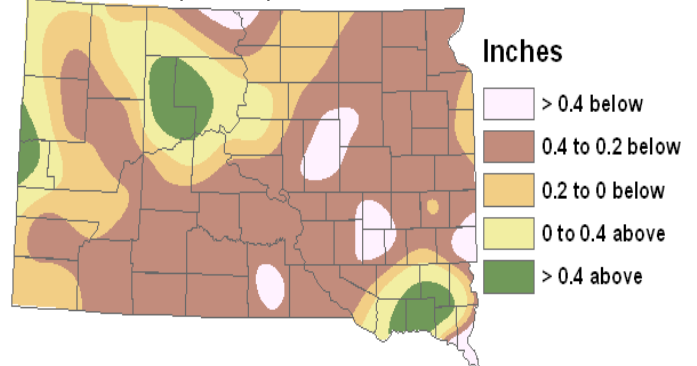
Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending April 6, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	39	Nisland	53
Beresford	35	Oacoma	46
Brookings	33	Parkston	35
Bowdle	37	Pierre	44
Caputa	39	Redfield	32
Cottonwood	41	South Shore	33

Accumulated Precip Departure from Normal
for Mar 8 to Apr 6, 2008



Accumulated Precip Departure from Normal
for Apr 1 to Apr 6, 2008



TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS
Week Ending Sunday, April 6, 2008

District And Station	Temperatures Past Week				Precipitation					Growing Degree Days	
	Average	Departure From Normal	High	Low	Total			Departure From Normal		Total	Departure From Normal
					Current Week	Since Oct. 1	Since Apr. 1	Since Oct. 1	Since Apr. 1		
	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>		
Northwest											
Bison	36	-4	60	14	0.50	2.87	0.41	-2.18	0.05	17	11
Buffalo	35	-3	58	17	0.23	1.80	0.20	-2.43	-0.08	6	5
Dupree	37	-2	63	15	1.36	3.90	1.31	-0.89	1.01	17	11
McIntosh	35	-4	61	17	0.03	1.51	0.01	-2.69	-0.25	10	6
Newell	37	-3	65	15	0.26	3.15	0.16	-1.22	-0.10	8	0
Timber Lake	36	-3	62	15	0.66	2.78	0.50	-2.53	0.18	12	8
North Central											
Aberdeen	37	-2	64	23	0.18	4.46	0.00	-0.95	-0.32	17	14
Faulkton	38	-1	63	18	0.11	3.91	0.02	-1.94	-0.34	19	15
Mobridge	42	2	70	27	0.31	2.95	0.17	-1.59	-0.10	19	16
Roscoe	36	0	61	18	0.40	4.41	0.25	-0.89	-0.07	11	11
Northeast											
Britton	38	0	61	19	0.32	3.87	0.00	-1.39	-0.28	11	7
Clear Lake	37	1	64	21	0.35	6.02	0.25	-1.55	-0.17	14	14
Sisseton	39	0	58	22	0.47	5.70	0.08	-1.00	-0.28	10	10
Watertown	38	1	62	22	0.24	4.87	0.00	-1.09	-0.36	16	16
Webster	37	0	59	20	0.40	5.63	0.05	-0.14	-0.25	9	9
West Central											
Faith	36	-5	62	14	0.46	2.68	0.38	-2.36	0.08	13	5
Milesville	38	-4	64	15	0.55	3.37	0.27	-1.91	-0.03	18	5
Philip	40	-1	70	20	0.30	3.93	0.00	-0.63	-0.30	23	8
Rapid City	36	-4	62	10	0.37	2.68	0.22	-1.89	-0.08	12	3
Spearfish	36	-5	58	17	1.02	7.43	1.02	0.54	0.62	9	1
Central											
Chamberlain	41	0	74	22	0.30	7.77	0.14	1.60	-0.25	27	17
Highmore	38	-2	61	16	0.10	3.88	0.06	-1.82	-0.37	17	10
Huron	42	2	68	20	0.61	5.76	0.05	-0.29	-0.37	32	24
Onida	39	-1	65	19	0.60	6.25	0.39	0.30	0.05	18	11
Pierre	40	-1	67	19	0.12	6.84	0.00	1.42	-0.33	27	15
East Central											
Brookings	37	-1	65	23	0.22	5.58	0.08	0.13	-0.28	15	15
Forestburg	42	0	68	25	0.37	6.23	0.04	-0.25	-0.41	32	17
Madison	37	-2	65	22	0.44	6.79	0.26	-0.29	-0.20	15	15
Mitchell	41	0	70	24	0.25	6.59	0.01	0.02	-0.46	22	14
Sioux Falls	42	1	69	25	0.47	9.62	0.06	2.47	-0.42	27	18
Southwest											
Custer	30	-8	51	8	0.37	4.10	0.01	-0.99	-0.30	1	-1
Hot Springs	34	-8	62	9	0.53	4.35	0.10	0.16	-0.20	11	-13
Oelrichs	39	-3	64	18	0.34	2.92	0.14	-1.66	-0.16	18	-1
Porcupine	37	-3	64	18	0.24	2.91	0.00	-1.69	-0.30	15	-1
South Central											
Kennebec	42	-2	69	14	0.30	5.59	0.05	0.79	-0.30	34	13
Mission	38	-2	70	18	0.38	6.25	0.08	1.20	-0.24	20	13
Murdo	39	-2	68	21	0.44	6.44	0.06	0.44	-0.36	21	11
Winner	40	-4	72	16	0.06	4.86	0.00	-1.90	-0.43	24	2
Southeast											
Armour	43	-1	71	24	0.37	8.13	0.12	1.18	-0.30	31	10
Centerville	39	-2	68	25	1.28	9.09	0.90	2.34	0.48	18	8
Pickstown	41	-2	74	27	0.38	8.88	0.22	2.53	-0.25	23	8
Vermillion	43	-2	69	26	0.67	9.45	0.10	2.32	-0.38	25	0
Yankton	41	-2	72	25	1.04	10.85	1.04	4.05	0.62	24	9