

# South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

Released: October 14, 2008 -- 3:00 p.m. CST  
For Week Ending October 12, 2008  
SD-CW5741 Volume 57 Issue 41



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

## AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Heavy precipitation, including snow in western South Dakota, slowed the progress of the row crop harvest, but provided much needed soil moisture to many areas of the state. There were 3.8 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on general care of livestock, seeding winter wheat, and 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

Heavy precipitation was the major event of the past week, including the first snow event of the cold season, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Nearly the whole state received over an inch of precipitation, with many places in the east receiving over 2 inches. The peak for the week was 3.58 inches in Aberdeen. The lowest reported amount was 0.60 inch in Highmore. Snow fell from the northern Black Hills to the northwest corner of the state. Amounts ranged from a few inches up to a foot. The precipitation helped to resolve some continuing dryness in parts of eastern and northwestern South Dakota. But the heavy rainfalls in the east have also slowed some harvest progress.

Temperatures for the week varied greatly by location. Most of the western two-thirds of the state had below-average temperatures, with the coldest in the areas receiving snow in the far west, with temperatures 6 to 10° F below average. The eastern third was generally above average, by as much as 5° F.

## SOIL CONDITION

Soil temperatures continued to fall, with areas in the northeast reporting four-inch temperatures around 50° F and the rest of the state in the mid-50s. Topsoil moisture ratings improved to 83 percent adequate to surplus, 22 percentage points higher than last week. Subsoil moisture ratings also improved 6 points in the adequate to surplus categories, now estimated at 68 percent. The recent precipitation drove away almost all areas classified as drought in the state, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Only a small sliver in the northeast corner of the state, equal to 0.8 percent of the state, is rated D1 (Moderate Drought), while 26.1 percent of the state is still classified D0 (Abnormally Dry).

## FIELD CROPS REPORT

Statewide precipitation slowed harvest progress in the state over the past week. Corn is now estimated at 83 percentage points in the mature stage, up 8 percentage points from last week but 12 percentage points behind the five-year average. The corn crop is 11 percent harvested, 13 percentage points behind the five-year average. The soybean harvest advanced only 14 points, now 56 percent complete, still 8 percentage points behind the five-year average. The sunflower harvest remains in the early stages, now estimated at 5 percent complete. The silage harvest is nearly complete, with 96 percent of the corn harvested and 95 percent of the sorghum harvested. Winter wheat is 90 percent seeded, with 62 percent of the crop emerged.

## LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Range and pasture conditions remained fairly stable, with 55 percent rated in the good or excellent categories, down 3 percentage points from last week. Feed supplies and stock water supplies saw little change at 94 and 80 percent adequate to surplus, respectively. Livestock conditions remain strong, with cattle rated 87 percent good to excellent and sheep rated 91 percent good to excellent. Producers are hoping that recent precipitation will improve pasture conditions across the state.

## Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of October 12, 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	8	3	11	22
Short	6	9	18	17	17	22
Adequate	84	80	69	72	65	53
Surplus	10	9	5	8	7	3

## Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of October 12, 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	4	8	5	4	9	12
Short	13	31	17	28	29	19
Adequate	74	56	69	60	58	64
Surplus	9	5	9	8	4	5

## Crop and Livestock Conditions as of October 12, 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	59	20
Sorghum	3	5	23	54	15
Sunflower	2	6	25	55	12
Alfalfa	1	2	22	61	14
Cattle	0	1	12	69	18
Sheep	0	1	8	78	13
Range & Pasture	2	11	32	46	9

## Crop Progress as of October 12, 2008 <sup>1</sup>

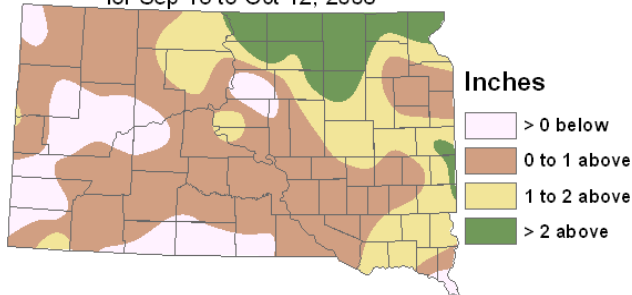
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Seeded	90	76	93	93
Emerged	62	42	67	60
<b>Corn</b>				
Mature	83	75	94	95
Grain Harvested	11	6	32	24
Silage Harvested	96	86	99	98
<b>Soybeans</b>				
Mature	95	83	93	96
Harvested	56	42	55	64
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Mature	74	61	99	94
Grain Harvested	8	5	61	49
Silage Harvested	95	89	99	97
<b>Sunflower</b>				
Mature	57	27	80	77
Harvested	5	1	22	24

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

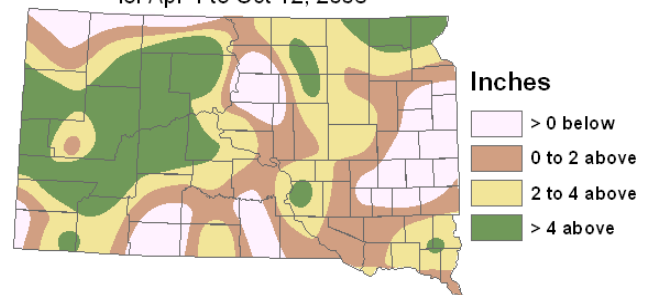
## Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending October 12, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	49	Nisland	54
Beresford	57	Oacoma	58
Bowdle	51	Parkston	57
Brookings	54	Pierre	57
Caputa	47	South Shore	52
Cottonwood	54		

**PAST 30 DAYS**  
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average  
for Sep 13 to Oct 12, 2008



**GROWING SEASON**  
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average  
for Apr 1 to Oct 12, 2008



**TEMPERATURE and PRECIPITATION**  
Week Ending Sunday, October 12, 2008

District and Station	Temperatures Past Week				Precipitation					
	Average	Departure from Normal	High	Low	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>	<i>Inches</i>	
<b>Northwest</b>										
Bison	44	-7	70	30	1.84	1.84	15.85	1.24	2.66	
Buffalo	41	-8	74	23	1.31	1.33	13.50	0.73	0.16	
Dupree	46	-5	69	32	1.42	1.42	21.69	0.79	7.68	
McIntosh	45	-6	70	31	1.83	1.84	12.23	1.24	-0.89	
Newell	45	-6	78	31	1.01	1.03	17.62	0.48	5.68	
Timber Lake	46	-5	69	30	2.17	2.18	24.66	1.53	10.37	
<b>North Central</b>										
Aberdeen	49	-2	67	33	3.58	3.58	18.11	2.86	2.23	
Faulkton	50	-2	68	38	1.43	1.45	19.47	0.76	3.93	
Mobridge	47	-5	69	32	2.09	2.09	15.87	1.46	2.55	
Roscoe	48	-2	66	33	1.83	1.84	20.22	1.23	4.30	
<b>Northeast</b>										
Britton	50	-1	66	32	3.31	3.31	22.36	2.59	5.92	
Clear Lake	51	2	66	38	1.79	1.92	17.95	1.08	-1.55	
Sisseton	52	0	68	40	2.95	3.58	21.35	2.86	4.86	
Watertown	49	1	64	38	1.24	1.58	16.49	0.76	-0.70	
Webster	48	-1	64	39	1.85	1.85	20.09	1.13	2.75	
<b>West Central</b>										
Faith	44	-9	70	26	1.56	1.56	20.59	0.91	7.00	
Milesville	47	-7	72	30	1.10	1.10	23.45	0.40	8.07	
Philip	47	-5	74	31	1.03	1.03	17.67	0.50	4.26	
Rapid City	43	-8	74	31	1.28	1.35	19.53	0.81	6.60	
Spearfish	42	-8	68	29	2.53	2.55	26.13	1.73	10.11	
<b>Central</b>										
Chamberlain	50	-3	69	37	1.56	1.64	21.68	0.91	4.35	
Highmore	51	-1	73	35	0.60	0.66	17.10	-0.06	0.39	
Huron	51	-1	69	37	2.81	3.08	19.06	2.39	3.07	
Onida	48	-4	67	37	1.29	1.47	16.19	0.81	1.27	
Pierre	48	-6	68	36	0.75	1.11	19.13	0.40	3.61	
<b>East Central</b>										
Brookings	52	3	68	37	2.63	2.87	17.51	2.09	-1.01	
Forestburg	54	0	69	37	2.30	2.37	17.01	1.65	0.11	
Madison	53	3	70	36	2.08	2.44	16.56	1.61	-2.84	
Mitchell	54	2	72	40	2.19	2.33	17.15	1.66	-0.31	
Sioux Falls	57	5	76	36	2.63	2.95	20.20	2.14	1.34	
<b>Southwest</b>										
Custer	38	-10	61	20	0.65	0.65	20.29	0.05	4.25	
Hot Springs	47	-5	73	28	0.74	0.80	16.05	0.25	2.04	
Oelrichs	49	-3	77	28	1.66	1.99	17.73	1.43	4.18	
Porcupine	45	-5	72	25	1.00	1.04	16.89	0.44	3.05	
<b>South Central</b>										
Kennebec	50	-4	76	28	0.96	1.04	15.44	0.44	0.55	
Mission	50	-2	70	36	0.72	0.72	19.66	0.03	3.60	
Murdo	51	-2	79	38	0.69	0.79	17.50	0.14	2.63	
Winner	51	-6	68	36	1.49	1.50	16.97	0.66	-1.29	
<b>Southeast</b>										
Armour	58	3	74	40	1.80	1.80	18.47	1.04	0.48	
Centerville	59	5	77	38	1.71	1.71	23.35	0.97	4.10	
Pickstown	55	1	75	42	1.94	1.94	19.74	1.18	1.46	
Vermillion	61	5	77	39	1.62	1.66	20.92	0.83	1.35	
Yankton	58	4	79	36	2.51	2.51	21.74	1.77	2.25	

DATA AND MAPS SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota