

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Another major winter storm has caused delays for spring fieldwork and difficulties for caring of livestock. There were 0.9 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

The fifth major winter storm in the last month dropped heavy snow mainly in the northeast and south central parts of the state and around the Black Hills, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Stations in each of these areas reported over ten inches of snow. Nearly all of the state received at least a third of an inch of precipitation with several stations reporting over an inch of liquid in combinations of rain and snow. Individual extension reports indicate that in many places the snow is melting and going directly into soil moisture. Some wetter areas in the east are reporting some water in fields.

Temperatures for the week were well below average, ranging from two to thirteen degrees Fahrenheit below average for the week. The colder temperatures and additional soil moisture have kept soil temperatures from making much progress in the last week.

The storms have improved the short term moisture deficits listed in the most recent drought monitor map. Longer term deficits still remain in the drier areas of the west with the more severe drought monitor designations.

SOIL CONDITION

Cooler temperatures and additional snow cover caused soil temperatures across the state to stay steady or decrease. The lowest four-inch soil temperature was recorded in Aberdeen and Redfield at 32° F, and the highest was recorded in Oacoma, at 45° F.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Fieldwork and crop progress made minimal progress over the last week due to snowy and rainy conditions that covered much of the state. The above average precipitation led to an increase in the area rated as adequate to surplus topsoil moisture, now at 90 percent, up seven percentage points from last week. Subsoil moisture is rated 80 percent adequate to surplus, up nine percentage points from last week. Winter wheat breaking dormancy advanced 27 percentage points from last week, now up to 72 percent. There have been some concerns from reports about winterkill in the winter wheat crop, but there have also been several reports that the winter wheat crop has survived the winter in good condition. Winter wheat conditions are now rated at 58 percent good to excellent, compared to 52 percent last week. Barley, oats, and spring wheat seedings continue to commence, but with minimal progress.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Feed supplies remain stable, this week rated at 86 percent good to excellent, up one percentage point from last week. Recent winter storms appear to have had little effect on stock water supplies, now rated at 77 percent good to excellent, up three percentage points from last week. Range and pasture conditions are currently rated at 45 percent good to excellent, 13 percentage points ahead of the five-year average. Recent cool and muddy conditions have made operations difficult for producers dealing with calving and lambing this spring. Calving has progressed to 58 percent complete and calf death

losses are rated at 82 percent average to above average, nine percentage points ahead of the five-year average. Only five percent of cattle have been moved out to pasture, compared to 13 percent last year and 11 percent for the five-year average. Lambing is estimated at 77 percent complete and sheep and lamb death losses are rated at 71 percent average or above average, 11 percentage points lower than last week and six percentage points lower than the five year average.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of April 13, 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	8	10	8	15	19
Short	12	23	19	15	15	23
Adequate	81	68	67	70	64	55
Surplus	6	1	4	7	6	3

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of April 13, 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	2	5	2	7	10	8
Short	8	12	6	13	19	25
Adequate	71	68	78	74	66	57
Surplus	19	15	14	6	5	10

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of April 13, 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	5	35	50	8
Cattle	0	1	16	67	16
Sheep	0	1	15	62	22
Range & Pasture	6	11	38	41	4

Crop Progress as of April 13, 2008 ¹

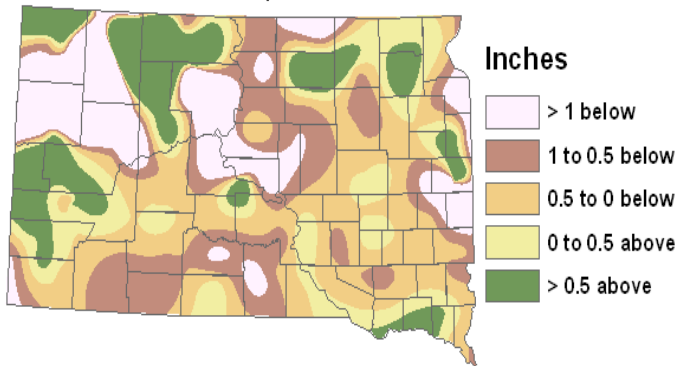
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat				
Breaking Dormancy	72	45	95	95
Barley				
Seeded	7	3	3	18
Emergded	0	0	0	2
Oats				
Seeded	11	4	5	30
Emergded	0	0	1	4
Spring Wheat				
Seeded	12	7	7	35
Emergded	0	0	2	5

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

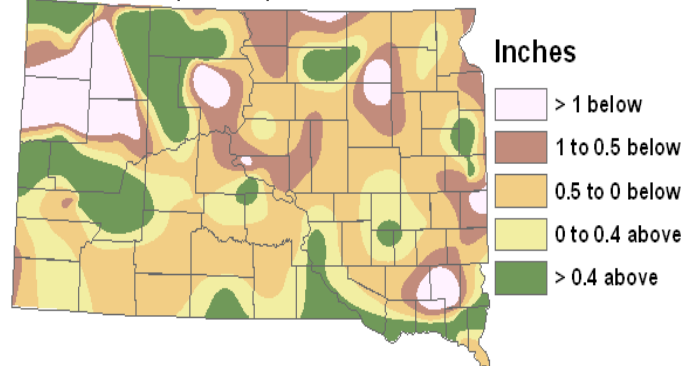
Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending April 13, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	32	Nisland	40
Beresford	34	Oacoma	45
Brookings	34	Parkston	36
Bowdle	34	Pierre	43
Caputa	39	Redfield	32
Cottonwood	40	South Shore	34

Accumulated Precip Departure from Normal
for Mar 15 to Apr 13, 2008



Accumulated Precip Departure from Normal
for Apr 1 to Apr 13, 2008



TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS
Week Ending Sunday, April 13, 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	-7	58	18	0.49	3.36	0.90	-2.15	0.08	21	-3
Buffalo	39	-2	60	24	0.22	2.02	0.42	-2.61	-0.26	11	1
Dupree	36	-6	59	10	0.36	4.26	1.67	-0.92	0.98	22	-4
McIntosh	38	-5	58	15	0.25	1.76	0.26	-2.79	-0.35	16	-5
Newell	38	-5	62	20	0.43	3.58	0.59	-1.14	-0.02	20	-7
Timber Lake	36	-7	60	6	0.30	3.08	0.80	-2.65	0.06	17	-4
North Central											
Aberdeen	35	-8	56	14	0.21	4.67	0.21	-1.16	-0.53	20	1
Faulkton	35	-8	57	13	0.34	4.25	0.36	-2.02	-0.42	26	5
Mobridge	37	-5	56	18	0.12	3.07	0.29	-1.82	-0.33	24	6
Roscoe	30	-10	52	6	1.23	5.64	1.48	-0.10	0.72	12	3
Northeast											
Britton	34	-8	54	16	0.26	4.13	0.26	-1.48	-0.37	13	-8
Clear Lake	32	-9	52	20	1.46	7.48	1.71	-0.58	0.80	15	9
Sisseton	34	-8	53	12	0.76	6.46	0.84	-0.70	0.02	12	-1
Watertown	34	-7	53	16	0.69	5.56	0.69	-0.82	-0.09	19	13
Webster	32	-9	54	12	0.68	6.31	0.73	0.13	0.02	11	5
West Central											
Faith	38	-6	55	27	0.45	3.13	0.83	-2.30	0.14	15	-15
Milesville	37	-8	57	6	0.40	3.77	0.67	-1.90	-0.02	24	-15
Philip	41	-3	58	24	0.74	4.67	0.74	-0.23	0.09	31	-11
Rapid City	37	-6	57	20	1.08	3.76	1.30	-1.19	0.62	15	-12
Spearfish	38	-5	62	22	0.79	8.22	1.81	0.80	0.88	15	-11
Central											
Chamberlain	39	-5	55	24	1.26	9.03	1.40	2.36	0.51	35	3
Highmore	36	-7	57	9	0.34	4.22	0.40	-2.05	-0.60	25	-4
Huron	36	-8	58	18	0.83	6.59	0.88	0.05	-0.03	39	11
Onida	35	-8	58	13	0.50	6.75	0.89	0.38	0.13	22	-5
Pierre	37	-8	56	9	0.49	7.33	0.49	1.49	-0.26	34	-4
East Central											
Brookings	33	-8	52	21	0.45	6.03	0.53	0.13	-0.28	17	7
Forestburg	36	-9	59	19	1.20	7.43	1.24	0.37	0.21	39	-7
Madison	34	-9	52	21	0.50	7.29	0.76	-0.36	-0.27	17	5
Mitchell	37	-8	56	18	1.58	8.18	1.59	1.00	0.51	28	-3
Sioux Falls	35	-8	54	21	0.64	10.26	0.70	2.53	-0.36	30	-1
Southwest											
Custer	31	-8	53	15	0.83	4.93	0.84	-0.58	0.11	2	-7
Hot Springs	38	-7	59	19	0.93	5.28	1.03	0.69	0.33	15	-43
Oelrichs	37	-7	57	16	0.86	3.78	1.00	-1.20	0.30	22	-25
Porcupine	35	-7	54	13	0.34	3.25	0.34	-1.76	-0.37	17	-25
South Central											
Kennebec	37	-9	56	12	0.63	6.22	0.68	0.99	-0.10	41	-16
Mission	30	-13	49	8	1.01	7.26	1.09	1.78	0.34	20	-4
Murdo	36	-9	49	17	0.86	7.30	0.92	0.81	0.01	21	-12
Winner	37	-10	56	15	0.70	5.56	0.70	-1.76	-0.29	31	-26
Southeast											
Armour	36	-11	55	23	0.70	8.83	0.82	1.33	-0.15	34	-23
Centerville	37	-8	54	24	0.49	9.58	1.39	2.30	0.44	21	-13
Pickstown	37	-9	57	24	1.32	10.20	1.54	3.25	0.47	30	-13
Vermillion	38	-10	55	23	1.00	10.45	1.10	2.72	0.02	31	-36
Yankton	37	-8	56	25	1.71	12.56	2.75	5.22	1.79	30	-13