

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Field work progressed quickly for the first part of the week, but it was interrupted in eastern South Dakota due to winter-like snow storm on Friday and Saturday. There were 3.5 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on preparing equipment, 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

A relatively warm early part of the week ended abruptly late in the week as another spring snow storm hit much of the eastern third of the state, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Most of the storm area received at least a few inches of snowfall. A swath of heavier snows extended from Charles Mix County to the northeast corner of the state with more than a foot of wet snow occurring in the core of this area, setting many daily and monthly records for total snow and lateness of major snow accumulation. The additional moisture slowed field work and dropped soil temperatures back into the lower 40s. As is usual with late spring storms, the snow cover was quickly disappearing.

Overall temperatures ended the week at 3° to 12°F below average. This continues a stretch of overall colder than average temperatures starting to manifest itself in below average GDD accumulation since April 1. Most of the state received some precipitation, but outside the major snow area, precipitation totals were light: generally less than 0.5". This, again, left the very dry western areas with little relief from drought conditions.

SOIL CONDITION

A spring storm led to a decrease in soil temperature in some areas. The highest soil temperature was recorded in Oacoma at 52°F. The lowest temperature of 43°F was recorded in Aberdeen, Brookings, Bowdle, and South Shore. The U.S. Drought Monitor continues to rate 11.6 percent of South Dakota in severe drought conditions.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Spring fieldwork and crop progress advanced normally for the beginning of the week, but growers in eastern South Dakota experienced a significant set-back due to inclement weather in the latter part of the week. Reporters expressed concerns that the snowfall may keep many operators out of the field for most of the upcoming week. Winter wheat breaking dormancy advanced 5 percentage points from last week, now up to 97 percent. Winter wheat conditions are now rated at 57 percent good to excellent, compared to 64 percent last week. Barley, oats, and spring wheat seedings progressed to 34 percent, 47 percent, and 50 percent seeded, respectively. Small grain seeding progress is generally ahead of last year at this time, but well behind the five-year average.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Feed supplies, rated at 84 percent adequate to surplus, were ahead of last year's estimate at 70 percent adequate to surplus and ahead of the five-year average at 71 percent. Stock water supplies are rated at 74 percent adequate to surplus, matching last year's average but ahead of the five-year average. Range and pasture conditions are rated at 48 percent good to excellent, up one percentage point from last week. Calving has progressed to 79 percent complete, matching last year and only one percentage point behind the five-year average. Calf death losses are rated at 14 percent below average, 80 percent average, and 6 percent above average. Reporters conveyed that the weekend snow storm was putting stress on young calves. Thirteen percent of cattle have been moved out to

pasture, up four percentage points from last week. Lambing is estimated at 86 percent complete, and sheep and lamb death losses are rated at 25 percent below average, 73 percent average and 2 percent above average.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of April 27, 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	11	11	11	17
Short	15	20	18	15	15	22
Adequate	79	68	66	66	64	57
Surplus	5	2	5	8	10	4

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of April 27, 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	2	8	9	8
Short	12	11	6	14	13	21
Adequate	68	76	76	70	71	58
Surplus	18	11	16	8	7	13

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of April 27, 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	3	7	33	46	11
Cattle	0	1	18	68	13
Sheep	0	1	13	70	16
Range & Pasture	4	13	35	43	5

Crop Progress as of April 27, 2008 ¹

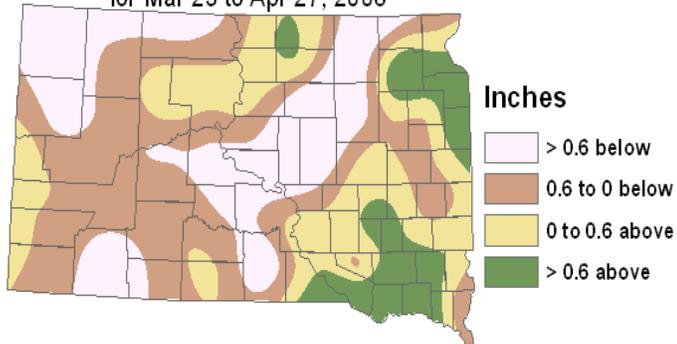
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat				
Breaking Dormancy	97	92	100	100
Boot	0	0	3	4
Barley				
Seeded	34	17	28	56
Emerged	3	1	5	17
Oats				
Seeded	47	31	46	70
Emerged	10	5	15	28
Spring Wheat				
Seeded	50	34	49	78
Emerged	11	6	16	36
Corn				
Planted	4	1	6	10
Emerged	0	0	0	0

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

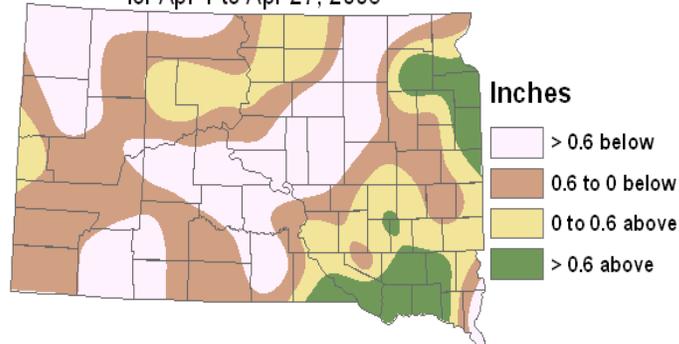
Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending April 27, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	43	Nisland	46
Beresford	44	Oacoma	52
Brookings	43	Parkston	47
Bowdle	43	Pierre	50
Caputa	44	Redfield	45
Cottonwood	47	South Shore	43

PAST 30 DAYS
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Mar 29 to Apr 27, 2008



GROWING SEASON
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Apr 1 to Apr 27, 2008



TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS
Week Ending Sunday, April 27, 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	40	-9	64	21	0.26	3.87	1.41	-2.69	-0.46	128	33
Buffalo	36	-10	58	22	0.24	2.38	0.78	-3.24	-0.89	73	12
Dupree	42	-7	66	24	0.39	4.72	2.13	-1.39	0.51	127	29
McIntosh	37	-12	61	22	0.17	2.03	0.53	-3.38	-0.94	84	-9
Newell	39	-9	66	20	0.13	3.85	0.86	-1.74	-0.62	99	4
Timber Lake	41	-8	69	23	0.36	3.94	1.66	-2.77	-0.06	116	26
North Central											
Aberdeen	43	-7	73	23	0.24	4.91	0.45	-1.80	-1.17	100	10
Faulkton	42	-7	74	25	0.07	4.36	0.47	-2.90	-1.30	110	17
Mobridge	39	-10	64	21	0.79	3.97	1.19	-1.73	-0.24	99	15
Roscoe	41	-6	68	25	0.59	6.35	2.19	-0.44	0.38	81	16
Northeast											
Britton	39	-10	63	20	0.36	4.50	0.63	-1.99	-0.88	80	-15
Clear Lake	43	-5	74	22	1.64	9.12	3.35	-0.04	1.34	69	13
Sisseton	41	-8	68	20	0.99	7.45	1.83	-0.69	0.03	75	-2
Watertown	41	-6	74	21	1.13	6.69	1.82	-0.66	0.07	77	21
Webster	40	-8	67	20	2.06	8.37	2.79	1.27	1.16	65	7
West Central											
Faith	40	-10	63	25	0.58	3.84	1.54	-2.54	-0.10	96	-9
Milesville	44	-6	73	24	0.22	3.99	0.89	-2.67	-0.79	141	20
Philip	44	-5	77	21	0.27	4.94	1.01	-0.86	-0.54	141	14
Rapid City	40	-8	67	22	0.18	3.95	1.49	-1.94	-0.13	87	-2
Spearfish	38	-10	61	14	0.35	8.97	2.56	0.32	0.40	109	21
Central											
Chamberlain	46	-4	78	24	0.83	9.86	2.23	1.98	0.13	122	14
Highmore	42	-7	74	22	0.28	4.50	0.68	-3.06	-1.61	114	9
Huron	43	-6	78	21	1.04	7.63	1.92	-0.03	-0.11	127	24
Onida	43	-6	75	24	0.25	7.20	1.34	-0.11	-0.36	126	23
Pierre	44	-7	73	23	0.16	7.54	0.70	0.67	-1.08	132	9
East Central											
Brookings	44	-4	76	24	1.52	7.55	2.05	0.67	0.26	79	13
Forestburg	46	-6	80	21	1.58	9.01	2.82	0.63	0.47	147	6
Madison	44	-4	76	24	1.30	8.59	2.06	-0.32	-0.23	81	11
Mitchell	45	-5	80	24	1.47	9.65	3.06	1.14	0.65	126	20
Sioux Falls	46	-4	78	26	1.95	12.21	2.65	3.19	0.30	110	0
Southwest											
Custer	37	-6	56	19	0.27	5.31	1.22	-1.26	-0.57	51	6
Hot Springs	44	-5	66	21	0.18	5.53	1.28	-0.07	-0.43	130	-18
Oelrichs	42	-7	71	24	0.30	4.08	1.30	-1.91	-0.41	118	-13
Porcupine	41	-6	72	19	0.30	3.55	0.64	-2.41	-1.02	110	-10
South Central											
Kennebec	47	-5	77	22	0.55	6.77	1.23	0.50	-0.59	174	15
Mission	45	-3	77	24	0.61	7.87	1.70	1.30	-0.14	107	21
Murdo	44	-6	78	26	0.35	7.67	1.29	0.09	-0.71	114	7
Winner	46	-7	77	23	0.59	6.15	1.29	-2.48	-1.01	130	-27
Southeast											
Armour	47	-6	78	21	1.42	10.25	2.24	1.50	0.02	146	-13
Centerville	46	-4	78	27	0.94	10.52	2.33	2.02	0.16	106	-7
Pickstown	47	-4	82	21	2.37	12.57	3.91	4.25	1.47	124	-1
Vermillion	50	-3	80	27	1.12	11.86	2.51	2.78	0.08	135	-46
Yankton	48	-3	80	29	1.87	14.44	4.63	5.85	2.42	118	-13