

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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For Week Ending December 7, 2008
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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE and
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

While the row crop harvest is nearly complete in South Dakota, some areas remain afflicted by very wet grain and soil conditions that are preventing the harvest. There were 5.0 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on the harvest of row crops, preparing livestock for the winter season, moving hay, 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

Continual flow of the jet stream from Canada kept reinforcing shots of cold air over the state for the week, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. The state also experienced several minor storm systems, but generally these storms had little moisture to work with. Most produced only light precipitation over nearly the whole state. A few stations reported no precipitation for the week, while at the maximum a few stations recorded around a quarter inch of precipitation. Watertown reported the highest total at 0.29 inch.

Temperatures were quite variable from some above average temperatures in the northwest to generally colder than average temperatures in the eastern third of the state. Hot Springs and Pickstown reported the highest temperature at 56° F. Porcupine had the lowest temperature at -2° F with several other stations falling below zero during the week.

SOIL CONDITION

Soil temperatures followed the colder air temperatures, being at or below freezing over much of the eastern and northeastern parts of the state. Western areas, where temperatures have been somewhat warmer are still above freezing. Very light snow cover exists over much of the northeastern quarter of the state. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, only 0.5 percent of the state is rated as D0 (Abnormally Dry). This is much lower than one year ago when 45.6 percent of the state was rated D0 or higher. Topsoil moisture ratings remain stable at 96 percent rated adequate or surplus. Subsoil moisture also remained stable at 87 percent in the adequate to surplus categories.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Corn is now estimated at 93 percent harvested, a gain of 5 percentage points from last week. Sorghum advanced to 97 percent harvested, 3 percentage points higher than last week. Sunflowers are 90 percent harvested, a 7 percentage point advance from last week. Most of the state's row crop harvest will be completed within a week, but isolated areas will remain unharvested due to extremely wet conditions and slow grain drying progress.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Livestock conditions, as well as feed and stock water supplies, remain very strong going into the winter. Feed supplies were estimated 95 percent adequate to surplus and stock water supplies were estimated at 90 percent adequate to surplus. Cattle conditions remained virtually unchanged at 84 percent in the good to excellent categories. Sheep conditions decreased to 82 percent in the good to excellent categories.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of December 7, 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	NA	NA	1	NA	NA
Short	5	NA	NA	9	NA	NA
Adequate	82	NA	NA	78	NA	NA
Surplus	13	NA	NA	12	NA	NA

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of December 7, 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	0	0	NA	1	1	NA
Short	4	3	NA	12	12	NA
Adequate	81	84	NA	73	76	NA
Surplus	15	13	NA	14	11	NA

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of December 7, 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	1	35	54	10
Cattle	1	2	13	67	17
Sheep	1	4	13	64	18

Crop Progress as of December 7, 2008 ¹

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr. Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn				
Grain Harvested	93	88	100	100
Sorghum				
Grain Harvested	97	94	100	100
Sunflower				
Harvested	90	83	100	100

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending December 7, 2008 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	31	Nisland	33
Beresford	32	Oacoma	34
Bowdle	33	Parkston	33
Brookings	32	Pierre	34
Caputa	34	South Shore	32
Cottonwood	31		

LAST WEEKLY REPORT OF 2008

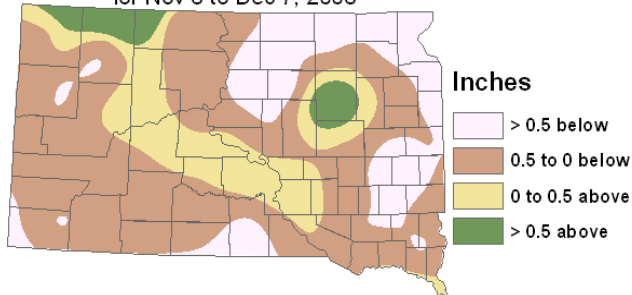
This issue concludes the weekly reports for 2008 made possible by the dedicated county extension educators, Farm Service Agency county directors, and farmers and ranchers who supplied the necessary information.

Reports will be issued monthly during the winter season. Weekly reports will resume on April 6, 2009.

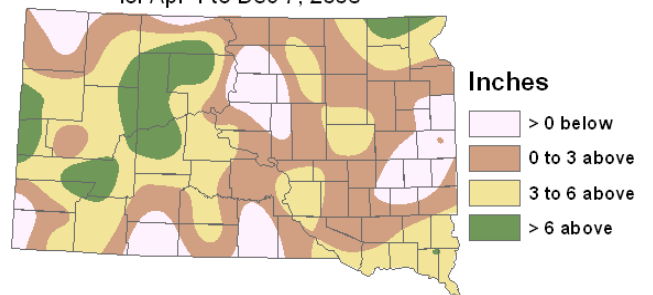
THANK YOU!

USDA, NASS, SOUTH DAKOTA FIELD OFFICE

PAST 30 DAYS
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Nov 8 to Dec 7, 2008



GROWING SEASON
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Apr 1 to Dec 7, 2008



TEMPERATURE and PRECIPITATION
Week Ending Sunday, December 7, 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
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Northwest									
Bison	23	-1	42	3	0.08	4.28	18.29	2.18	3.60
Buffalo	28	6	47	3	0.06	2.45	14.62	0.33	-0.24
Dupree	23	1	42	2	0.18	3.28	23.55	1.11	8.00
McIntosh	20	-2	42	-1	0.09	3.75	14.14	1.76	-0.37
Newell	28	3	54	0	0.03	2.36	18.95	0.31	5.51
Timber Lake	23	1	41	0	0.13	4.75	27.23	2.36	11.20
North Central									
Aberdeen	21	1	41	2	0.04	4.95	19.48	2.45	1.82
Faulkton	20	-1	45	3	0.01	2.40	20.42	-0.24	2.93
Mobridge	24	1	42	4	0.05	3.49	17.28	1.33	2.43
Roscoe	19	0	43	2	0.04	3.04	21.42	0.48	3.55
Northeast									
Britton	17	-3	38	-1	0.06	5.78	24.83	3.26	6.59
Clear Lake	16	-3	42	1	0.15	5.74	21.77	2.23	-0.40
Sisseton	19	-2	41	2	0.02	6.21	23.98	3.12	5.12
Watertown	17	-3	42	0	0.29	4.51	19.42	1.56	0.10
Webster	16	-3	38	1	0.05	4.50	22.74	1.83	3.45
West Central									
Faith	26	2	45	2	0.17	3.32	22.35	1.10	7.19
Milesville	23	-2	41	1	0.00	2.91	25.26	0.53	8.20
Philip	28	3	52	-1	0.09	3.02	19.67	0.99	4.76
Rapid City	27	0	54	-1	0.05	3.15	21.33	1.05	6.84
Spearfish	27	-2	44	12	0.18	5.13	28.71	1.91	10.29
Central									
Chamberlain	27	2	51	5	0.07	3.96	24.00	1.18	4.62
Highmore	21	-1	46	0	0.03	1.83	18.27	-0.85	-0.40
Huron	22	-1	47	3	0.17	6.04	22.02	3.42	4.10
Onida	24	2	45	1	0.00	3.12	17.84	0.58	1.04
Pierre	26	1	48	8	0.17	2.37	20.39	-0.04	3.17
East Central									
Brookings	17	-4	44	2	0.11	5.87	20.51	3.00	-0.10
Forestburg	22	-2	47	1	0.00	5.66	20.30	2.58	1.04
Madison	19	-2	47	-1	0.01	5.29	19.41	1.90	-2.54
Mitchell	25	1	49	8	0.09	5.01	19.83	2.09	0.12
Sioux Falls	22	0	49	4	0.13	6.72	23.97	3.25	2.45
Southwest									
Custer	27	-1	50	1	0.25	1.44	21.08	-0.84	3.36
Hot Springs	29	1	56	1	0.23	1.35	16.60	-0.55	1.24
Oelrichs	26	0	50	3	0.10	3.55	19.29	1.46	4.21
Porcupine	25	0	55	-2	0.10	3.83	19.68	1.66	4.27
South Central									
Kennebec	26	1	52	0	0.10	3.65	18.05	1.47	1.58
Mission	25	-1	54	3	0.13	2.95	21.89	0.53	4.10
Murdo	25	0	49	2	0.23	3.44	20.15	0.90	3.39
Winner	29	0	55	9	0.05	2.82	18.29	-0.19	-2.14
Southeast									
Armour	24	-2	52	1	0.00	4.93	21.60	1.93	1.37
Centerville	20	-4	50	4	0.02	6.22	27.86	2.87	6.00
Pickstown	25	-3	56	7	0.12	5.82	23.62	2.90	3.18
Vermillion	25	-1	52	8	0.02	8.01	27.27	4.38	4.90
Yankton	23	-3	53	8	0.11	7.55	26.78	4.28	4.76

DATA AND MAPS SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota