

# South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report



National Agricultural Statistics Service  
South Dakota Field Office  
P.O. Box 5068  
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5068

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Cooperating with:  
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE and  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

## AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Average snow depth for the state on February 28, 2010 is 12.2 inches. County road conditions in the state were rated at 85 percent open and 15 percent difficult. Township road conditions were rated at 71 percent open, 20 percent difficult and 9 percent closed. Farm activities focused on start of calving and lambing, spring planting intentions, hauling and marketing grain, and tending to livestock.

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

## WEATHER INFORMATION

Another cold month finished the climatological winter in South Dakota, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Precipitation was much more variable over the state for the month, while temperatures were consistently cold. All the state ranged from 4 – 11° F below average as a consequence of continued airflow from Canada and deep snow packs over a large portion of the state. Aberdeen recorded the coldest temperature at -22 F°. Hot Springs recorded the warmest at 50° F.

Precipitation was heaviest in the eastern third of the state with several totals above an inch of liquid for the month. Many stations in this eastern third were from 150-200% of average precipitation. Precipitation totals were much lower and below average over much of the west. Sisseton recorded the highest at 1.54 inches; Winner had the lowest at 0.15 inch.

Snow pack coverage stayed roughly the same during the month. The additional precipitation did add some snow to the pack across the state. Cold temperatures limited melting except for some areas of the southwest. Otherwise, the snow pack had not been reduced leading to potential flooding situations and expected very wet soils for the spring.

## SOIL CONDITION

Soil temperatures did not show much change with the snow cover. The heavy snow packed areas had 4 inch-depth soil temperatures near freezing. Bowdle was the highest at 32° F. More open areas did show colder temperatures. Pierre and Cottonwood had the coldest at 24° F.

## FIELD CROPS REPORT

One percent of last year's corn crop was harvested in the month of February. As the snow settles and where possible, operators are trying to get last falls un-harvested corn crop before the fields become too wet. Overall, 96 percent of last years corn crop is harvested. Winter wheat condition is rated as 2 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 13 percent excellent, and snow cover is rated at 9 percent poor, 68 percent adequate, and 23 percent excellent. Alfalfa snow cover is rated at 4 percent poor, 68 percent adequate and 28 percent excellent.

## LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Despite the snow cover and cold temperatures throughout the month, livestock feed and water supplies remain in good shape as the calving and lambing seasons have started. Feed supplies are rated at 85 percent adequate to surplus, slightly down from last year. Stock water supplies are also in good shape with 90 percent in the adequate to surplus categories, down 2 percentage point from last year. Cattle are rated 76 percent in good to excellent condition, with cattle death losses since February 1 rated at 6 percent below normal, 90 percent normal, and 4 percent above normal. Calf deaths since February 1 were rated at 9 percent below average, 87 percent average, and 4 percent above average, with 7 percent of calving complete. Sheep are rated 79 percent in good to excellent condition, sheep and lamb deaths since February 1 rated at 6 percent below average, 87 percent average, and 7 percent above average, with 29 percent of the lambing complete.

### Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of February 28, 2010

Rating	Feed Supplies			Stock Water Supplies		
	This Week	Last Year	5 Yr. Avg.	This Week	Last Year	5 Yr. Avg.
Very Short	1	1	5	2	2	14
Short	14	6	11	8	6	16
Adequate	81	86	77	86	86	67
Surplus	4	7	7	4	6	3

### Crop and Livestock Conditions as of February 28, 2010

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	2	29	56	13
Cattle	0	1	23	66	10
Sheep	0	1	20	68	11

### Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending February 28, 2010 (4-inch Depth)

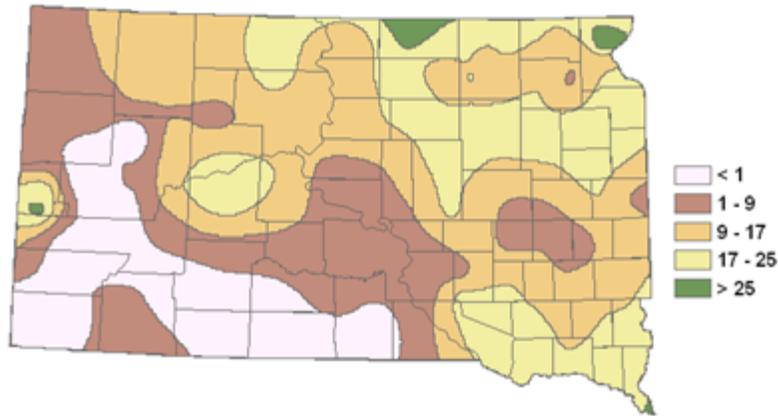
Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	28	Cottonwood	24
Beresford	30	Parkston	29
Bowdle	32	Pierre	24
Brookings	29	South Shore	31
Caputa	31		

The next Crop Weather Report will be for the month of March and will be released March 29, 2010

Item	Districts									State
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	
Corn Harvested (Percent)	90	92	96	97	98	97	95	100	98	96

## SNOW DEPTH (inches)

As of Sunday, February 28, 2010



### TEMPERATURE and PRECIPITATION Month Ending February 28, 2010,

District And Station	Temperature Past Month				Precipitation		
	Average	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Monthly Total	Total Since Oct 1, 2009	Departure from Normal Since Oct 1, 2009
	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>
<b>Northwest</b>							
Bison	14	-8	38	-13	0.50	5.46	2.00
Buffalo	16	-6	38	-10	0.26	3.36	0.15
Dupree	12	-10	30	-13	0.76	3.82	0.51
McIntosh	11	-9	34	-12	0.48	6.00	2.90
Newell	14	-10	47	-13	0.47	3.83	0.68
Timber Lake	11	-10	30	-15	0.51	5.08	1.32
<b>North Central</b>							
Aberdeen	11	-7	33	-22	0.81	7.23	3.51
Faulkton	11	-7	32	-16	0.18	6.84	2.87
Mobridge	12	-8	31	-12	0.48	5.04	1.83
Roscoe	9	-7	30	-13	0.73	8.12	4.21
<b>Northeast</b>							
Britton	12	-5	32	-18	0.89	8.71	4.78
Clear Lake	12	-4	32	-12	1.24	12.34	7.04
Sisseton	11	-6	31	-19	1.54	12.24	7.46
Watertown	10	-6	33	-16	1.02	10.23	5.96
Webster	11	-4	29	-16	1.12	9.08	4.74
<b>West Central</b>							
Faith	14	-9	33	-10	0.38	4.07	0.51
Milesville	13	-11	36	-14	0.61	7.57	3.85
Philip	17	-6	40	-8	0.33	4.83	1.76
Rapid City	20	-6	47	-8	0.25	3.79	0.57
Spearfish	25	-3	46	-3	1.01	8.12	3.06
<b>Central</b>							
Chamberlain	17	-6	34	-7	0.50	4.72	0.42
Highmore	12	-9	34	-13	0.36	5.58	1.72
Huron	12	-8	35	-16	0.91	7.32	3.39
Onida	11	-8	31	-13	0.47	6.08	1.88
Pierre	13	-11	32	-10	0.47	5.27	1.39
<b>East Central</b>							
Brookings	12	-5	34	-16	0.57	8.74	4.96
Forestburg	15	-7	35	-15	0.68	8.00	3.60
Madison	13	-5	35	-20	0.48	7.38	2.47
Mitchell	17	-4	38	-9	0.96	7.62	3.21
Sioux Falls	14	-6	35	-16	1.29	10.24	5.41
<b>Southwest</b>							
Custer	23	-4	45	-9	0.60	3.94	0.26
Hot Springs	23	-5	50	-14	0.47	5.13	2.18
Oelrichs	19	-7	47	-17	0.45	4.54	1.26
Porcupine	17	-7	48	-19	0.72	7.23	3.95
<b>South Central</b>							
Kennebec	15	-9	33	-13	0.63	6.51	3.33
Mission	19	-6	41	-8	0.36	6.37	2.83
Murdo	16	-8	34	-10	0.74	6.30	2.42
Winner	20	-8	37	-5	0.15	3.74	-0.83
<b>Southeast</b>							
Armour	14	-11	35	-14	0.96	6.82	2.06
Centerville	14	-7	34	-14	0.49	7.92	3.26
Pickstown	17	-8	38	-9	0.55	7.17	2.93
Vermillion	17	-8	35	-14	0.35	8.65	3.83
Yankton	16	-7	38	-10	0.58	10.72	6.15