

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE and
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Weather conditions helped to facilitate the drying of South Dakota fields this past week allowing an acceleration of fieldwork and crop progress. There were 3.2 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on application of fertilizer, seeding of small grain, calving and lambing activities, and general care of livestock.

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

WEATHER INFORMATION

Some spring-like weather finally spread over the whole state improving conditions for fieldwork during the week, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Little precipitation occurred during the week across the state. A large portion of south central to northeast South Dakota received no precipitation during the week. Most areas that reported precipitation in the northeast quarter of the state and the far southeast were quite modest, only up to a couple tenths. There were a couple locations that did receive over four tenths during the week.

With the lack of precipitation, warmer than average temperatures, and windy conditions for most of the week, there was a good amount of surface drying. Soil temperatures also rebounded everywhere, moving well into the 40s over the whole state by the weekend.

The lack of precipitation was helpful for soil temperature recovery, but not so much for precipitation deficits. Note the precipitation deviations in the short term and long term. Nearly the whole state is below average precipitation for April. Longer term deficits continue throughout much of the western part of the state, particularly the northwest, where deficits range to over two inches since October 1.

SOIL CONDITION

Mostly dry weather, warmer temperatures and windy conditions led to dryer and increased soil temperatures across the state. The lowest four-inch soil temperature was recorded in Redfield at 39° F, and the highest was recorded in Oacoma and Pierre, at 52° F. The U.S. Drought Monitor currently rates 11.6 percent of South Dakota in severe drought conditions covering an area in the northwest corner and the extreme southwest corner of the state.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Minimal precipitation and windy conditions across the state allowed increased progress in spring fieldwork across South Dakota. Topsoil moisture, now rated at 87 percent adequate to surplus, decreased slightly from last weeks rating of 90 percent. Subsoil moisture also decreased from last week, this week rated at 78 percent adequate to surplus, down from last weeks 80 percent. Winter wheat breaking dormancy advanced 20 percentage points from last week, now up to 92 percent. There have been a few reports of army cutworms in the winter wheat crop, while it is not yet decided if it warrants additional pesticide applications from producers. Winter wheat conditions are now rated at 64 percent good to excellent, compared to 58 percent last week. Barley, oats, and spring wheat seedings made significant progress from last week, now estimated at 17 percent, 31 percent, and 34 percent, respectively.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Feed supplies remain stable, this week rated at 86 percent adequate to surplus, ahead of last year's estimate at 68 percent adequate to surplus and ahead of the five-year average at 70 percent. Stock water supplies are rated at 77 percent adequate to surplus, also ahead of last year and the five-year average. Range and pasture conditions have improved slightly to 47

percent good to excellent, up two percentage points from last week. Calving has progressed to 70 percent complete, just two percentage points behind both last year and the five-year average. Calf death losses are rated at 16 percent below average, 79 percent average and 5 percent above average. Nine percent of cattle have been moved out to pasture, up four percentage points from last week. Lambing is estimated at 82 percent complete and sheep and lamb death losses are rated at 28 percent below average, 71 percent average and 1 percent above average.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of April 20, 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	11	11	12	13	19
Short	13	22	19	11	15	22
Adequate	80	66	66	66	62	55
Surplus	6	2	4	11	9	4

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of April 20, 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	2	3	9	7	9
Short	11	8	5	13	13	23
Adequate	76	71	77	71	74	55
Surplus	11	19	16	7	6	13

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of April 20, 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	4	30	54	10
Cattle	0	1	14	67	18
Sheep	0	1	12	66	21
Range & Pasture	5	11	37	41	6

Crop Progress as of April 20, 2008 ¹

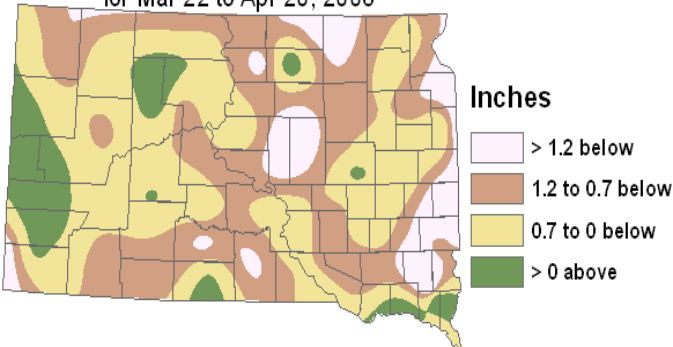
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat				
Breaking Dormancy	92	72	99	99
Barley				
Seeded	17	7	12	37
Emerged	1	0	1	6
Oats				
Seeded	31	11	23	51
Emerged	5	0	6	14
Spring Wheat				
Seeded	34	12	24	59
Emerged	6	0	7	16
Corn				
Planted	1	0	1	2

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

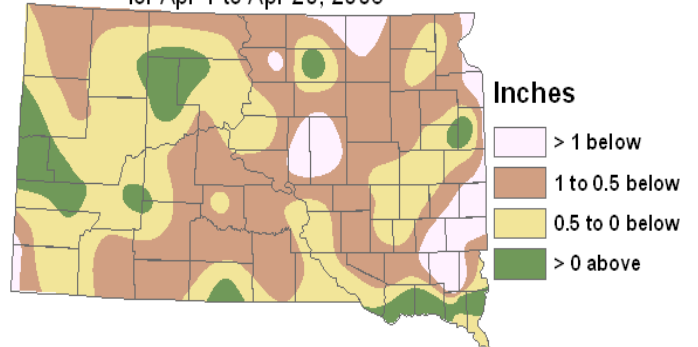
Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending April 20, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	45	Nisland	49
Beresford	42	Oacoma	52
Brookings	40	Parkston	44
Bowdle	44	Pierre	52
Caputa	45	Redfield	39
Cottonwood	51	South Shore	40

PAST 30 DAYS
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Mar 22 to Apr 20, 2008



GROWING SEASON
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Apr 1 to Apr 20, 2008



TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS
Week Ending Sunday, April 20, 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	55	9	79	28	0.25	3.61	1.15	-2.39	-0.16	107	53
Buffalo	52	8	81	17	0.12	2.14	0.54	-2.96	-0.61	66	36
Dupree	55	9	87	28	0.07	4.33	1.74	-1.28	0.62	99	43
McIntosh	50	4	83	26	0.10	1.86	0.36	-3.10	-0.66	77	26
Newell	49	4	82	23	0.14	3.72	0.73	-1.41	-0.29	84	27
Timber Lake	54	8	85	27	0.50	3.58	1.30	-2.62	0.09	91	41
North Central											
Aberdeen	47	0	76	23	0.00	4.67	0.21	-1.58	-0.95	70	22
Faulkton	50	4	82	25	0.04	4.29	0.40	-2.45	-0.85	83	31
Mobridge	54	8	88	30	0.11	3.18	0.40	-2.10	-0.61	86	41
Roscoe	47	3	87	20	0.12	5.76	1.60	-0.47	0.35	61	30
Northeast											
Britton	49	3	72	27	0.01	4.14	0.27	-1.89	-0.78	58	7
Clear Lake	44	0	67	20	0.00	7.48	1.71	-1.12	0.26	37	13
Sisseton	48	2	70	28	0.00	6.46	0.84	-1.19	-0.47	52	14
Watertown	45	1	69	21	0.00	5.56	0.69	-1.30	-0.57	51	26
Webster	47	3	69	26	0.00	6.31	0.73	-0.30	-0.41	44	19
West Central											
Faith	54	7	84	25	0.13	3.26	0.96	-2.61	-0.17	81	19
Milesville	56	8	89	29	0.00	3.77	0.67	-2.35	-0.47	106	30
Philip	56	9	90	24	0.00	4.67	0.74	-0.65	-0.33	108	27
Rapid City	48	3	81	25	0.01	3.77	1.31	-1.62	0.19	68	14
Spearfish	55	9	79	29	0.40	8.62	2.21	0.61	0.69	93	40
Central											
Chamberlain	49	3	79	23	0.00	9.03	1.40	1.79	-0.06	84	19
Highmore	51	5	83	28	0.00	4.22	0.40	-2.68	-1.23	83	22
Huron	49	3	77	25	0.00	6.59	0.88	-0.51	-0.59	93	33
Onida	54	7	86	27	0.20	6.95	1.09	0.13	-0.12	95	36
Pierre	54	6	91	27	0.05	7.38	0.54	1.05	-0.70	101	26
East Central											
Brookings	44	-1	73	21	0.00	6.03	0.53	-0.36	-0.77	45	12
Forestburg	51	3	77	25	0.00	7.43	1.24	-0.26	-0.42	103	14
Madison	44	-1	73	20	0.00	7.29	0.76	-0.99	-0.90	46	10
Mitchell	55	7	79	33	0.00	8.18	1.59	0.37	-0.12	88	26
Sioux Falls	48	2	77	19	0.00	10.26	0.70	1.90	-0.99	76	11
Southwest											
Custer	46	5	71	23	0.11	5.04	0.95	-0.96	-0.27	43	20
Hot Springs	53	6	83	23	0.07	5.35	1.10	0.29	-0.07	103	4
Oelrichs	52	5	87	22	0.00	3.78	1.00	-1.67	-0.17	96	12
Porcupine	52	7	88	25	0.00	3.25	0.34	-2.21	-0.82	86	10
South Central											
Kennebec	54	5	87	21	0.00	6.22	0.68	0.50	-0.59	120	18
Mission	49	3	85	21	0.00	7.26	1.09	1.28	-0.16	70	20
Murdo	52	5	88	32	0.02	7.32	0.94	0.30	-0.50	79	14
Winner	54	4	82	29	0.00	5.56	0.70	-2.38	-0.91	94	-8
Southeast											
Armour	50	0	76	23	0.00	8.83	0.82	0.74	-0.74	95	-8
Centerville	47	-1	77	20	0.00	9.58	1.39	1.72	-0.14	64	-3
Pickstown	49	0	79	24	0.00	10.20	1.54	2.59	-0.19	76	-3
Vermillion	50	-1	78	22	0.29	10.74	1.39	2.36	-0.34	76	-43
Yankton	47	-1	79	24	0.01	12.57	2.76	4.64	1.21	71	-11

DATA AND MAP SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota