

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Warm and dry weather has allowed crop maturity and row crops harvest progress to proceed quickly, but is causing concern about dry pastures in some parts of South Dakota. There were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on cutting silage, general care of livestock, seeding winter wheat, combining soybeans and the beginning of the harvest of other row crops.

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

WEATHER INFORMATION

Temperatures across the state were around or above average for the week, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Average temperature for the week in the southeast corner of the state was slightly below average whereas the northwest corner of the state was 5 to 8° F above average. Overnight lows in many parts of the state were close to freezing. Porcupine and Kennebec recorded 22° and 26° F for overnight low, respectively. Overnight lows mostly remained in the 30s at most locations. High temperatures in the mid 70s and lower 80s helped improve GDDs. However, GDDs continued to remain below average for most parts of the state.

Several locations on the east side received anywhere from 0.10 to 0.8 inch of precipitation last week. Most other locations received little or no precipitation. Brookings, Sisseton and Yankton received more than a half inch of precipitation. Locations in central and western South Dakota were 5 inches above average since April 1. East-central portions and locations in the northwest corner continued to remain below average with areas around Brookings more than 3 inches below average since April 1.

SOIL CONDITION

Soil temperatures dropped to mid-50s and lower-60s this week. Topsoil moisture ratings dropped to 61 percent adequate to surplus. Subsoil moisture also dropped to 62 percent adequate to surplus. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 7.0 percent of the state is rated D1 (Moderate Drought) including a small sliver in the northwest corner of the state and a band covering several counties in east-central and southeast South Dakota.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Major advances in maturity and harvest progress were seen in several row crops over the past week due to warm and dry conditions across the state. Corn advanced 31 percentage points in the mature category to 75 percent, now only 10 percentage points behind the five-year average. Only 6 percent of the corn crop has been harvested, 8 percentage points behind the five-year average. Soybeans saw a 32 percentage point jump in harvest progress, now estimated at 42 percent complete. Sunflowers advanced to 27 percent mature, 31 percentage points behind the five-year average. The silage harvest continues at a rapid pace, with 86 percent of the corn harvested and 89 percent of the sorghum harvested. Winter wheat is 76 percent seeded, with 42 percent of the crop emerged.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Range and pasture conditions continue to decrease due to lack of precipitation, with 13 percent rated in the poor or very poor categories, up 5 percentage points from last week. Feed supplies and stock water supplies remain stable at 95 and 83 percent adequate to surplus, respectively. Livestock conditions remain strong, with cattle rated 89 percent good to excellent and sheep rated 92 percent good to excellent. Some producers have reported that they are beginning to work their cattle with early weaning and marketing.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of October 5, 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	7	2	11	21
Short	5	9	18	15	16	23
Adequate	77	82	69	72	65	53
Surplus	18	8	5	11	7	3

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of October 5, 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	6	7	9	7	15
Short	31	30	16	29	30	18
Adequate	56	62	72	58	62	63
Surplus	5	2	5	4	1	4

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of October 5, 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	3	17	51	28
Soybeans	1	5	29	50	15
Sorghum	3	4	17	57	19
Sunflower	1	10	17	59	13
Alfalfa	2	4	21	55	18
Cattle	0	1	10	67	22
Sheep	0	1	7	68	24
Range & Pasture	2	11	29	44	14

Crop Progress as of October 5, 2008 ¹

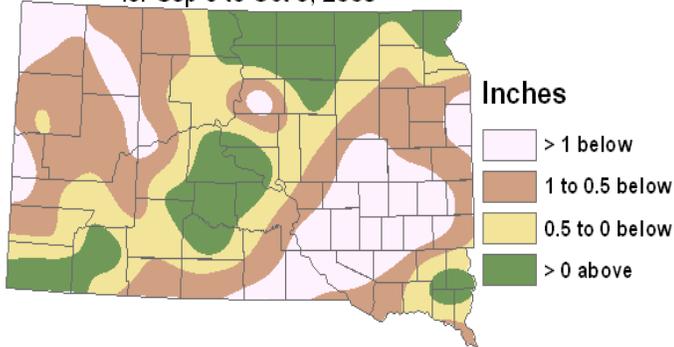
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat				
Seeded	76	61	85	83
Emerged	42	23	50	43
Corn				
Mature	75	44	89	85
Grain Harvested	6	2	19	14
Silage Harvested	86	76	95	94
Soybeans				
Dropping Leaves	98	92	97	98
Mature	83	47	83	84
Harvested	42	10	32	35
Sorghum				
Mature	61	25	94	84
Grain Harvested	5	3	37	27
Silage Harvested	89	74	94	91
Sunflower				
Bracts Yellow	96	85	99	94
Mature	27	19	62	58
Harvested	1	0	6	12

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

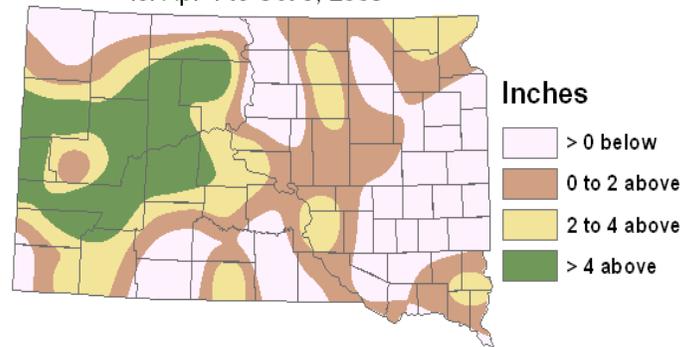
Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending October 5, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	55	Nisland	56
Beresford	58	Oacoma	64
Bowdle	59	Parkston	60
Brookings	56	Pierre	62
Caputa	53	Redfield	NA
Cottonwood	62	South Shore	55

PAST 30 DAYS
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Sep 6 to Oct 5, 2008



GROWING SEASON
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Apr 1 to Oct 5, 2008



TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS
Week Ending Sunday, October 5, 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		
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches		
Northwest											
Bison	59	5	78	37	0.00	16.45	14.01	-1.08	1.17	2,560	-88
Buffalo	60	8	78	40	0.02	13.79	12.19	-3.15	-0.80	2,326	100
Dupree	57	3	78	35	0.00	22.86	20.27	4.74	6.64	2,648	-24
McIntosh	57	4	78	36	0.01	11.90	10.40	-4.81	-2.37	2,310	-340
Newell	57	3	76	36	0.02	19.60	16.61	3.90	5.02	2,415	-246
Timber Lake	58	3	77	35	0.01	24.77	22.49	5.89	8.60	2,580	-57
North Central											
Aberdeen	55	1	77	33	0.00	19.00	14.53	-1.55	-0.93	2,559	-81
Faulkton	55	1	78	37	0.02	21.93	18.04	1.32	2.92	2,530	-171
Mobridge	59	4	78	37	0.00	16.56	13.78	-0.65	0.84	2,608	-112
Roscoe	54	1	76	35	0.01	22.55	18.39	2.01	2.83	2,387	-66
Northeast											
Britton	54	0	77	36	0.05	21.94	19.05	0.94	3.03	2,702	64
Clear Lake	52	0	73	33	0.35	22.45	16.16	-3.71	-2.85	2,354	-55
Sisseton	54	0	75	33	0.64	24.02	18.40	1.61	2.33	2,487	-111
Watertown	55	3	72	35	0.34	20.12	15.25	-2.18	-1.45	2,351	15
Webster	56	4	74	41	0.00	23.82	18.24	1.43	1.32	2,445	-9
West Central											
Faith	59	4	79	39	0.00	21.69	19.03	3.76	5.84	2,576	-233
Milesville	59	3	80	35	0.00	25.45	22.35	5.51	7.39	2,710	-159
Philip	59	4	79	35	0.00	20.57	16.64	3.24	3.56	2,824	-42
Rapid City	57	3	79	36	0.07	20.71	18.25	3.85	5.66	2,344	-210
Spearfish	60	7	76	42	0.02	30.01	23.60	7.99	8.07	2,582	63
Central											
Chamberlain	60	4	80	39	0.08	27.63	20.12	4.94	3.21	2,869	20
Highmore	58	3	76	37	0.06	22.53	16.50	0.97	0.21	2,648	-86
Huron	57	2	77	36	0.27	21.96	16.25	0.73	0.65	2,730	-55
Onida	58	3	78	39	0.18	20.76	14.90	0.64	0.39	2,647	-87
Pierre	58	2	79	37	0.36	25.22	18.38	5.03	3.28	2,725	-242
East Central											
Brookings	53	0	72	32	0.79	20.37	14.88	-2.81	-3.21	2,410	-39
Forestburg	58	1	77	33	0.07	20.85	14.71	-1.66	-1.77	2,882	-109
Madison	54	0	73	31	0.36	21.01	14.48	-4.52	-4.43	2,470	2
Mitchell	60	4	76	35	0.14	21.54	14.95	-1.65	-2.14	2,984	100
Sioux Falls	58	4	75	36	0.32	27.13	17.57	2.06	-0.83	2,850	94
Southwest											
Custer	54	4	71	37	0.00	23.29	19.64	2.82	3.95	1,781	-154
Hot Springs	57	2	79	33	0.06	19.56	15.31	1.97	1.61	2,576	-118
Oelrichs	57	2	80	32	0.33	18.85	16.07	1.36	2.86	2,621	-153
Porcupine	55	1	81	22	0.04	18.80	15.89	1.01	2.40	2,592	-132
South Central											
Kennebec	57	-1	79	26	0.08	20.02	14.48	1.03	-0.06	2,921	-203
Mission	58	3	77	39	0.00	25.11	18.94	4.71	3.27	2,673	-48
Murdo	60	4	78	43	0.10	23.19	16.81	3.14	2.34	2,785	-59
Winner	61	1	79	36	0.01	22.47	15.48	-1.63	-2.29	2,958	-217
Southeast											
Armour	59	1	79	36	0.41	24.68	16.67	0.58	-0.90	2,930	-230
Centerville	56	-1	74	33	0.10	29.80	21.64	4.64	2.81	2,777	-122
Pickstown	59	1	83	36	0.30	26.46	17.80	2.72	-0.06	2,891	-126
Vermillion	58	-1	75	36	0.29	28.65	19.30	2.91	0.21	3,082	-195
Yankton	57	0	78	36	0.59	29.04	19.23	3.59	0.16	2,989	8

DATA AND MAP SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota