

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 November 16, 2008
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AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Wet conditions continue to slow progress of the row crop harvest in South Dakota. There were 2.8 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on the limited harvest of row crops, general care of livestock, weaning calves, and repairing and winterizing equipment.

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

WEATHER INFORMATION

Several weather events dropped varying amounts of precipitation during the week, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. An early week storm in the east and a later week storm in the west caused some travel difficulties because of slick roads. Precipitation amounts were heaviest in the southeast quarter, with several locations reporting over 0.5 inch. Yankton reported the highest amount, at 0.90 inch. Four locations spread across the northern part of the state reported no precipitation.

Temperatures were quite variable. The Black Hills and surrounding areas were much warmer than average. Most of the eastern quarter of the state was below average. McIntosh reported the lowest temperature, at 3° F. Aberdeen reported the state's highest temperature, at 56° F. Most of the snow from the previous week's storm had already melted, leaving only limited snow cover.

SOIL CONDITION

The colder temperatures overall and limited sunshine allowed soil temperatures to fall. All locations reported four-inch depth soil temperatures near or below 40° F. Topsoil moisture increased 11 percentage points in the surplus category, this week rated at 25 percent. There is only 3 percent rated in the short or very short categories for topsoil moisture, compared to 38 percent for the five-year average. Subsoil moisture is now rated 90 percent in the adequate to surplus categories, up 7 percentage points from last week.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Widespread precipitation and some winter weather events continue to slow the progress of row crop harvest. Corn is 59 percent harvested, only a 6 percentage points gain over last week, and now 32 percentage points behind the five-year average. The sorghum harvest advanced 18 percentage points, now estimated at 74 percent complete. The sunflower crop is 61 percent harvested, 30 percentage points behind the five-year average. Winter wheat is currently estimated at 100 percent emerged and is benefiting from plenty of moisture heading into winter dormancy. Much of the corn crop that is being harvested is being picked at higher-than-preferred grain moisture, creating strong demand for producer's and elevator's drying capacity.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Feed supplies remained very strong in the state, this week rated at 97 percent adequate to surplus. Stock water supplies also continue to remain in good shape, now estimated at 91 percent adequate to surplus. Cattle condition improved slightly, to 84 percent in the good to excellent categories. Sheep conditions improved to 88 percent in the good to excellent categories, 8 percentage points higher than last week. There were some reports in western South Dakota of livestock losses due to the past week's winter storms, but overall livestock conditions are strong. The lack of snow cover has allowed some producers to graze livestock on crop stubble provided there are harvested fields available.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of November 16, 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	NA	1	14	NA
Short	3	7	NA	8	13	NA
Adequate	85	83	NA	80	66	NA
Surplus	12	9	NA	11	7	NA

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of November 16, 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	1	5	1	2	11
Short	2	4	14	9	15	13
Adequate	72	81	74	71	72	70
Surplus	25	14	7	19	11	7

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of November 16, 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	2	27	63	8
Cattle	0	1	15	65	19
Sheep	0	2	10	67	21

Crop Progress as of November 16, 2008 ¹

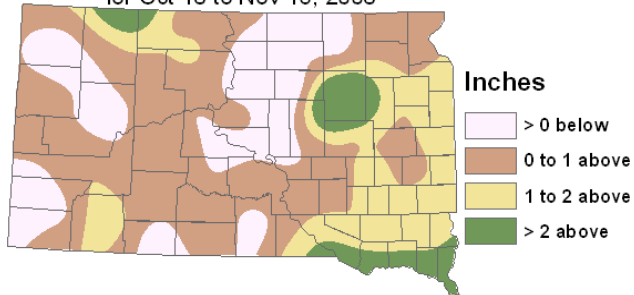
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat				
Emerged	100	94	100	97
Corn				
Grain Harvested	59	53	92	91
Sorghum				
Grain Harvested	74	56	99	97
Sunflower				
Harvested	61	56	87	91

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

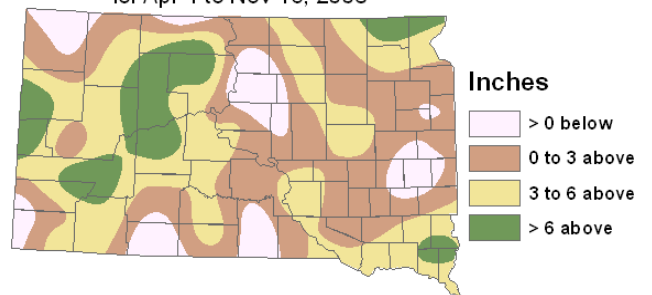
Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending November 16, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	35	Nisland	40
Beresford	40	Oacoma	40
Bowdle	38	Parkston	39
Brookings	37	Pierre	41
Caputa	39	South Shore	38
Cottonwood	36		

PAST 30 DAYS
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Oct 18 to Nov 16, 2008



GROWING SEASON
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Apr 1 to Nov 16, 2008



TEMPERATURE and PRECIPITATION
Week Ending Sunday, November 16, 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	30	-2	47	7	0.00	3.87	17.88	2.02	3.44	
Buffalo	34	4	50	17	0.20	2.23	14.40	0.35	-0.22	
Dupree	31	0	51	12	0.03	2.70	22.97	0.74	7.63	
McIntosh	30	-1	50	3	0.03	3.55	13.94	1.77	-0.36	
Newell	39	6	54	15	0.00	2.33	18.92	0.53	5.73	
Timber Lake	32	1	51	9	0.01	4.54	27.02	2.47	11.31	
North Central										
Aberdeen	32	2	56	18	0.04	4.82	19.35	2.70	2.07	
Faulkton	32	2	55	15	0.05	2.37	20.39	0.16	3.33	
Mobridge	35	2	53	20	0.00	3.40	17.19	1.46	2.56	
Roscoe	28	-1	50	12	0.08	2.96	21.34	0.86	3.93	
Northeast										
Britton	31	1	49	16	0.04	5.72	24.77	3.59	6.92	
Clear Lake	27	-3	44	13	0.26	5.49	21.52	2.64	0.01	
Sisseton	30	-1	48	19	0.05	6.12	23.89	3.59	5.59	
Watertown	28	-1	43	12	0.09	4.21	19.12	1.69	0.23	
Webster	29	-1	48	15	0.00	4.25	22.49	2.01	3.63	
West Central										
Faith	35	2	51	23	0.08	2.81	21.84	0.84	6.93	
Milesville	34	0	52	14	0.34	2.61	24.96	0.46	8.13	
Philip	37	4	52	25	0.17	2.81	19.46	1.08	4.85	
Rapid City	36	1	53	16	0.04	3.09	21.27	1.32	7.11	
Spearfish	39	5	54	21	0.36	4.92	28.50	2.21	10.59	
Central										
Chamberlain	36	2	49	28	0.31	3.29	23.33	0.98	4.42	
Highmore	33	1	52	13	0.05	1.67	18.11	-0.62	-0.17	
Huron	34	1	50	17	0.35	5.59	21.57	3.44	4.12	
Onida	33	2	51	13	0.13	2.97	17.69	0.86	1.32	
Pierre	35	1	54	15	0.25	1.97	19.99	-0.12	3.09	
East Central										
Brookings	29	-2	43	13	0.13	5.71	20.35	3.29	0.19	
Forestburg	33	-1	49	17	0.41	5.42	20.06	2.95	1.41	
Madison	29	-3	43	13	0.10	5.22	19.34	2.51	-1.93	
Mitchell	36	3	50	27	0.60	4.88	19.70	2.65	0.68	
Sioux Falls	34	2	48	19	0.69	6.51	23.76	3.76	2.96	
Southwest										
Custer	36	3	49	15	0.20	1.14	20.78	-0.72	3.48	
Hot Springs	38	3	52	14	0.00	1.05	16.30	-0.58	1.21	
Oelrichs	39	5	54	20	0.04	3.45	19.19	1.75	4.50	
Porcupine	34	1	51	17	0.17	3.73	19.58	1.90	4.51	
South Central										
Kennebec	35	1	51	14	0.27	3.20	17.60	1.30	1.41	
Mission	30	-4	48	14	0.09	2.77	21.71	0.77	4.34	
Murdo	31	-2	51	15	0.06	2.86	19.57	0.74	3.23	
Winner	37	0	49	27	0.09	2.71	18.18	0.19	-1.76	
Southeast										
Armour	35	-1	49	18	0.50	4.62	21.29	2.21	1.65	
Centerville	31	-3	48	15	0.68	6.20	27.84	3.60	6.73	
Pickstown	35	-1	52	20	0.58	5.64	23.44	3.25	3.53	
Vermillion	35	-2	50	19	0.52	7.29	26.55	4.43	4.95	
Yankton	34	-2	51	18	0.90	7.40	26.63	4.79	5.27	

DATA AND MAPS SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota