

# South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report



National Agricultural Statistics Service  
South Dakota Field Office  
P.O. Box 5068  
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5068

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 28, 2008  
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## AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Continued warm weather with scattered precipitation is helping row crops that have been behind schedule all season reach maturity, even allowing some parts of the state to begin the row crop harvest. There were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on cutting silage, general care of livestock, seeding winter wheat, and starting the row crop harvest 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

Another warm week occurred over South Dakota with some decent precipitation in some locations, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Temperatures were above average for the whole state for another week. The southeast area was the warmest overall with several stations as much as 10° F above average for the week, including Mitchell, Sioux Falls, and Yankton. The western parts of the state were less warm but still 3 to 6° F above average. With the late planted crop and some delayed development, the additional GDDs at the end of the season are welcome to help crops reach maturity. Again, only minor areas of frost occurred during the week, as temperatures in and near the Black Hills fell to around or slightly below freezing temperatures.

Several thunderstorms during the week brought some needed precipitation, but amounts were quite variable. Centerville reported the most precipitation at 1.35 inches. A handful of other scattered stations reported totals over 0.5 inch. Most other reports were less than 0.5 inch. Four stations in and near the Black Hills - Rapid City, Spearfish, Hot Springs, and Custer - reported no precipitation.

## SOIL CONDITION

Four-inch soil temperatures have remained generally in the 60s over much of the state. Topsoil moisture ratings improved to 64 percent adequate to surplus. Subsoil moisture also improved to 63 percent adequate to surplus.

## FIELD CROPS REPORT

Continued warm weather allowed significant progress in crop maturity and the start of fall harvest activities in the state. Corn advanced to 44 percent mature, but is still 25 percentage points behind the five-year average of 69 percent. Soybeans jumped 28 percentage points in the mature category to 47 percent, with the soybean harvest at 10 percent complete. Sunflowers are estimated at 19 percent mature, 17 percentage points lower than five-year average. The silage harvest continues to progress quickly, with 76 percent of the corn harvested and 74 percent of the sorghum harvested. Winter wheat is 61 percent seeded, with 23 percent of the crop emerged.

## LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Range and pasture conditions improved slightly with 62 percent in the good to excellent categories, 3 percentage points higher than last week. Feed supplies and stock water supplies remain strong at 94 and 82 percent adequate to surplus, respectively. Livestock conditions are stable, with cattle rated 87 percent good to excellent and sheep rated 90 percent good to excellent. Normal fall livestock activities are continuing without report of any major issues.

### Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending September 28, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	62	Nisland	61
Beresford	64	Oacoma	68
Bowdle	62	Parkston	67
Brookings	64	Pierre	69
Caputa	56	South Shore	60
Cottonwood	64		

## Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of September 28, 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	8	2	11	22
Short	6	9	19	16	18	24
Adequate	82	81	68	74	63	51
Surplus	12	9	5	8	8	3

## Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of September 28, 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	6	8	6	7	9	13
Short	30	34	20	30	30	23
Adequate	62	54	70	62	57	61
Surplus	2	4	4	1	4	3

## Crop and Livestock Conditions as of September 28, 2008

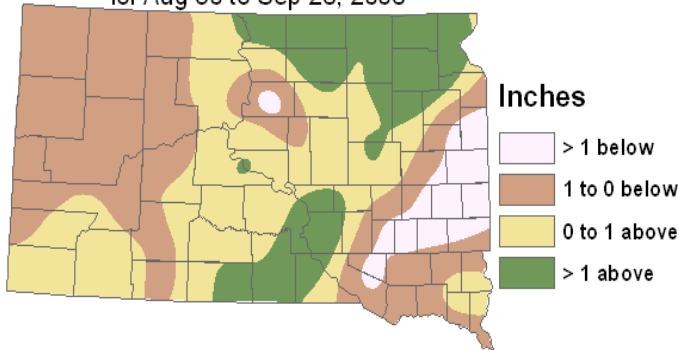
Item	V Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	2	3	17	49	29
Soybeans	0	5	26	52	17
Sorghum	1	4	23	56	16
Sunflower	1	4	23	61	11
Alfalfa	1	4	24	54	17
Cattle	0	1	12	68	19
Sheep	0	1	9	70	20
Range & Pasture	1	7	30	49	13

## Crop Progress as of September 28, 2008<sup>1</sup>

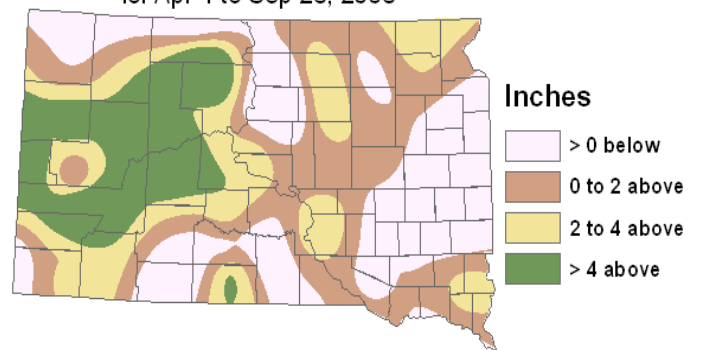
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Seeded	61	40	73	68
Emerged	23	5	33	25
<b>Corn</b>				
Dent	99	95	100	98
Mature	44	24	78	69
Grain Harvested	2	0	11	8
Silage Harvested	76	60	87	85
<b>Soybeans</b>				
Dropping Leaves	92	73	90	93
Mature	47	19	59	58
Harvested	10	1	10	13
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Coloring	96	90	100	98
Mature	25	10	83	66
Grain Harvested	3	0	19	13
Silage Harvested	74	66	82	83
<b>Sunflower</b>				
Ray Flowers Dry	96	92	100	97
Bracts Yellow	85	65	94	87
Mature	19	2	37	36
Harvested	0	0	1	5
<b>Alfalfa</b>				
3rd Cutting	83	78	89	87

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

**PAST 30 DAYS**  
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average  
for Aug 30 to Sep 28, 2008



**GROWING SEASON**  
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average  
for Apr 1 to Sep 28, 2008



**TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS**  
Week Ending Sunday, September 28, 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	62	5	88	37	0.08	16.37	13.93	-0.55	1.70	2,373	-140
Buffalo	58	4	88	34	0.06	13.71	12.11	-2.57	-0.22	2,161	50
Dupree	61	4	90	36	0.04	22.82	20.23	5.32	7.22	2,475	-60
McIntosh	58	1	84	37	0.17	11.72	10.22	-4.32	-1.88	2,156	-361
Newell	59	3	91	34	0.03	19.55	16.56	4.41	5.53	2,240	-279
Timber Lake	61	5	86	36	0.09	24.67	22.39	6.44	9.15	2,405	-102
<b>North Central</b>											
Aberdeen	61	5	84	41	0.82	18.18	13.71	-1.53	-0.91	2,395	-120
Faulkton	62	4	87	41	0.37	21.54	17.65	1.66	3.26	2,357	-205
Mobridge	61	3	84	36	0.11	16.45	13.67	-0.08	1.41	2,431	-159
Roscoe	60	5	83	40	0.88	21.66	17.50	1.82	2.64	2,233	-100
<b>Northeast</b>											
Britton	64	7	81	43	0.64	21.25	18.36	1.16	3.25	2,533	28
Clear Lake	64	9	87	44	0.46	21.64	15.35	-3.50	-2.64	2,189	-112
Sisseton	63	6	82	43	0.38	23.00	17.38	1.43	2.15	2,332	-145
Watertown	62	8	86	42	0.54	19.24	14.37	-2.18	-1.45	2,196	-33
Webster	62	7	80	43	0.34	23.48	17.90	1.92	1.81	2,289	-64
<b>West Central</b>											
Faith	60	2	88	38	0.08	21.61	18.95	4.36	6.44	2,407	-259
Milesville	63	4	91	36	0.10	25.35	22.25	6.13	8.01	2,523	-193
Philip	64	6	95	35	0.38	20.19	16.26	3.42	3.74	2,621	-88
Rapid City	59	2	93	32	0.00	20.64	18.18	4.34	6.15	2,173	-241
Spearfish	64	8	90	40	0.00	29.99	23.58	8.79	8.87	2,391	-4
<b>Central</b>											
Chamberlain	66	7	89	42	0.03	27.52	20.01	5.68	3.95	2,662	-31
Highmore	62	4	86	39	0.36	22.11	16.08	1.39	0.63	2,465	-124
Huron	65	8	87	40	0.10	21.59	15.88	1.20	1.12	2,536	-111
Onida	62	5	86	38	0.30	20.28	14.42	0.86	0.61	2,469	-120
Pierre	64	4	90	40	0.46	24.40	17.56	5.00	3.25	2,535	-280
<b>East Central</b>											
Brookings	63	8	81	43	0.58	19.00	13.51	-3.16	-3.56	2,248	-80
Forestburg	68	9	91	42	0.44	20.34	14.20	-1.33	-1.44	2,661	-175
Madison	65	8	87	40	0.32	20.33	13.80	-4.15	-4.06	2,293	-52
Mitchell	68	10	91	38	0.30	21.10	14.51	-1.18	-1.67	2,763	24
Sioux Falls	67	10	89	42	0.77	26.04	16.48	2.03	-0.86	2,642	22
<b>Southwest</b>											
Custer	54	1	80	29	0.00	23.29	19.64	3.50	4.63	1,648	-173
Hot Springs	61	4	89	33	0.00	19.50	15.25	2.53	2.17	2,381	-151
Oelrichs	64	6	92	34	0.40	18.12	15.34	1.23	2.73	2,410	-201
Porcupine	59	2	89	30	0.93	17.83	14.92	0.74	2.13	2,397	-166
<b>South Central</b>											
Kennebec	65	5	89	37	0.33	19.61	14.07	1.32	0.23	2,713	-238
Mission	63	6	88	40	0.94	24.17	18.00	4.61	3.17	2,487	-88
Murdo	65	5	91	42	0.52	22.57	16.19	3.18	2.38	2,594	-101
Winner	67	5	89	43	0.19	22.27	15.28	-0.85	-1.51	2,744	-257
<b>Southeast</b>											
Armour	70	9	90	45	0.45	23.82	15.81	0.69	-0.79	2,696	-299
Centerville	66	8	86	45	1.35	28.35	20.19	4.14	2.31	2,580	-173
Pickstown	68	8	90	46	0.33	25.83	17.17	3.06	0.28	2,677	-186
Vermillion	70	8	88	44	0.37	27.99	18.64	3.28	0.58	2,852	-249
Yankton	70	10	88	47	0.27	28.18	18.37	3.66	0.23	2,767	-58

DATA AND MAP SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota