

# South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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

## AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Continued cool and wet weather has further delayed crop progress, but has had little effect on the completion of fall planting and silage harvest activities. There were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on the general care of livestock, the seeding of fall-planted crops, the silage harvest, and preparing machinery for the row crop harvest.

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

## WEATHER INFORMATION

All locations in the state remained 2 to 7 degrees below average this past week, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Custer saw freezing temperatures with 31° F on Saturday, September 13. Overnight low temperatures remained in the 30s for most locations. Porcupine was 7 degrees below average for the week. The cooler week did not help GDDs that continue to remain below average for the state. A few locations in the state are 300 or more GDDs behind.

Almost all locations in the state received precipitation this last week. Northeast and portions of central South Dakota received an inch of precipitation or more, and a majority of the locations received anywhere between a tenth of an inch and an inch of precipitation. While precipitation in most parts of the state was above average, some areas around Brookings, Mitchell, north central and northeast remained below average since April 1. Precipitation in a few locations West River remains 4 inches or more above average.

## SOIL CONDITION

Topsoil moisture ratings improved slightly, to 62 percent in the adequate to surplus categories. Subsoil moisture ratings saw similar improvements, now estimated at 64 percent in the adequate to surplus categories. Soil temperatures were in the upper 50s to lower 60s with the cooler-than-normal temperatures last week. The highest four-inch depth soil temperature was recorded in Pierre, at 67° F, and the lowest was recorded in Oacoma and South Shore, at 57° F.

## FIELD CROPS REPORT

Corn is currently estimated at 7 percent mature, 21 percentage points behind the five-year average. Soybeans are 16 percentage points behind the five-year average in the dropping leaves stage, this week estimated at 43 percent. Sunflowers are currently 54 percent in the bracts yellow stage, up 20 percentage points from last week. Sorghum is only 5 percent in the mature stage, 19 percentage points lower than the five-year average. The silage harvest saw a significant jump from last week, with 33 percent of the corn silage harvest complete and 39 percent of the sorghum silage harvest complete. Winter wheat is 18 percent seeded, with reports of some areas of the state being too wet for planting over the last week and some areas being too dry for planting.

## LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Range and pasture conditions remained stable over the past week, currently estimated at 65 percent in the good to excellent categories, 2 percentage points higher than last week, and 32 percentage points higher than the five-year average. Feed supplies and stock water supplies also saw little change and remained at a strong 94 and 84 percent adequate to surplus, respectively. Livestock conditions have remained stable, with cattle rated 90 percent good to excellent and sheep rated 92 percent good to excellent. Except for isolated reports of low stock water supplies and drier pastures, producer reports of livestock conditions have been positive.

## Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of September 14, 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	1	9	2	12	23
Short	6	9	19	14	18	24
Adequate	81	83	66	77	64	51
Surplus	13	7	6	7	6	2

## Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of September 14, 2008

Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This Week	Last Year	Last Year	This Week	Last Year	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Very Short	3	5	6	5	5	11
Short	35	35	18	31	33	25
Adequate	58	56	73	60	58	62
Surplus	4	4	3	4	4	2

## Crop and Livestock Conditions as of September 14, 2008

Item	V Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	2	4	17	51	26
Soybeans	1	4	21	51	23
Sorghum	3	4	24	53	16
Sunflower	1	3	27	56	13
Alfalfa	1	3	19	61	16
Cattle	0	0	10	71	19
Sheep	0	1	7	70	22
Range & Pasture	1	9	25	50	15

## Crop Progress as of September 14, 2008 <sup>1</sup>

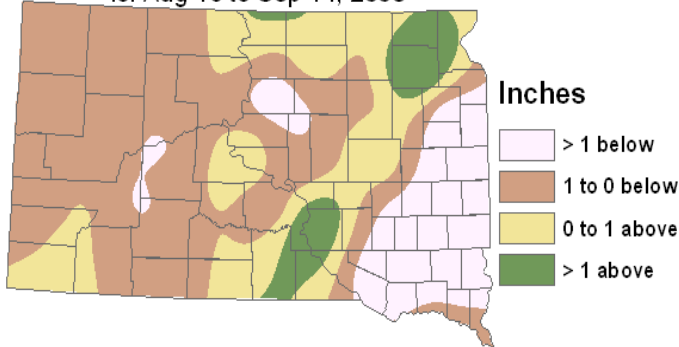
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Seeded	18	10	29	28
Emerged	1	0	4	2
<b>Corn</b>				
Dough	98	93	100	99
Dent	81	63	93	87
Mature	7	2	37	28
Silage Harvested	33	13	49	56
<b>Soybeans</b>				
Dropping Leaves	43	26	56	59
Mature	1	0	11	13
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Coloring	85	67	93	87
Mature	5	2	33	24
Silage Harvested	39	14	53	58
<b>Sunflower</b>				
Ray Flowers Dry	84	64	92	85
Bracts Yellow	54	34	72	62
Mature	0	0	8	10
<b>Alfalfa</b>				
3rd Cutting	75	66	83	78

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

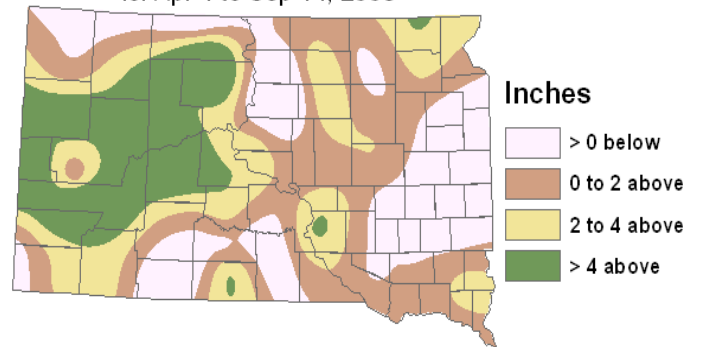
## Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending September 14, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	58	Nisland	60
Beresford	62	Oacoma	57
Bowdle	59	Parkston	64
Brookings	62	Pierre	67
Caputa	58	South Shore	57
Cottonwood	65		

**PAST 30 DAYS**  
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average  
for Aug 16 to Sep 14, 2008



**GROWING SEASON**  
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average  
for Apr 1 to Sep 14, 2008



**TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS**  
Week Ending Sunday, September 14, 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	57	-5	76	40	0.15	16.37	13.93	-0.27	1.98	2,249	-181
Buffalo	57	-2	76	38	0.05	13.71	12.11	-2.29	0.06	2,035	-6
Dupree	58	-4	75	35	0.57	22.82	20.23	5.59	7.49	2,347	-105
McIntosh	56	-5	75	36	0.60	11.72	10.22	-4.04	-1.60	2,039	-398
Newell	57	-6	78	35	0.44	19.55	16.56	4.62	5.74	2,129	-305
Timber Lake	58	-4	77	39	0.75	24.67	22.39	6.72	9.43	2,285	-143
<b>North Central</b>											
Aberdeen	58	-4	74	34	0.89	18.18	13.71	-1.11	-0.49	2,281	-157
Faulkton	58	-4	74	36	0.84	20.97	17.08	1.47	3.07	2,241	-237
Mobridge	60	-3	74	41	1.49	16.42	13.64	0.17	1.66	2,298	-212
Roscoe	56	-5	72	39	1.26	21.66	17.50	2.17	2.99	2,133	-126
<b>Northeast</b>											
Britton	57	-5	73	36	1.04	21.25	18.36	1.65	3.74	2,409	-15
Clear Lake	57	-4	72	40	0.17	21.63	15.34	-2.95	-2.09	2,089	-144
Sisseton	59	-3	74	40	1.27	23.00	17.38	1.86	2.58	2,221	-183
Watertown	57	-3	72	38	0.19	18.98	14.11	-1.99	-1.26	2,086	-75
Webster	58	-2	71	42	0.97	23.48	17.90	2.34	2.23	2,173	-115
<b>West Central</b>											
Faith	58	-6	74	41	0.20	21.61	18.95	4.64	6.72	2,281	-297
Milesville	59	-5	76	41	0.24	25.34	22.24	6.40	8.28	2,399	-226
Philip	62	-2	83	39	0.48	20.13	16.20	3.60	3.92	2,488	-127
Rapid City	58	-4	82	37	0.37	20.63	18.17	4.55	6.36	2,049	-280
Spearfish	56	-5	78	43	0.23	29.99	23.58	9.14	9.22	2,244	-75
<b>Central</b>											
Chamberlain	61	-4	76	40	0.29	27.17	19.66	5.79	4.06	2,526	-74
Highmore	59	-4	72	39	0.52	21.73	15.70	1.36	0.60	2,341	-162
Huron	60	-3	73	39	0.11	21.59	15.88	1.62	1.54	2,414	-150
Onida	59	-4	73	38	0.57	20.17	14.31	1.10	0.85	2,346	-154
Pierre	60	-6	79	38	1.20	24.26	17.42	5.21	3.46	2,413	-309
<b>East Central</b>											
Brookings	57	-4	74	35	0.27	19.00	13.51	-2.60	-3.00	2,142	-112
Forestburg	61	-4	74	37	0.00	20.34	14.20	-0.90	-1.01	2,538	-206
Madison	57	-4	73	34	0.27	20.33	13.80	-3.58	-3.49	2,174	-97
Mitchell	61	-2	76	41	0.03	21.08	14.49	-0.66	-1.15	2,622	-31
Sioux Falls	60	-3	72	39	0.59	26.03	16.47	2.62	-0.27	2,512	-27
<b>Southwest</b>											
Custer	52	-5	74	31	0.45	23.25	19.60	3.80	4.93	1,560	-192
Hot Springs	59	-3	81	37	0.45	19.50	15.25	2.81	2.45	2,261	-178
Oelrichs	60	-3	83	37	0.68	18.12	15.34	1.51	3.01	2,291	-224
Porcupine	56	-7	85	33	0.54	17.83	14.92	1.08	2.47	2,287	-181
<b>South Central</b>											
Kennebec	60	-6	79	38	0.31	19.31	13.77	1.30	0.21	2,590	-259
Mission	58	-6	76	43	0.25	24.17	18.00	4.96	3.52	2,370	-117
Murdo	60	-5	79	44	0.60	22.57	16.19	3.46	2.66	2,467	-138
Winner	62	-5	78	46	0.34	21.93	14.94	-0.70	-1.36	2,598	-301
<b>Southeast</b>											
Armour	61	-5	75	41	0.05	23.80	15.79	1.22	-0.26	2,569	-328
Centerville	61	-3	73	42	0.87	28.35	20.19	4.65	2.82	2,470	-197
Pickstown	61	-4	77	49	0.24	25.83	17.17	3.59	0.81	2,547	-225
Vermillion	62	-5	76	44	1.13	27.99	18.64	3.84	1.14	2,726	-273
Yankton	62	-3	75	46	0.71	28.18	18.37	4.15	0.72	2,651	-83

DATA AND MAP SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota