

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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National Agricultural Statistics Service
South Dakota Field Office
P.O. Box 5068
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5068
Cooperating with:
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE and
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Spring planting was hindered by weather conditions this week as cool temperatures and melting snow kept fields soggy and challenged livestock producers to keep newborns warm and dry. There was 0.2 day suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on calving and lambing, preparing equipment for spring field work, and hauling grain to market.

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

WEATHER INFORMATION

Generally light showers fell over the southwest part of the state. Most of the rest of the state was dry for the week. Many stations reported no precipitation. Rapid City reported the most precipitation at 0.68 inch. Only a handful of stations reported over 0.10 inch. Average temperatures for the week were in the 30's F statewide. These temperatures ranged from 3° – 12° below average. The highest temperatures reached the 60's F, with Yankton and Hot Springs reporting the highest at 65° F. A few stations still reported lows reaching single digits with Rapid City reaching the lowest at 6° F.

The colder temperatures somewhat slowed the melt-off of snow in the western part of the state, but most snow was gone except for areas in the Black Hills. Flooding was being reported, in many cases, from this snow run-off on western rivers. The James River continues its spring flooding, also, despite recent dryness.

SOIL CONDITION

The colder air temperatures limited the soil temperature warm-up. Soil temperatures generally held steady in the 30's F over the whole state. Pierre was the highest at 42° F with South Shore the lowest at 32° F. Topsoil moisture was rated at 99 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 89 percent last year. Subsoil moisture was rated at 91 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 79 percent adequate to surplus in 2008.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

This week brought a break in precipitation for most parts of the state, but temperatures remained below average, and fields were too wet for planting. Flooded fields were reported in the James River area. Spring wheat planting is stalled at 2 percent complete, unchanged from last week. Spring wheat planting intentions are reportedly still in place, but may change quickly due to the delayed planting season. No progress has been made in any other small grain seedings or in corn planting. The percentage of winter wheat breaking dormancy jumped 19 points to 46 percent. Winter wheat conditions are rated 58 percent good to excellent, unchanged from last week.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Livestock producers are doing their best to alleviate death loss in the wet and cold conditions brought on by late season winter storms. In Ziebach County, Ag Commissioners estimated significant death loss of the county's calf crop thus far due to weather conditions. High death loss has been reported statewide for both calves and lambs. There have also been many reports of sick newborn livestock, statewide. Calving is 63 percent complete, up 11 percentage points from last week. Calf death loss rates are unchanged from last week, with 3 percent below average, 80 percent average, and 17 percent above average. Seven percent of cattle have been moved to pasture, which is 2 points ahead of last year. Lambing is estimated at 80 percent complete, 4 points further along than last week. Sheep and lamb death loss is rated at 5

percent below average, 85 percent average, and 10 above average for this time of year. Range and pasture condition is rated at 54 percent good to excellent, one point higher than last week, and 17 percentage points higher than the five-year average.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of April 12, 2009

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	5	1	5	1	9	16
Short	16	12	15	5	15	20
Adequate	72	80	75	76	69	60
Surplus	7	7	5	18	7	4

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of April 12, 2009

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	2	2	2	7
Short	1	1	9	7	8	14
Adequate	66	60	71	73	77	73
Surplus	33	39	18	18	13	6

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of April 12, 2009

Item	V Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	1	6	35	47	11
Cattle	1	6	29	54	10
Sheep	1	4	25	59	11
Range & Pasture	4	12	30	42	12

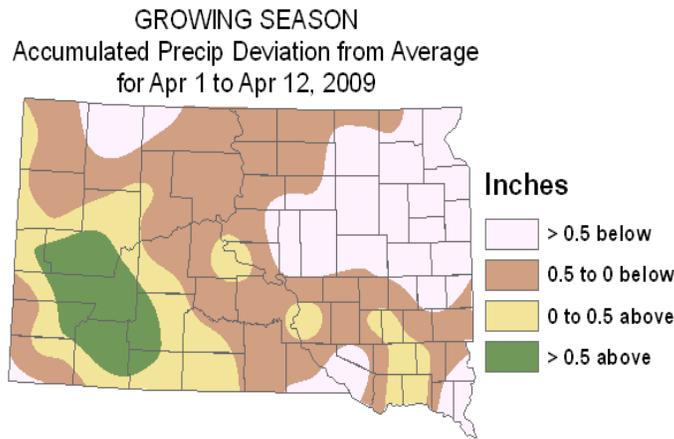
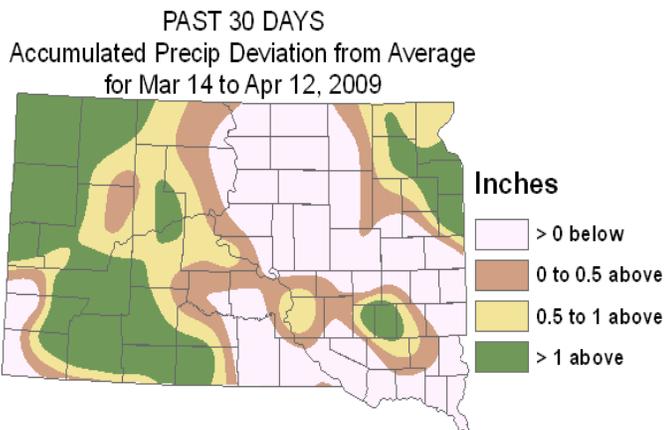
Crop Progress as of April 12, 2009 ¹

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat				
Breaking Dormancy	46	27	68	89
Barley				
Seeded	0	0	6	14
Oats				
Seeded	0	0	10	24
Spring Wheat				
Seeded	2	2	11	28

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending April 12, 2009 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	35	Nisland	35
Beresford	37	Oacoma	40
Bowdle	36	Parkston	38
Brookings	37	Pierre	42
Caputa	33	Redfield	35
Cottonwood	38	South Shore	32



TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS
Week Ending Sunday, April 12, 2009

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		
<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>			
Northwest											
Bison	34	-9	50	7	0.01	10.01	0.04	4.59	-0.71	0	-21
Buffalo	34	-7	57	14	0.02	7.02	0.53	2.47	-0.09	4	-5
Dupree	37	-5	60	11	0.04	7.94	0.54	2.85	-0.09	7	-15
McIntosh	32	-10	56	13	0.00	7.31	0.10	2.83	-0.46	3	-15
Newell	30	-13	50	7	0.29	7.05	0.56	2.40	0.00	0	-24
Timber Lake	37	-6	61	11	0.07	9.02	0.33	3.38	-0.35	9	-9
North Central											
Aberdeen	36	-6	58	16	0.00	8.58	0.00	2.84	-0.68	8	-8
Faulkton	36	-6	57	15	0.00	6.96	0.21	0.78	-0.51	6	-12
Mobridge	40	-2	61	22	0.26	7.06	0.42	2.24	-0.15	6	-9
Roscoe	35	-5	55	18	0.00	7.99	0.35	2.35	-0.34	3	-5
Northeast											
Britton	35	-7	55	15	0.00	11.51	0.12	5.97	-0.46	4	-14
Clear Lake	34	-6	57	18	0.00	12.06	0.24	4.11	-0.60	4	-1
Sisseton	36	-6	59	18	0.00	11.74	0.00	4.68	-0.75	9	-1
Watertown	36	-4	58	17	0.00	8.90	0.05	2.61	-0.67	8	3
Webster	35	-6	56	15	0.00	9.63	0.00	3.54	-0.65	6	2
West Central											
Faith	37	-7	57	14	0.03	6.51	0.72	1.17	0.09	4	-23
Milesville	37	-8	62	12	0.05	7.45	0.35	1.87	-0.28	7	-27
Philip	40	-4	62	13	0.32	7.37	0.93	2.55	0.33	12	-26
Rapid City	33	-9	54	6	0.68	7.89	1.76	3.02	1.14	3	-21
Spearfish	40	-3	55	14	0.16	10.86	1.28	3.55	0.43	10	-13
Central											
Chamberlain	40	-3	62	13	0.02	7.70	0.99	1.14	0.18	9	-20
Highmore	36	-7	59	12	0.01	5.42	0.04	-0.73	-0.87	5	-20
Huron	38	-6	60	17	0.00	9.79	0.31	3.35	-0.53	9	-15
Onida	37	-6	59	15	0.24	6.69	0.39	0.41	-0.31	6	-18
Pierre	41	-4	63	18	0.24	7.45	0.85	1.69	0.16	13	-21
East Central											
Brookings	35	-6	59	20	0.00	8.57	0.14	2.76	-0.60	6	-3
Forestburg	37	-8	64	12	0.06	8.87	0.56	1.93	-0.38	14	-27
Madison	37	-4	61	18	0.00	7.74	0.19	0.21	-0.75	11	1
Mitchell	35	-9	64	12	0.00	10.44	1.15	3.38	0.16	10	-17
Sioux Falls	38	-5	61	18	0.00	10.11	0.78	2.50	-0.19	13	-14
Southwest											
Custer	37	-3	53	24	0.36	4.32	0.66	-1.10	-0.01	2	-5
Hot Springs	39	-5	65	10	0.25	5.06	0.93	0.55	0.29	21	-31
Oelrichs	37	-7	59	14	0.12	7.40	0.46	2.50	-0.18	14	-29
Porcupine	35	-8	60	9	0.26	8.99	1.50	4.06	0.85	10	-28
South Central											
Kennebec	37	-8	60	10	0.05	6.81	0.47	1.68	-0.24	11	-41
Mission	32	-11	58	9	0.01	7.66	0.99	2.28	0.31	4	-17
Murdo	35	-8	62	14	0.16	7.87	0.63	1.48	-0.21	9	-20
Winner	38	-9	59	14	0.06	7.37	0.88	0.16	-0.03	5	-47
Southeast											
Armour	38	-9	63	13	0.01	7.05	0.17	-0.33	-0.72	15	-37
Centerville	36	-9	63	15	0.00	9.52	0.24	2.35	-0.63	16	-14
Pickstown	35	-10	64	12	0.00	8.64	0.26	1.81	-0.72	15	-23
Vermillion	40	-8	63	17	0.00	11.39	0.15	3.78	-0.84	26	-34
Yankton	34	-11	65	15	0.00	11.53	1.10	4.31	0.22	15	-23