

# 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

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For Week Ending September 21, 2008  
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## AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Dry warm weather throughout the week helped stimulate corn and soybean maturity. Moisture during the previous weekend prompted planting of winter wheat. There were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on the cutting silage, caring for calves, seeding winter wheat, 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

A warm, mainly dry, week across the state helped to push crops closer to maturity, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Temperatures were well above average for the week, ranging from 1 F above average at Porcupine to 13 F above average at Spearfish. Most of the state was 5-10 F above average. Only a few stations reported precipitation, with the most at Faulkton at 0.57". More than half of the stations reported no precipitation. The lack of precipitation is showing, with some accumulations falling several inches below average since April, particularly in the east central and southeast parts of the state. The warmer temperatures also kept freezing conditions at bay, allowing late developing crops additional time to reach maturity. Only isolated areas have reported any frost problems so far this fall.

## SOIL CONDITION

The combination of warm temperatures and little rainfall kept soil temperatures in the 60s over most of the state. Topsoil moisture ratings dropped slightly to 58 percent adequate to surplus. Subsoil moisture also dropped slightly and is rated at 61 percent adequate to surplus.

## FIELD CROPS REPORT

Corn progressed notably over the week and is currently 24 percent mature. However, this level is still far lower than the five-year average of 48 percent mature. The percentage of soybeans dropping leaves jumped 30 percentage points to 73 percent, which is 6 percentage points behind the five-year average. Soybeans were turning yellow in many areas. Nineteen percent of the soybean crop is mature, and 1 percent has been harvested. Sunflowers are 65 percent in the bracts yellow stage and 2 percent mature. Sorghum silage harvested jumped to 66 percent complete, and 60 percent of corn silage has been harvested. Winter wheat seeding is 40 percent seeded, but has been slow to emerge; five percent of the seeded winter wheat has emerged.

## LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Range and pasture conditions were beginning to decline with the onset of autumn; conditions were 59 percent in the good to excellent categories, 6 percentage points lower than last week. Feed supplies and stock water supplies remain strong at 95 and 82 percent adequate to surplus, respectively. Livestock conditions are stable, with cattle rated 88 percent good to excellent and sheep rated 91 percent good to excellent, both only slightly lower than last week. Producers report that calves are being weaned and given preconditioning shots.

## Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of September 21, 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	13	24
Short	5	8	18	16	18	24
Adequate	85	83	68	75	63	49
Surplus	10	8	5	7	6	3

## Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of September 21, 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	8	3	7	9	5	12
Short	34	35	19	30	31	23
Adequate	54	58	71	57	60	63
Surplus	4	4	3	4	4	2

## Crop and Livestock Conditions as of September 21, 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	3	17	53	25
Soybeans	1	3	24	52	20
Sorghum	2	4	20	58	16
Sunflower	1	4	23	56	16
Alfalfa	2	3	21	60	14
Cattle	0	1	11	69	19
Sheep	0	1	8	76	15
Range & Pasture	2	11	28	49	10

## Crop Progress as of September 21, 2008 <sup>1</sup>

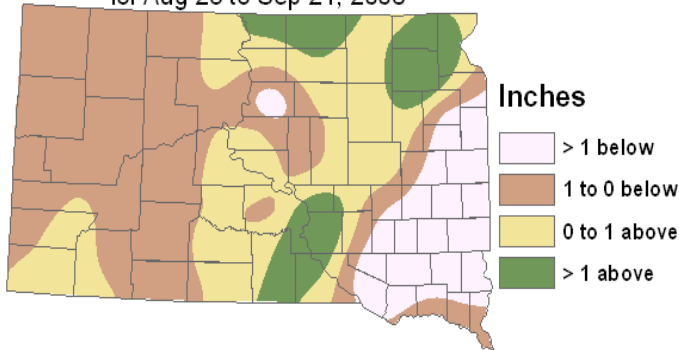
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Seeded	40	18	53	49
Emerged	5	1	15	10
<b>Corn</b>				
Dent	95	81	99	94
Mature	24	7	60	48
Grain Harvested	0	0	6	4
Silage Harvested	60	33	71	74
<b>Soybeans</b>				
Dropping Leaves	73	43	75	79
Mature	19	1	28	29
Harvested	1	0	1	3
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Coloring	90	85	99	94
Mature	10	5	64	44
Grain Harvested	0	0	7	5
Silage Harvested	66	39	65	74
<b>Sunflower</b>				
Ray Flowers Dry	92	84	99	93
Bracts Yellow	65	54	86	78
Mature	2	0	17	20
<b>Alfalfa</b>				
3rd Cutting	78	75	87	83

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

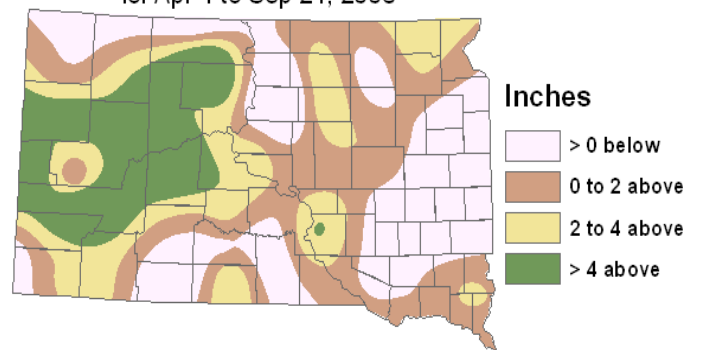
## Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending September 21, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	62	Nisland	63
Beresford	62	Oacoma	67
Bowdle	62	Parkston	66
Brookings	64	Pierre	69
Caputa	58	Redfield	NA
Cottonwood	68	South Shore	58

**PAST 30 DAYS**  
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average  
for Aug 23 to Sep 21, 2008



**GROWING SEASON**  
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average  
for Apr 1 to Sep 21, 2008



**TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS**  
Week Ending Sunday, September 21, 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	68	8	89	47	0.00	16.37	13.93	-0.55	1.70	2,373	-140
Buffalo	68	12	89	48	0.00	13.71	12.11	-2.57	-0.22	2,161	50
Dupree	68	8	90	41	0.00	22.82	20.23	5.32	7.22	2,475	-60
McIntosh	66	7	89	38	0.00	11.72	10.22	-4.32	-1.88	2,156	-361
Newell	64	4	88	42	0.00	19.55	16.56	4.41	5.53	2,240	-279
Timber Lake	67	8	90	42	0.00	24.67	22.39	6.44	9.15	2,405	-102
<b>North Central</b>											
Aberdeen	65	6	88	37	0.00	18.18	13.71	-1.53	-0.91	2,395	-120
Faulkton	66	6	89	42	0.57	21.54	17.65	1.66	3.26	2,357	-205
Mobridge	69	9	88	49	0.03	16.45	13.67	-0.08	1.41	2,431	-159
Roscoe	63	6	86	43	0.00	21.66	17.50	1.82	2.64	2,233	-100
<b>Northeast</b>											
Britton	67	7	84	40	0.00	21.25	18.36	1.16	3.25	2,533	28
Clear Lake	63	5	84	39	0.01	21.64	15.35	-3.50	-2.64	2,189	-112
Sisseton	65	6	86	43	0.00	23.00	17.38	1.43	2.15	2,332	-145
Watertown	64	7	83	38	0.26	19.24	14.37	-2.18	-1.45	2,196	-33
Webster	66	8	83	44	0.00	23.48	17.90	1.92	1.81	2,289	-64
<b>West Central</b>											
Faith	68	7	92	42	0.00	21.61	18.95	4.36	6.44	2,407	-259
Milesville	67	6	92	40	0.01	25.35	22.25	6.13	8.01	2,523	-193
Philip	69	8	95	40	0.06	20.19	16.26	3.42	3.74	2,621	-88
Rapid City	66	7	91	42	0.01	20.64	18.18	4.34	6.15	2,173	-241
Spearfish	71	13	87	50	0.00	29.99	23.58	8.79	8.87	2,391	-4
<b>Central</b>											
Chamberlain	70	8	88	50	0.35	27.52	20.01	5.68	3.95	2,662	-31
Highmore	67	7	87	40	0.38	22.11	16.08	1.39	0.63	2,465	-124
Huron	66	6	87	40	0.00	21.59	15.88	1.20	1.12	2,536	-111
Onida	67	7	91	42	0.11	20.28	14.42	0.86	0.61	2,469	-120
Pierre	67	5	88	40	0.14	24.40	17.56	5.00	3.25	2,535	-280
<b>East Central</b>											
Brookings	63	5	85	36	0.00	19.00	13.51	-3.16	-3.56	2,248	-80
Forestburg	66	4	88	35	0.00	20.34	14.20	-1.33	-1.44	2,661	-175
Madison	65	6	90	36	0.00	20.33	13.80	-4.15	-4.06	2,293	-52
Mitchell	71	10	89	46	0.02	21.10	14.51	-1.18	-1.67	2,763	24
Sioux Falls	67	7	85	38	0.01	26.04	16.48	2.03	-0.86	2,642	22
<b>Southwest</b>											
Custer	61	6	78	41	0.04	23.29	19.64	3.50	4.63	1,648	-173
Hot Springs	65	5	88	36	0.00	19.50	15.25	2.53	2.17	2,381	-151
Oelrichs	64	4	91	35	0.00	18.12	15.34	1.23	2.73	2,410	-201
Porcupine	61	1	91	32	0.00	17.83	14.92	0.74	2.13	2,397	-166
<b>South Central</b>											
Kennebec	65	2	90	36	0.30	19.61	14.07	1.32	0.23	2,713	-238
Mission	66	5	89	41	0.00	24.17	18.00	4.61	3.17	2,487	-88
Murdo	68	7	91	44	0.00	22.57	16.19	3.18	2.38	2,594	-101
Winner	71	7	88	52	0.34	22.27	15.28	-0.85	-1.51	2,744	-257
<b>Southeast</b>											
Armour	68	4	88	39	0.02	23.82	15.81	0.69	-0.79	2,696	-299
Centerville	64	2	85	35	0.00	28.35	20.19	4.14	2.31	2,580	-173
Pickstown	68	5	89	42	0.00	25.83	17.17	3.06	0.28	2,677	-186
Vermillion	67	2	86	37	0.00	27.99	18.64	3.28	0.58	2,852	-249
Yankton	65	3	89	38	0.00	28.18	18.37	3.66	0.23	2,767	-58

DATA AND MAP SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota