

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Harvest progress remains well behind schedule across South Dakota as rainy conditions continued for most of the week. There were only 2.4 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on general care of livestock, weaning calves, seeding winter wheat, harvesting where fields were dry enough, and waiting for the rain to stop and the crop to dry down.

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

WEATHER INFORMATION

The eastern part of South Dakota continued to experience wet conditions as 1-4" of rain, and in some cases snow, fell during the week, causing more harvest delays. The wettest area was generally east of a line from McPherson County to Charles Mix County. Areas west of this also received precipitation as all but one station reported precipitation, though amounts across the west were generally lighter. For the past month, wetter than average conditions have been the situation over most of the state. Most of the eastern third of the state has received several inches above average precipitation since the beginning of October. Temperatures were cooler than average again this week, ranging from 1°-6° F below average. Extremely strong winds behind a cold front covered most of the state Sunday. Wind gusts of over 50 - 60+ mph were pervasive across South Dakota.

SOIL CONDITION

Soil temperatures continue to cool quickly with 4" temperatures 50° F or below throughout the state. Topsoil moisture was rated as 24 percent surplus, compared to 7 percent last week and 5 percent for the five-year average. Only 1 percent of topsoil was rated as very short, which is 13 points less than the five-year average for very short. Subsoil moisture also saw an increase in the surplus category with 16 percent at surplus, 12 points higher than the five-year average.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Precipitation and humid conditions continued to severely hinder the harvest of field crops, and progress fell further behind schedule. Corn harvest came to a near standstill, as rain fell for several days this week. Corn is 16 percent harvested, only 2 percentage points ahead of last week and 34 percentage points behind the five-year average. The soybean harvest is 83 percent complete, 9 percentage points behind the five-year average. Any crop damage from the high winds over the weekend is yet to be fully assessed, but there were some reports of corn stalks lodging and ears dropping to the ground. There were also reports of soybeans shattering and dropping. Sorghum is 25 percent harvested and sunflowers are 16 percent harvested. Operators in Potter County reported that significant acres of sunflowers are down and will not be harvestable. The rain has been good for winter wheat, which is estimated at 96 percent seeded and 82 percent emerged.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Range and pasture conditions improved with the precipitation. Sixty-three percent of range and pasture conditions were rated good to excellent, which is 29 percentage points ahead of the five-year average. Feed supplies increased slightly, now estimated at 98 percent adequate to surplus. Stock water supplies increased to 89 percent adequate to surplus, compared to the five-year average of 56 percent. Lingering wet conditions caused livestock conditions to decline slightly. Cattle condition dipped 1 percentage point to a rating of 87 percent good to excellent, and sheep condition dropped 3 percentage points to a rating of 90 percent good to excellent.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of October 26, 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	1	12	22
Short	2	8	17	10	14	22
Adequate	88	83	69	77	66	53
Surplus	10	8	6	12	8	3

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of October 26, 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	1	2	3	3	6	11
Short	7	10	9	13	18	11
Adequate	68	81	73	68	69	68
Surplus	24	7	15	16	7	10

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of October 26, 2008

Item	V Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	0	4	35	49	12
Corn	2	3	17	55	23
Sorghum	2	4	24	55	15
Sunflower	8	4	21	61	6
Cattle	0	1	12	70	17
Sheep	0	1	9	69	21
Range & Pasture	2	7	28	51	12

Crop Progress as of October 26, 2008 ¹

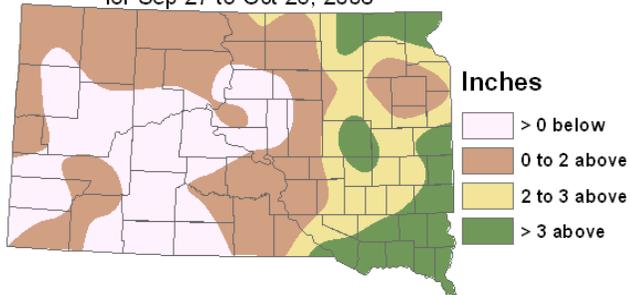
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat				
Seeded	96	93	100	100
Emerged	82	71	90	85
Corn				
Mature	94	92	100	100
Grain Harvested	16	14	47	50
Soybeans				
Harvested	83	76	80	92
Sorghum				
Mature	93	79	100	100
Grain Harvested	25	16	78	78
Sunflower				
Mature	86	76	96	96
Harvested	16	10	38	53

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

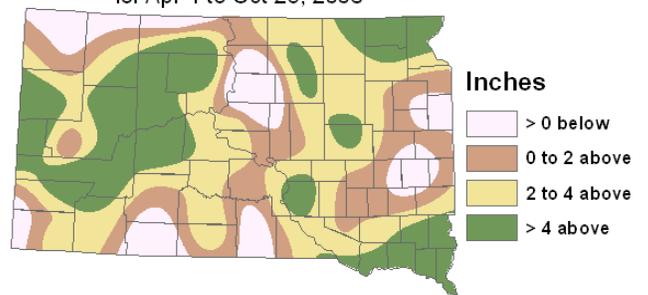
Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending October 26, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	43	Nisland	47
Beresford	47	Oacoma	50
Bowdle	45	Parkston	48
Brookings	45	Pierre	50
Caputa	46	Redfield	NA
Cottonwood	47	South Shore	44

PAST 30 DAYS
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Sep 27 to Oct 26, 2008



GROWING SEASON
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Apr 1 to Oct 26, 2008



TEMPERATURE and PRECIPITATION
Week Ending Sunday, October 26, 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>	
Northwest										
Bison	41	-4	60	21	0.05	1.89	15.90	0.62	2.04	
Buffalo	41	-1	62	16	0.16	1.56	13.73	0.28	-0.29	
Dupree	42	-2	62	25	0.18	1.60	21.87	0.23	7.12	
McIntosh	40	-4	61	24	0.46	2.30	12.69	1.07	-1.06	
Newell	44	0	61	21	0.08	1.11	17.70	-0.10	5.10	
Timber Lake	41	-3	60	25	0.18	2.38	24.86	0.97	9.81	
North Central										
Aberdeen	41	-3	63	28	0.98	4.64	19.17	3.21	2.58	
Faulkton	41	-3	64	28	0.61	2.08	20.10	0.65	3.82	
Mobridge	44	-1	63	23	0.32	2.41	16.19	1.07	2.16	
Roscoe	42	0	60	26	0.47	2.41	20.79	1.10	4.17	
Northeast										
Britton	42	-1	59	29	1.19	5.03	24.08	3.63	6.96	
Clear Lake	42	-1	64	30	1.70	3.87	19.90	2.14	-0.49	
Sisseton	42	-2	61	29	1.37	5.38	23.15	3.82	5.82	
Watertown	40	-2	60	31	1.31	3.07	17.98	1.40	-0.06	
Webster	41	-2	58	29	1.48	3.55	21.79	2.09	3.71	
West Central										
Faith	42	-3	63	17	0.06	1.63	20.66	0.27	6.36	
Milesville	44	-2	66	28	0.15	1.25	23.60	-0.24	7.43	
Philip	44	-1	70	18	0.05	1.08	17.73	-0.05	3.72	
Rapid City	43	-2	69	24	0.12	1.47	19.65	0.29	6.08	
Spearfish	48	3	65	27	0.36	2.91	26.49	1.12	9.50	
Central										
Chamberlain	44	-2	68	23	1.28	2.92	22.96	1.40	4.84	
Highmore	41	-4	63	29	0.33	1.35	17.79	-0.19	0.26	
Huron	42	-2	66	30	1.74	5.04	21.02	3.65	4.33	
Onida	43	-1	64	31	0.39	1.86	16.58	0.50	0.96	
Pierre	44	-2	66	33	0.14	1.25	19.27	-0.19	3.02	
East Central										
Brookings	42	-1	67	31	1.74	4.93	19.57	3.40	0.30	
Forestburg	43	-3	65	30	1.88	4.77	19.41	3.28	1.74	
Madison	41	-3	61	32	1.78	4.49	18.61	2.82	-1.62	
Mitchell	45	-1	68	28	1.67	4.07	18.89	2.73	0.76	
Sioux Falls	43	-1	64	34	2.25	5.58	22.83	3.93	3.13	
Southwest										
Custer	37	-6	60	13	0.10	0.81	20.45	-0.46	3.74	
Hot Springs	44	-1	70	20	0.15	1.01	16.26	-0.10	1.69	
Oelrichs	41	-4	65	25	0.00	2.01	17.75	0.89	3.64	
Porcupine	43	-1	68	23	0.27	1.41	17.26	0.17	2.78	
South Central										
Kennebec	45	-2	67	28	0.76	2.52	16.92	1.24	1.35	
Mission	43	-2	67	32	0.18	1.50	20.44	0.12	3.69	
Murdo	45	-1	68	34	0.08	1.67	18.38	0.26	2.75	
Winner	44	-5	67	23	0.88	2.38	17.85	0.72	-1.23	
Southeast										
Armour	43	-5	67	32	2.05	3.99	20.66	2.49	1.93	
Centerville	45	-1	69	32	2.81	5.41	27.05	3.86	6.99	
Pickstown	45	-3	72	32	3.03	4.97	22.77	3.46	3.74	
Vermillion	47	-2	68	32	4.17	6.72	25.98	5.05	5.57	
Yankton	47	-1	70	32	3.12	6.45	25.68	4.87	5.35	

DATA AND MAPS SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota