

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Blizzard conditions in western South Dakota and above-average precipitation and below-average temperatures across the state impacted South Dakota by slowing spring planting and creating difficulties in caring for livestock. There were 3.0 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

The most recent major winter storm hit the western part of the state most heavily at the end of last week, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. The snow was confined to an area generally southwest of a Buffalo to Martin line. Snow reports of three to four feet were recorded in and north of the Black Hills. Amounts over a foot were more widespread. The snow, accompanied by winds reaching 50 to 60 miles per hour, produced severe conditions for any travel or outdoor work. Power lines were knocked down north of the Black Hills leading to significant power outages. Areas east of the snow received significant amounts of rainfall in most places west of the river. Widespread amounts over an inch, and over two inches, fell in some places in the north central to northwest parts of the state. Timber Lake had the largest amount reported, at 3.55 inches, for the week. Areas of the southeast part of the state also received rainfall amounts over an inch.

Temperatures ran much colder than average again ranging from 2 to 10 degrees F below average for the week, although there were a couple relatively warm days prior to the storm. The precipitation and colder air temperatures continued to hold down soil temperatures into the middle 40s.

SOIL CONDITION

Soil temperatures remained in the middle 40s, due to lower-than-average temperatures and above-average precipitation across the state. The highest soil temperature was recorded in Oacoma, at 53° F. The lowest soil temperature of 42° F was recorded in South Shore. The U.S. Drought Monitor continues to rate 11.6 percent of South Dakota in severe drought conditions.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Heavy precipitation across the state hindered the acceleration of spring planting, but improved soil moisture conditions in many parts of the state. Planting of small grain continues to accelerate with a 26 percentage point increase in barley, to 60 percent planted; a 26 percentage point increase in oats, to 73 percent planted; and a 25 percentage point increase in spring wheat, to 75 percent planted. Winter wheat condition continues to remain stable, now rated at 63 percent good to excellent. Concerns of some heavy winterkill and the need for spraying of army cutworms have been noted by several reporters. Corn planted, this week estimated at 10 percent, remains well behind last year and the five-year average, at 24 percent and 32 percent, respectively.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Range and pasture conditions are rated at 54 percent good to excellent, up 6 percentage points from last week. Calving has progressed to 86 percent complete, with multiple reports of calving difficulties as the result of heavy snow and rain conditions that hit several areas across the state. The percent of cattle moved out to pasture has progressed to 25 percent. Lambing is estimated at 92 percent complete, 6 percentage points ahead of last week.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of May 4, 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	7	10	11	10	18
Short	16	20	18	9	14	22
Adequate	76	71	68	68	62	55
Surplus	7	2	4	12	14	5

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of May 4, 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	0	2	3	6	8	7
Short	6	12	6	10	14	18
Adequate	71	68	69	71	70	62
Surplus	23	18	22	13	8	13

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of May 4, 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	27	50	13
Spring Wheat	1	3	40	49	7
Barley	0	1	38	53	8
Oats	0	3	35	58	4
Alfalfa	1	4	43	45	7
Cattle	0	1	13	72	14
Sheep	0	0	18	62	20
Range & Pasture	4	12	30	44	10

Crop Progress as of May 4, 2008¹

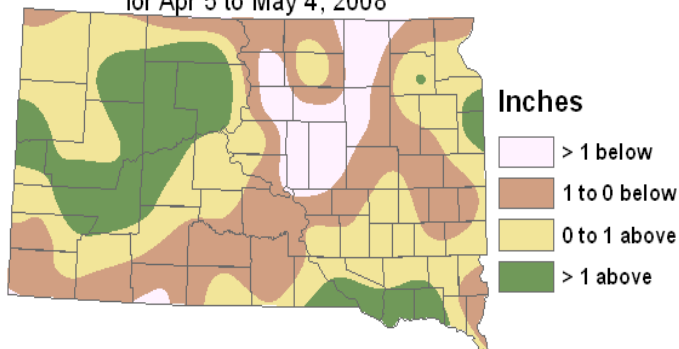
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat				
Boot	9	0	12	15
Barley				
Seeded	60	34	55	74
Emerged	7	3	17	35
Oats				
Seeded	73	47	71	84
Emerged	22	10	31	49
Spring Wheat				
Seeded	75	50	78	90
Emerged	20	11	39	60
Corn				
Planted	10	4	24	32
Emerged	0	0	1	1
Soybeans				
Planted	0	0	1	3
Sorghum				
Planted	0	0	1	2

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

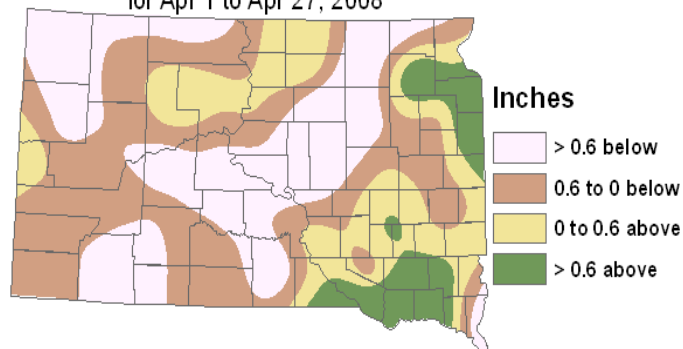
Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending May 4, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	47	Nisland	43
Beresford	44	Oacoma	53
Brookings	45	Parkston	47
Bowdle	46	Pierre	52
Caputa	43	Redfield	44
Cottonwood	47	South Shore	42

PAST 30 DAYS
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Apr 5 to May 4, 2008



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



TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS
Week Ending Sunday, May 4, 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	45	-6	76	25	1.86	5.73	3.27	-1.39	0.84	165	20
Buffalo	46	-3	76	25	1.49	3.87	2.27	-2.31	0.04	107	6
Dupree	49	-3	76	20	1.84	6.56	3.97	-0.11	1.79	179	30
McIntosh	46	-6	72	22	1.14	3.17	1.67	-2.73	-0.29	122	-23
Newell	41	-10	65	20	1.73	5.58	2.59	-0.52	0.60	123	-18
Timber Lake	48	-3	75	21	3.55	7.49	5.21	0.22	2.93	168	28
North Central											
Aberdeen	47	-5	74	19	0.03	4.94	0.48	-2.26	-1.63	139	-4
Faulkton	47	-5	73	21	0.56	4.92	1.03	-2.93	-1.33	149	4
Mobridge	49	-3	75	24	0.40	4.37	1.59	-1.82	-0.33	143	9
Roscoe	43	-7	71	22	0.93	7.28	3.12	-0.12	0.70	107	-4
Northeast											
Britton	47	-5	66	21	0.42	4.92	1.05	-2.09	-0.98	115	-35
Clear Lake	42	-9	67	24	0.34	9.46	3.69	-0.26	1.12	88	-11
Sisseton	44	-8	67	24	0.38	7.83	2.21	-0.87	-0.15	102	-25
Watertown	43	-7	68	18	0.51	7.20	2.33	-0.64	0.09	102	4
Webster	45	-6	66	24	0.19	8.56	2.98	0.97	0.86	93	-9
West Central											
Faith	49	-4	76	30	2.26	6.10	3.80	-0.88	1.56	131	-26
Milesville	48	-5	80	23	2.55	6.54	3.44	-0.77	1.11	191	14
Philip	50	-2	83	29	1.80	6.74	2.81	0.36	0.68	191	9
Rapid City	43	-7	81	23	2.26	6.21	3.75	-0.26	1.55	120	-12
Spearfish	42	-9	66	20	1.35	10.32	3.91	0.97	1.05	133	3
Central											
Chamberlain	50	-2	76	29	0.54	10.40	2.77	1.79	-0.06	165	5
Highmore	47	-5	74	21	0.18	4.68	0.86	-3.55	-2.10	153	-5
Huron	48	-4	75	21	0.29	7.92	2.21	-0.36	-0.44	170	15
Onida	48	-4	74	20	1.18	8.38	2.52	0.52	0.27	177	21
Pierre	48	-5	76	20	1.63	9.17	2.33	1.70	-0.05	176	-3
East Central											
Brookings	43	-8	71	23	0.15	7.70	2.20	0.26	-0.15	103	-9
Forestburg	50	-4	76	24	0.33	9.34	3.15	0.25	0.09	204	1
Madison	43	-9	68	24	0.20	8.79	2.26	-0.82	-0.73	103	-13
Mitchell	51	-2	76	32	0.42	10.07	3.48	0.86	0.37	174	15
Sioux Falls	48	-4	74	27	0.43	12.64	3.08	2.92	0.03	149	-15
Southwest											
Custer	40	-5	70	16	0.96	6.27	2.18	-0.96	-0.27	75	0
Hot Springs	44	-7	82	21	0.53	6.06	1.81	-0.14	-0.50	175	-29
Oelrichs	48	-3	82	24	0.80	4.88	2.10	-1.72	-0.22	174	-11
Porcupine	46	-5	74	20	1.47	5.02	2.11	-1.50	-0.11	151	-21
South Central											
Kennebec	49	-6	75	17	0.42	7.19	1.65	0.32	-0.77	224	-1
Mission	46	-5	79	22	0.75	8.62	2.45	1.37	-0.07	144	12
Murdo	48	-4	79	28	1.11	8.78	2.40	0.61	-0.19	153	-5
Winner	51	-5	76	20	0.80	6.95	2.09	-2.46	-0.99	173	-47
Southeast											
Armour	49	-6	73	30	1.05	11.30	3.29	1.80	0.32	189	-36
Centerville	49	-5	76	26	1.10	11.62	3.43	2.42	0.56	151	-17
Pickstown	47	-7	75	26	1.07	13.64	4.98	4.55	1.77	161	-21
Vermillion	52	-4	78	25	0.98	12.84	3.49	2.99	0.29	200	-51
Yankton	51	-3	75	30	1.18	15.62	5.81	6.29	2.86	162	-28

DATA AND MAP SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota