

# South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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For Week Ending May 3, 2009  
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Cooperating with:  
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE and  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

## AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Cooler and drier weather helped advance the planting of small grains in South Dakota, but wet soils continued to delay the widespread planting of row crops. There were 3.9 days suitable for fieldwork in the past week. Farm activities focused on calving and lambing, planting spring small grains and corn, moving livestock to summer pastures, repairing pasture fences, 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

The last week in South Dakota was cooler than average overall, with generally light precipitation except for the northeast, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Aberdeen (1.26 inches) and Sisseton (1.36 inches) reported over an inch of precipitation for the week. Most of the rest of the state reported much lighter amounts. Kennebec reported the lowest, at 0.02 inch.

Temperatures for the week were 2 to 7° F below average over the whole state. Some stations in the west reached highs in the upper 70s with Winner reaching 80° F on May 29. All stations had low temperatures below freezing except for a few southern stations.

April, as a whole, was several degrees cooler than average statewide with near-to-below average GDD accumulation. A few stations were near average accumulation for the month, while several stations were 30-50 GDDs below average. The state was generally drier than average, except for the southern Black Hills and southwest corner. Most of the state ranged from 0.5 to 2.0 inches below average for the month. Several stations from Rapid City south and west were over 1.0 inch above average.

## SOIL CONDITION

Soil temperatures continued to warm slowly. All average four-inch soil temperatures for the week were in the 40s to low 50s °F. Topsoil moisture decreased further to a rating of 17 percent surplus, now only 4 percentage points higher than the five-year average. Subsoil moisture remained stable at 15 percent surplus, 7 percentage points higher than the five-year average.

## FIELD CROPS REPORT

Generally drier conditions allowed for the advancement of spring grain seeding over the past week in South Dakota. Spring wheat seeding advanced 26 percentage points to 61 percent complete. Oats and barley seeded also saw large gains, this week estimated at 46 percent and 44 percent complete, respectively. Still wet soil conditions have kept the corn planting progress behind historical averages, this week estimated at 11 percent complete. Nearly all the winter wheat in the state has broken dormancy, with 58 percent of the winter wheat crop rated good to excellent.

## LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Favorable weather conditions have helped livestock conditions in South Dakota over the past week. Some producers report stressed herds due to winter and spring weather, a slow greening of pastures, continued muddy conditions, and some disease pressure. Calving is 87 percent complete, up 6 percentage points from last week. Calf death loss rates are estimated at 5 percent below average, 79 percent average, and 16 percent above average. Cattle moved to pasture is estimated at 29 percent complete. Lambing is estimated at 93 percent complete. Sheep and lamb death loss is rated at 5 percent below average, 87 percent average, and 8 above

average. Range and pasture condition is rated at 60 percent good to excellent, 17 percentage points higher than the five-year average.

## Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of May 3, 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	0	11	17
Short	15	16	15	3	10	18
Adequate	76	76	73	81	68	58
Surplus	5	7	5	16	11	7

## Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of May 3, 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	0	0	1	6
Short	2	0	7	4	5	11
Adequate	81	70	71	81	79	71
Surplus	17	30	22	15	15	12

## Crop and Livestock Conditions as of May 3, 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	8	31	49	9
Spring Wheat	0	6	43	45	6
Barley	0	4	30	63	3
Oats	0	2	22	71	5
Alfalfa	1	2	25	67	5
Cattle	2	6	22	61	9
Sheep	1	4	20	63	12
Range & Pasture	0	7	33	50	10

## Crop Progress as of May 3, 2009 <sup>1</sup>

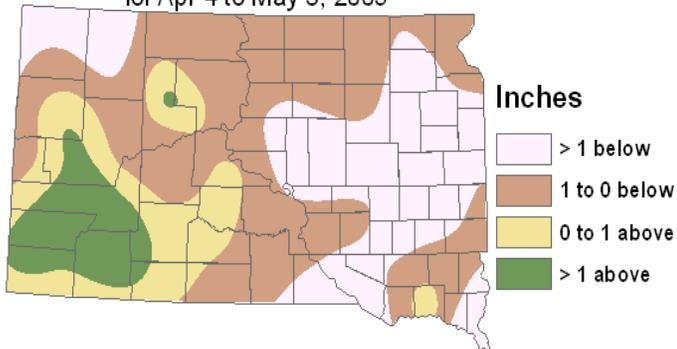
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Breaking Dormancy	99	93	100	100
Boot	1	0	8	12
<b>Barley</b>				
Seeded	44	15	56	69
Emerged	14	1	6	26
<b>Oats</b>				
Seeded	46	24	69	79
Emerged	16	5	20	39
<b>Spring Wheat</b>				
Seeded	61	35	71	85
Emerged	24	7	19	48
<b>Corn</b>				
Planted	11	3	9	25
Emerged	1	0	0	1

<sup>1</sup> Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

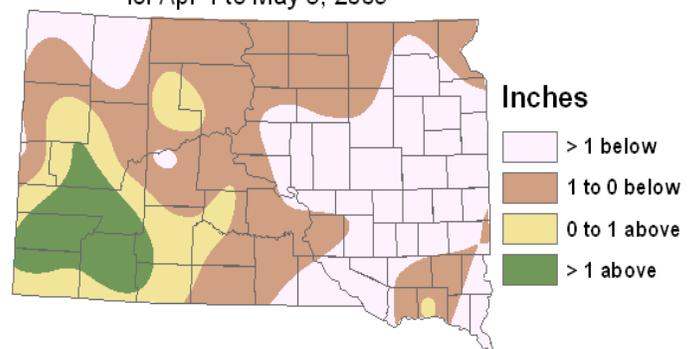
## Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending May 3, 2009 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	45	Nisland	47
Beresford	49	Oacoma	52
Bowdle	45	Parkston	51
Brookings	48	Pierre	53
Caputa	45	Redfield	50
Cottonwood	50	South Shore	40

**PAST 30 DAYS**  
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average  
for Apr 4 to May 3, 2009



**GROWING SEASON**  
Accumulated Precip Deviation from Average  
for Apr 1 to May 3, 2009



**TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, and GROWING DEGREE DAYS**  
Week Ending Sunday, May 3, 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		
<b>Northwest</b>											
Bison	44	-7	64	26	0.00	11.40	1.43	4.38	-0.92	113	-24
Buffalo	44	-5	63	25	0.04	7.75	1.26	1.67	-0.89	90	-5
Dupree	47	-4	67	29	0.32	10.49	3.09	3.93	0.99	143	2
McIntosh	45	-7	65	27	0.25	8.54	1.33	2.73	-0.56	108	-29
Newell	44	-7	65	29	0.75	9.04	2.55	3.04	0.64	101	-34
Timber Lake	46	-5	67	29	0.18	9.94	1.25	2.78	-0.95	136	5
<b>North Central</b>											
Aberdeen	47	-5	66	28	1.26	10.06	1.48	2.96	-0.56	124	-11
Faulkton	45	-6	67	30	0.46	8.18	1.43	0.45	-0.84	131	-7
Mobridge	48	-4	67	28	0.32	8.06	1.42	1.96	-0.43	127	1
Roscoe	44	-6	63	30	0.94	9.43	1.79	2.15	-0.54	105	1
<b>Northeast</b>											
Britton	46	-6	62	28	0.45	12.34	0.95	5.43	-1.00	99	-44
Clear Lake	43	-7	62	24	0.57	12.96	1.14	3.36	-1.35	95	3
Sisseton	47	-5	63	27	1.36	13.40	1.66	4.81	-0.62	117	-3
Watertown	47	-3	63	27	0.47	9.75	0.90	2.01	-1.27	108	16
Webster	46	-4	63	30	0.44	10.07	0.44	2.58	-1.61	97	3
<b>West Central</b>											
Faith	47	-5	65	31	0.29	7.58	1.79	0.72	-0.36	114	-35
Milesville	48	-5	69	31	0.05	8.23	1.13	1.05	-1.10	148	-20
Philip	49	-3	74	31	0.08	8.36	1.92	2.10	-0.12	153	-22
Rapid City	44	-6	69	29	0.04	9.80	3.67	3.44	1.56	105	-20
Spearfish	43	-7	65	25	0.12	11.51	1.93	2.29	-0.83	125	1
<b>Central</b>											
Chamberlain	50	-2	76	33	0.02	8.74	2.03	0.27	-0.69	155	3
Highmore	47	-5	75	29	0.34	6.22	0.84	-1.88	-2.02	129	-20
Huron	50	-2	68	33	0.14	10.56	1.08	2.40	-1.48	143	-5
Onida	48	-3	76	30	0.15	7.47	1.17	-0.28	-1.00	143	-5
Pierre	49	-5	76	32	0.12	8.56	1.96	1.20	-0.33	151	-20
<b>East Central</b>											
Brookings	45	-6	61	28	0.46	9.52	1.09	2.18	-1.18	105	-1
Forestburg	50	-4	69	29	0.29	9.93	1.62	0.98	-1.33	188	-6
Madison	47	-4	68	26	0.43	8.95	1.40	-0.53	-1.49	135	26
Mitchell	51	-2	70	34	0.06	10.77	1.48	1.69	-1.53	158	7
Sioux Falls	49	-2	69	29	0.54	11.28	1.95	1.69	-1.00	155	-1
<b>Southwest</b>											
Custer	38	-7	56	26	0.34	7.48	3.82	0.38	1.47	55	-16
Hot Springs	45	-5	67	28	0.14	8.05	3.92	1.96	1.70	164	-32
Oelrichs	46	-5	70	28	0.11	9.67	2.73	3.18	0.50	145	-32
Porcupine	44	-7	71	27	0.20	11.44	3.95	5.02	1.81	131	-34
<b>South Central</b>											
Kennebec	49	-5	78	29	0.02	7.88	1.54	1.13	-0.79	185	-30
Mission	46	-5	76	31	0.11	8.76	2.09	1.64	-0.33	119	-6
Murdo	47	-5	75	30	0.21	9.83	2.59	1.78	0.09	131	-18
Winner	51	-4	80	30	0.07	8.70	2.21	-0.56	-0.75	155	-57
<b>Southeast</b>											
Armour	51	-5	68	35	0.24	8.11	1.23	-1.24	-1.63	171	-44
Centerville	48	-5	65	31	0.36	10.89	1.61	1.82	-1.16	143	-16
Pickstown	49	-5	66	32	0.06	9.10	0.72	0.15	-2.38	191	18
Vermillion	51	-5	65	35	0.68	12.59	1.35	2.88	-1.74	188	-53
Yankton	50	-3	65	38	0.29	13.27	2.84	4.09	0.00	161	-20

DATA AND MAP SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota