

# South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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

## AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Dry weather in the state over the last week allowed for fieldwork progress that has left the small grain harvest nearly complete, but could lead to moisture stress issues in row crops without upcoming precipitation. There were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on the small grain harvest, general care of livestock, preparing for the silage harvest, and the cutting of hay in some areas.

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

## WEATHER INFORMATION

Temperatures experienced a roller coaster-like week over the state as temperatures reached well into the 90s early in the week and over 100° F in the southwest on Thursday, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. But by the weekend temperatures had fallen into the 30s in several locations of the western part of the state. The highest temperatures reported were Oelrichs and Philip at 101° F. The lowest temperature reported was Porcupine at 35° F. This is the first time this summer that temperatures have fallen below the 40° F level. Overall the temperatures were generally above average roughly north of I-90 and below average south of I-90. Precipitation was very hard to come by statewide. No stations reported precipitation. Some precipitation did occur with hail reported in the Black Hills. Precipitation totals were below 50% of average in the southeast and south central areas over the last 30 days.

The accumulated GDDs improved slightly, but were still running from a few days behind average in the southeast to over a week behind average in the north central.

## SOIL CONDITION

With recent below-average precipitation, statewide soil moisture ratings have been dropping. Topsoil moisture is currently 65 percent in the adequate to surplus categories, down 16 percentage points from last week. Subsoil moisture ratings dropped 9 percentage points to 70 percent in the adequate to surplus categories. However, the U.S. Drought Monitor continues to not rate any area in South Dakota higher than D0 (Abnormally Dry) and this area has decreased to 13.3 percent of the state.

## FIELD CROPS REPORT

South Dakota row crops continued to progress over the last week with a thirty percentage point advance of corn in the dough stage, to 62 percent, and a 22 percentage point advance in soybeans setting pods, to 95 percent. Dry weather over much of the state allowed for the near completion of the small grain harvest with 97 percent of the oats complete and 91 percent of both barley and spring wheat complete. The sunflower crop is currently 15 percent in the ray flowers dry stage and 34 percent of sorghum acreage is coloring. Some reporters have commented about spraying for aphid and beetles in soybean fields and the need for rain to help finish the development of the row crops.

## LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Lack of precipitation caused range and pasture conditions to dip slightly, down 4 percentage points to 69 percent in the good to excellent categories. Feed supplies and stock water supplies remained strong at 95 and 87 percent adequate to surplus, respectively. Livestock conditions have remained stable with cattle rated 89 percent good to excellent and sheep rated 92 percent good to excellent.

## Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of August 24, 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	0	2	9	1	14	23
Short	5	10	21	12	16	25
Adequate	86	81	65	77	62	50
Surplus	9	7	5	10	8	2

## Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of August 24, 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	1	7	4	4	14
Short	30	18	17	26	17	24
Adequate	63	77	72	67	73	59
Surplus	2	4	4	3	6	3

## Crop and Livestock Conditions as of August 24, 2008

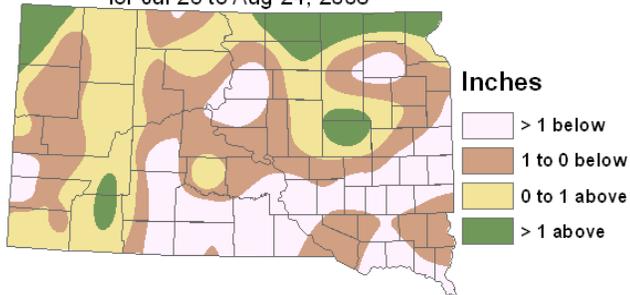
Item	V Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	1	4	16	51	28
Soybeans	0	2	17	55	26
Sorghum	1	5	23	56	15
Sunflower	1	3	27	53	16
Alfalfa	1	4	21	54	20
Cattle	0	1	10	72	17
Sheep	0	0	8	67	25
Range & Pasture	0	5	26	54	15

## Crop Progress as of August 24, 2008 <sup>1</sup>

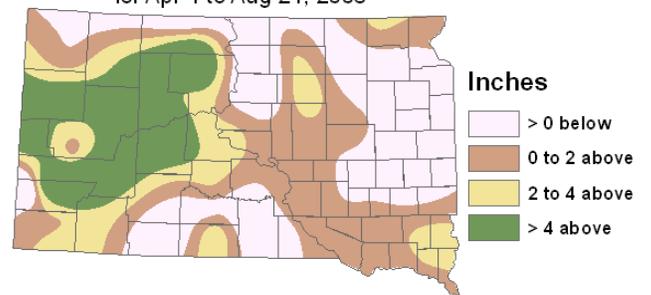
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<b>Barley</b>				
Harvested	91	68	99	95
<b>Oats</b>				
Harvested	97	81	100	99
<b>Spring Wheat</b>				
Harvested	91	66	99	98
<b>Corn</b>				
Silked	99	90	100	100
Dough	62	32	82	75
Dent	12	3	39	29
Mature	0	0	2	2
Silage Harvested	1	0	6	13
<b>Soybeans</b>				
Setting Pods	95	73	94	95
Dropping Leaves	1	0	8	10
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Headed	87	84	99	97
Coloring	34	19	53	43
Mature	0	0	3	1
Silage Harvested	0	0	15	17
<b>Sunflower</b>				
Blooming	94	67	95	93
Ray Flowers Dry	15	3	23	26
Bracts Yellow	1	0	5	10
<b>Alfalfa</b>				
2nd Cutting	91	87	99	98
3rd Cutting	32	24	56	43
<b>Other Hay</b>				
Cut	95	93	99	98

<sup>1</sup> Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

**PAST 30 DAYS**  
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average  
for Jul 26 to Aug 24, 2008



**GROWING SEASON**  
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average  
for Apr 1 to Aug 24, 2008



**TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS**  
**Week Ending Sunday, August 24, 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>		
<b>Northwest</b>											
Bison	72	1	92	42	0.00	15.82	13.38	0.02	2.27	1,972	-128
Buffalo	71	3	92	42	0.00	13.28	11.68	-1.88	0.47	1,784	23
Dupree	72	2	96	42	0.00	22.00	19.41	5.63	7.53	2,043	-82
McIntosh	70	0	96	38	0.00	10.62	9.12	-4.19	-1.75	1,792	-327
Newell	72	1	97	43	0.00	18.72	15.73	4.46	5.58	1,859	-240
Timber Lake	72	2	95	42	0.00	23.32	21.04	6.30	9.01	1,999	-110
<b>North Central</b>											
Aberdeen	68	-2	86	44	0.00	16.12	11.65	-1.83	-1.21	1,997	-133
Faulkton	69	-1	88	46	0.00	19.40	15.51	1.33	2.93	1,966	-185
Mobridge	73	2	91	44	0.00	14.37	11.59	-0.89	0.60	1,998	-178
Roscoe	69	1	86	44	0.00	19.08	14.92	0.87	1.69	1,881	-88
<b>Northeast</b>											
Britton	71	1	88	43	0.00	18.02	15.13	-0.11	1.98	2,124	14
Clear Lake	69	1	87	47	0.00	21.00	14.71	-1.68	-0.82	1,825	-127
Sisseton	70	1	88	51	0.00	19.42	13.80	-0.21	0.51	1,955	-146
Watertown	67	0	86	47	0.00	17.98	13.11	-1.36	-0.63	1,829	-62
Webster	69	1	87	51	0.00	18.43	12.85	-1.19	-1.30	1,910	-96
<b>West Central</b>											
Faith	73	1	95	42	0.00	21.12	18.46	4.88	6.96	1,981	-240
Milesville	73	1	98	42	0.00	24.87	21.77	6.88	8.76	2,084	-179
Philip	75	3	101	43	0.00	19.41	15.48	3.77	4.09	2,158	-94
Rapid City	71	0	97	43	0.00	19.59	17.13	4.34	6.15	1,778	-223
Spearfish	75	6	97	52	0.00	28.71	22.30	8.84	8.92	1,955	-54
<b>Central</b>											
Chamberlain	70	-2	85	48	0.00	23.07	15.56	3.16	1.43	2,179	-56
Highmore	71	0	91	44	0.00	20.76	14.73	1.58	0.82	2,035	-130
Huron	69	-1	91	46	0.00	18.96	13.25	0.25	0.17	2,120	-114
Onida	72	1	90	42	0.00	18.65	12.79	0.74	0.49	2,057	-108
Pierre	73	0	91	46	0.00	22.30	15.46	4.30	2.55	2,112	-232
<b>East Central</b>											
Brookings	68	0	88	44	0.00	18.52	13.03	-1.20	-1.60	1,870	-98
Forestburg	71	-1	90	47	0.00	19.09	12.95	-0.76	-0.87	2,229	-152
Madison	68	0	88	45	0.00	19.79	13.26	-2.13	-2.04	1,900	-77
Mitchell	71	0	88	50	0.00	20.34	13.75	0.28	-0.21	2,300	-8
Sioux Falls	70	0	86	50	0.00	25.02	15.46	3.55	0.66	2,210	-6
<b>Southwest</b>											
Custer	64	-1	87	40	0.00	21.83	18.18	3.56	4.69	1,375	-117
Hot Springs	71	2	97	42	0.00	17.96	13.71	2.29	1.93	1,970	-135
Oelrichs	72	0	101	42	0.00	16.52	13.74	0.90	2.40	1,970	-192
Porcupine	68	-3	95	35	0.00	16.79	13.88	0.88	2.27	2,016	-107
<b>South Central</b>											
Kennebec	72	-2	90	42	0.00	18.08	12.54	1.16	0.07	2,276	-176
Mission	70	-1	92	43	0.00	22.44	16.27	4.28	2.84	2,072	-75
Murdo	74	2	96	48	0.00	21.29	14.91	3.02	2.22	2,135	-106
Winner	72	-2	87	42	0.00	19.06	12.07	-2.16	-2.82	2,272	-218
<b>Southeast</b>											
Armour	70	-3	87	49	0.00	23.20	15.19	2.18	0.70	2,254	-248
Centerville	69	-1	85	48	0.00	27.05	18.89	5.07	3.24	2,165	-159
Pickstown	72	-1	88	48	0.00	24.62	15.96	4.05	1.27	2,233	-162
Vermillion	71	-2	85	50	0.00	26.18	16.83	3.80	1.10	2,398	-198
Yankton	72	0	90	54	0.00	26.55	16.74	4.20	0.77	2,329	-45

DATA AND MAP SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota