

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

Released: April 27, 2009 -- 3:00 p.m. CT
For Week Ending April 26, 2009
SD-CW5817 Volume 58 Issue 17



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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE and
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Warmer weather helped advance spring fieldwork, but wet soil conditions continue to delay spring planting progress and create some difficult conditions for South Dakota livestock producers. There were 3.1 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on calving and lambing, planting spring small grains and corn in some areas, 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

Variability was the word of the week, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. All stations outside the Black Hills reached the 80s last Thursday with several stations reaching the 90s for the first time this season. Many stations set record high temperatures for the day across the state. Yankton and Forestburg reported the highest temperature for the week at 93° F. These warm temperatures helped push temperatures for nearly all stations above average for the week. Only a few stations along the northern border came in slightly below average. The coldest temperature reported was from Custer at 19° F.

Nearly all locations in the state recorded precipitation. The heaviest precipitation again fell over the western part of the state. Several stations around the Black Hills reported over an inch of liquid precipitation. Some of that fell as snow over the weekend. Custer reported the most precipitation at 1.35 inch. Webster reported the least with no precipitation through Saturday night. For the month precipitation totals have generally been below average in the eastern part of the state to well above average in the western part.

SOIL CONDITION

Four-inch soil temperatures were in the 40s across the state generally with a few 50s in the south central and still 30s in the northeast corner. Topsoil moisture decreased to a rating of 30 percent surplus, still 20 percentage points higher than the five-year average. Subsoil moisture was rated at 15 percent surplus, 8 percentage points higher than the five-year average.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Warmer conditions facilitated spring planting during the week, but late week precipitation and generally wet soil conditions continue to keep planting progress behind historical averages. Spring wheat seeding advanced 24 percentage points to 35 percent complete. Oats and barley seeded have progressed to 24 percent and 15 percent complete, respectively. The planting of corn has begun in South Dakota, this week estimated at 3 percent complete. Winter wheat breaking dormancy has advanced to 93 percent complete, with 56 percent of the winter wheat crop rated good to excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Livestock conditions remained fairly stable in South Dakota over the past week. Producers continue to struggle with wet and muddy conditions, with some reports of scours in calves. There were even some reports of heat stress, due to record or near-record temperatures mid-week. Calving is 81 percent complete, up 6 percentage points from last week. Calf death loss rates are estimated at 4 percent below average, 76 percent average, and 20 percent above average. Cattle moved to pasture is estimated at 21 percent complete. Lambing is estimated at 90 percent complete. Sheep and lamb death loss is rated at 3 percent below average, 85 percent average, and 12 above average. Range and pasture condition is rated at 56 percent good to excellent, 16 percentage points higher than the five-year average.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of April 26, 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	7	1	11	16
Short	15	15	15	3	14	19
Adequate	74	79	73	78	66	59
Surplus	7	5	5	18	8	6

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of April 26, 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	1	8
Short	0	0	12	5	5	14
Adequate	70	60	69	79	78	70
Surplus	30	40	17	15	16	8

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of April 26, 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	3	7	34	48	8
Cattle	2	6	25	58	9
Sheep	1	5	25	57	12
Range & Pasture	1	15	28	48	8

Crop Progress as of April 26, 2009 ¹

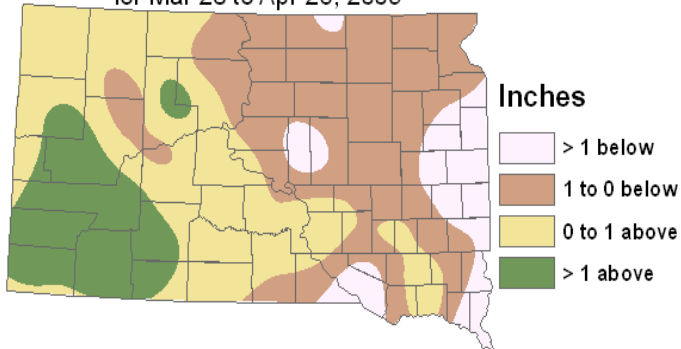
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat				
Breaking Dormancy	93	77	96	99
Boot	0	0	0	3
Barley				
Seeded	15	1	32	48
Emerging	1	0	3	12
Oats				
Seeded	24	6	45	62
Emerging	5	0	9	23
Spring Wheat				
Seeded	35	11	48	69
Emerging	7	1	10	29
Corn				
Planted	3	0	4	8

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

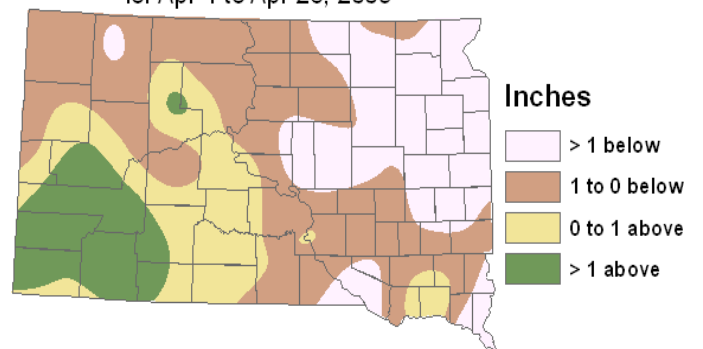
Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending April 26, 2009 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	47	Nisland	49
Beresford	49	Oacoma	54
Bowdle	46	Parkston	52
Brookings	47	Pierre	55
Caputa	46	Redfield	51
Cottonwood	52	South Shore	38

PAST 30 DAYS
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Mar 28 to Apr 26, 2009



GROWING SEASON
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average
for Apr 1 to Apr 26, 2009



TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS
Week Ending Sunday, April 26, 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		
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches		
Northwest											
Bison	51	3	80	27	0.66	10.75	0.78	4.29	-1.01	87	-1
Buffalo	48	2	80	29	0.59	7.71	1.22	2.19	-0.37	73	17
Dupree	51	3	87	29	0.70	10.17	2.77	4.17	1.23	109	18
McIntosh	46	-2	81	28	0.76	8.29	1.08	2.97	-0.32	82	-4
Newell	51	3	82	30	0.69	8.29	1.80	2.79	0.39	80	-9
Timber Lake	50	2	85	28	0.53	9.76	1.07	3.16	-0.57	103	20
North Central											
Aberdeen	50	1	90	33	0.04	8.80	0.22	2.19	-1.33	92	9
Faulkton	51	2	90	33	0.31	7.72	0.97	0.57	-0.72	105	18
Mobridge	50	2	89	30	0.47	7.74	1.10	2.12	-0.27	93	15
Roscoe	49	3	89	32	0.09	8.49	0.85	1.81	-0.88	85	25
Northeast											
Britton	46	-3	87	29	0.30	11.89	0.50	5.49	-0.94	76	-13
Clear Lake	47	0	88	29	0.17	12.39	0.57	3.35	-1.36	78	28
Sisseton	48	-1	89	31	0.17	12.04	0.30	4.00	-1.43	89	19
Watertown	49	2	87	30	0.32	9.28	0.43	2.03	-1.25	82	31
Webster	48	1	86	33	0.00	9.63	0.00	2.63	-1.56	71	19
West Central											
Faith	49	-1	84	29	0.54	7.29	1.50	1.02	-0.06	89	-9
Milesville	52	2	87	32	0.48	8.18	1.08	1.63	-0.52	113	-2
Philip	52	3	89	32	0.40	8.28	1.84	2.58	0.36	113	-7
Rapid City	48	1	85	30	1.26	9.76	3.63	3.97	2.09	81	-2
Spearfish	53	5	83	29	0.38	11.39	1.81	2.87	-0.25	98	16
Central											
Chamberlain	54	5	91	32	0.53	8.72	2.01	0.97	0.01	117	16
Highmore	50	2	87	30	0.19	5.88	0.50	-1.55	-1.69	94	-3
Huron	52	3	91	32	0.43	10.42	0.94	2.87	-1.01	106	10
Onida	51	3	88	30	0.32	7.32	1.02	0.11	-0.61	103	7
Pierre	50	0	88	32	0.37	8.44	1.84	1.67	0.14	112	-4
East Central											
Brookings	49	1	89	31	0.31	9.06	0.63	2.27	-1.09	87	26
Forestburg	55	4	93	32	0.40	9.64	1.33	1.39	-0.92	147	14
Madison	50	2	89	28	0.48	8.52	0.97	-0.27	-1.23	105	40
Mitchell	54	4	92	33	0.15	10.71	1.42	2.33	-0.89	117	18
Sioux Falls	53	4	91	33	0.40	10.74	1.41	1.85	-0.84	119	16
Southwest											
Custer	44	0	75	19	1.35	7.14	3.48	0.69	1.78	51	10
Hot Springs	51	3	84	29	1.28	7.91	3.78	2.41	2.15	133	-8
Oelrichs	51	3	86	29	0.67	9.56	2.62	3.67	0.99	114	-10
Porcupine	51	4	88	29	0.69	11.24	3.75	5.38	2.17	105	-8
South Central											
Kennebec	54	3	90	27	0.47	7.86	1.52	1.70	-0.22	135	-16
Mission	52	4	87	30	0.29	8.65	1.98	2.20	0.23	93	13
Murdo	54	4	88	30	0.39	9.62	2.38	2.15	0.46	103	2
Winner	55	3	89	33	0.29	8.63	2.14	0.13	-0.06	112	-36
Southeast											
Armour	54	2	90	32	0.46	7.87	0.99	-0.74	-1.13	133	-18
Centerville	53	3	91	35	0.75	10.53	1.25	2.16	-0.82	114	9
Pickstown	56	6	90	33	0.35	9.04	0.66	0.86	-1.67	157	38
Vermillion	57	4	91	34	0.30	11.91	0.67	2.96	-1.66	150	-22
Yankton	54	4	93	36	0.85	12.98	2.55	4.53	0.44	130	7

DATA AND MAP SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota