

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

Released: April 20, 2009 -- 3:00 p.m. CT
For Week Ending April 19, 2009
SD-CW5816 Volume 58 Issue 16



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 fieldwork continues to be slow in South Dakota, with wet soil conditions causing delay for both small grains and row crops. There was 1.2 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on calving and lambing, beginning to plant spring small grains, and preparing equipment for spring field work, and general care of livestock.

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

WEATHER INFORMATION

A slow moving storm system dropped some heavier precipitation amounts over the southwest part of the state, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. During the week over an inch of precipitation fell in areas along the Nebraska border in the western part of the state. Custer, Hot Springs, Oelrichs, Oral and Porcupine received around 1.5 inches of precipitation from the storm. Most of the rest of the state received less than a half inch. Areas northeast received only trace to tenth of an inch. This was a positive as it allowed flooded rivers and streams to begin receding.

Temperatures for the week for the entire state were about average. Areas in the black hills were 1 to 2°F above average whereas central South Dakota was 5 to 8°F above average. Most parts of the state saw high temperatures in the 70s last week with Porcupine touching the 80°F mark on the April 15. Overnight lows were also on the milder side. This helped to push soil temperatures warmer by 6-11°F from last week. The warmer temperatures across the state improved growing degrees.

SOIL CONDITION

Soil temperatures were in the 40s in most parts of the state. Pierre and Oacoma was the highest with 51°F and South Shore was still at mid-30s this week. Topsoil moisture was rated at 40 percent surplus, 32 percentage points higher than the five-year average. Subsoil moisture was rated at 16 percent surplus, only 10 percentage points higher than the five-year average.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Wet soil conditions continue to slow the progress of spring fieldwork. Some producers have reported that the delay may cause a change in some planting intentions and possible prevented planting. Seeding of spring wheat advanced to 11 percent complete, 9 percentage points ahead of last week, but 39 percentage points behind the five-year average. Barley and oats plantings were able to begin this week, estimated at 1 and 6 percent complete, respectively, but also remain far behind historical averages. Winter wheat breaking dormancy advanced 31 points to 77 percent complete. Winter wheat conditions are rated 60 percent good to excellent, only slightly higher than last week.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Livestock benefited this week from mostly warmer, dryer weather. There were reports that some herds are still recovering from a difficult calving season and some disease pressure. Calving is 75 percent complete, up 12 percentage points from last week. Calf death loss rates are estimated at 4 percent below average, 78 percent average, and 18 percent above average. Cattle moved to pasture is estimated at 11 percent complete. Lambing is estimated at 86 percent complete. Sheep and lamb death loss is rated at 3 percent below average, 84 percent average, and 13 above average. Range and pasture condition is rated at 57 percent good to excellent, 19 percentage points higher than the five-year average.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of April 19, 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 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 11 | 18 |
| Short | 15 | 13 | 15 | 4 | 12 | 18 |
| Adequate | 74 | 80 | 74 | 72 | 67 | 59 |
| Surplus | 7 | 6 | 4 | 23 | 10 | 5 |

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of April 19, 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 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| Short | 0 | 1 | 11 | 5 | 7 | 13 |
| Adequate | 60 | 66 | 75 | 78 | 73 | 71 |
| Surplus | 40 | 33 | 12 | 16 | 18 | 7 |

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of April 19, 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 | 2 | 5 | 33 | 50 | 10 |
| Cattle | 2 | 7 | 25 | 57 | 9 |
| Sheep | 1 | 5 | 22 | 60 | 12 |
| Range & Pasture | 1 | 9 | 33 | 47 | 10 |

Crop Progress as of April 19, 2009 ¹

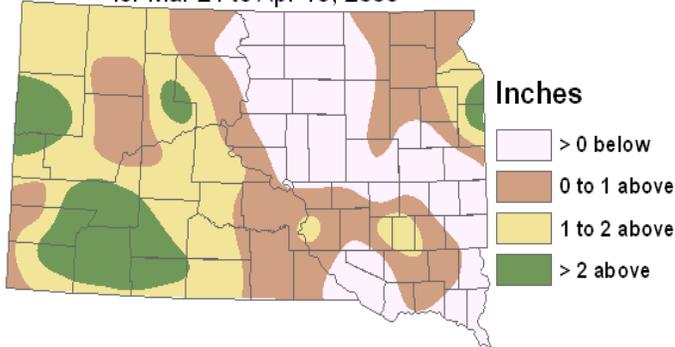
| Item | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-Yr Avg. |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Winter Wheat | | | | |
| Breaking Dormancy | 77 | 46 | 89 | 97 |
| Barley | | | | |
| Seeded | 1 | 0 | 16 | 29 |
| Emerged | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| Oats | | | | |
| Seeded | 6 | 0 | 28 | 44 |
| Emerged | 0 | 0 | 4 | 11 |
| Spring Wheat | | | | |
| Seeded | 11 | 2 | 31 | 50 |
| Emerged | 1 | 0 | 5 | 13 |

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

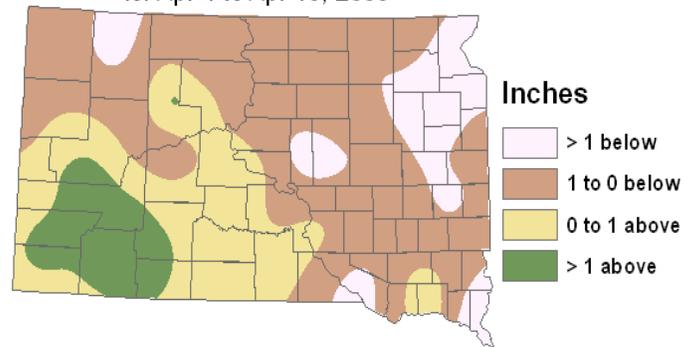
Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending April 19, 2009 (4-inch Depth)

| Location | Temp | Location | Temp |
|------------|------|-------------|------|
| Aberdeen | 44 | Nisland | 44 |
| Beresford | 44 | Oacoma | 51 |
| Bowdle | 44 | Parkston | 47 |
| Brookings | 43 | Pierre | 51 |
| Caputa | 41 | Redfield | 46 |
| Cottonwood | 49 | South Shore | 35 |

PAST 30 DAYS
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Mar 21 to Apr 19, 2009



GROWING SEASON
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Apr 1 to Apr 19, 2009



TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS
Week Ending Sunday, April 19, 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 | 48 | 3 | 68 | 34 | 0.08 | 10.09 | 0.12 | 4.18 | -1.12 | 34 | -15 |
| Buffalo | 46 | 3 | 64 | 33 | 0.10 | 7.12 | 0.63 | 2.11 | -0.45 | 26 | -2 |
| Dupree | 50 | 5 | 71 | 31 | 1.53 | 9.47 | 2.07 | 3.96 | 1.02 | 49 | -2 |
| McIntosh | 48 | 2 | 69 | 30 | 0.22 | 7.53 | 0.32 | 2.65 | -0.64 | 36 | -11 |
| Newell | 45 | 0 | 66 | 32 | 0.55 | 7.60 | 1.11 | 2.55 | 0.15 | 22 | -30 |
| Timber Lake | 50 | 4 | 70 | 32 | 0.21 | 9.23 | 0.54 | 3.13 | -0.60 | 48 | 3 |
| North Central | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aberdeen | 50 | 4 | 68 | 37 | 0.18 | 8.76 | 0.18 | 2.60 | -0.92 | 44 | 1 |
| Faulkton | 50 | 4 | 68 | 33 | 0.45 | 7.41 | 0.66 | 0.77 | -0.52 | 50 | 4 |
| Mobridge | 49 | 4 | 70 | 27 | 0.21 | 7.27 | 0.63 | 2.07 | -0.32 | 42 | 1 |
| Roscoe | 48 | 5 | 66 | 33 | 0.41 | 8.40 | 0.76 | 2.27 | -0.42 | 34 | 7 |
| Northeast | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Britton | 50 | 5 | 65 | 33 | 0.08 | 11.59 | 0.20 | 5.64 | -0.79 | 41 | -6 |
| Clear Lake | 49 | 5 | 71 | 32 | 0.16 | 12.22 | 0.40 | 3.74 | -0.97 | 39 | 18 |
| Sisseton | 50 | 5 | 68 | 33 | 0.13 | 11.87 | 0.13 | 4.32 | -1.11 | 53 | 20 |
| Watertown | 48 | 5 | 71 | 31 | 0.06 | 8.96 | 0.11 | 2.20 | -1.08 | 44 | 23 |
| Webster | 48 | 4 | 65 | 35 | 0.00 | 9.63 | 0.00 | 3.12 | -1.07 | 37 | 15 |
| West Central | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Faith | 50 | 3 | 71 | 34 | 0.24 | 6.75 | 0.96 | 0.98 | -0.10 | 40 | -17 |
| Milesville | 51 | 4 | 74 | 33 | 0.25 | 7.70 | 0.60 | 1.68 | -0.47 | 53 | -17 |
| Philip | 52 | 6 | 77 | 35 | 0.51 | 7.88 | 1.44 | 2.65 | 0.43 | 58 | -17 |
| Rapid City | 46 | 1 | 71 | 31 | 0.61 | 8.50 | 2.37 | 3.20 | 1.32 | 30 | -20 |
| Spearfish | 47 | 1 | 66 | 33 | 0.15 | 11.01 | 1.43 | 3.12 | 0.00 | 39 | -9 |
| Central | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chamberlain | 54 | 8 | 69 | 39 | 0.49 | 8.19 | 1.48 | 1.07 | 0.11 | 59 | -1 |
| Highmore | 51 | 5 | 67 | 36 | 0.27 | 5.69 | 0.31 | -1.09 | -1.23 | 45 | -11 |
| Huron | 52 | 5 | 68 | 35 | 0.20 | 9.99 | 0.51 | 3.00 | -0.88 | 56 | 2 |
| Onida | 50 | 4 | 68 | 34 | 0.31 | 7.00 | 0.70 | 0.28 | -0.44 | 44 | -11 |
| Pierre | 52 | 4 | 72 | 35 | 0.62 | 8.07 | 1.47 | 1.83 | 0.30 | 58 | -12 |
| East Central | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brookings | 49 | 4 | 72 | 27 | 0.18 | 8.75 | 0.32 | 2.45 | -0.91 | 45 | 17 |
| Forestburg | 53 | 5 | 71 | 33 | 0.37 | 9.24 | 0.93 | 1.67 | -0.64 | 76 | -6 |
| Madison | 50 | 5 | 71 | 25 | 0.30 | 8.04 | 0.49 | -0.12 | -1.08 | 56 | 25 |
| Mitchell | 53 | 6 | 70 | 35 | 0.12 | 10.56 | 1.27 | 2.87 | -0.35 | 62 | 5 |
| Sioux Falls | 51 | 5 | 71 | 28 | 0.23 | 10.34 | 1.01 | 2.10 | -0.59 | 60 | 0 |
| Southwest | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Custer | 43 | 2 | 62 | 27 | 1.47 | 5.79 | 2.13 | -0.11 | 0.98 | 16 | -5 |
| Hot Springs | 49 | 2 | 73 | 28 | 1.57 | 6.63 | 2.50 | 1.66 | 1.40 | 66 | -27 |
| Oelrichs | 48 | 2 | 76 | 34 | 1.49 | 8.89 | 1.95 | 3.53 | 0.85 | 51 | -27 |
| Porcupine | 46 | 1 | 79 | 28 | 1.56 | 10.55 | 3.06 | 5.18 | 1.97 | 44 | -28 |
| South Central | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kennebec | 53 | 5 | 70 | 36 | 0.58 | 7.39 | 1.05 | 1.77 | -0.15 | 62 | -34 |
| Mission | 50 | 5 | 72 | 37 | 0.70 | 8.36 | 1.69 | 2.49 | 0.52 | 35 | -11 |
| Murdo | 49 | 3 | 73 | 36 | 1.36 | 9.23 | 1.99 | 2.32 | 0.63 | 41 | -19 |
| Winner | 54 | 5 | 70 | 39 | 0.97 | 8.34 | 1.85 | 0.52 | 0.33 | 52 | -44 |
| Southeast | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Armour | 51 | 2 | 70 | 31 | 0.36 | 7.41 | 0.53 | -0.55 | -0.94 | 67 | -30 |
| Centerville | 51 | 4 | 71 | 28 | 0.26 | 9.78 | 0.50 | 2.04 | -0.94 | 58 | -5 |
| Pickstown | 55 | 7 | 76 | 39 | 0.05 | 8.69 | 0.31 | 1.21 | -1.32 | 72 | -1 |
| Vermillion | 52 | 2 | 71 | 28 | 0.22 | 11.61 | 0.37 | 3.36 | -1.26 | 76 | -35 |
| Yankton | 52 | 4 | 72 | 30 | 0.60 | 12.13 | 1.70 | 4.33 | 0.24 | 69 | -7 |