

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

Released: April 19, 2010 -- 3:00 p.m. CST
For Week Ending April 18, 2010
SD-CW5917 Volume 59 Issue 17



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

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

With 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork last week, producers made good headway with small grain seeding. However, there are still areas of the state dealing with flooded or damaged roads causing problems accessing fields and transporting feed supplies. Farm activities focused on spring fieldwork, calving, lambing 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.

SOIL CONDITION

Topsoil moisture was rated at 20 percent in the surplus category, higher than the five-year average of 16 percent. Subsoil moisture was rated at 27 percent in the surplus category, higher than the five-year average of 9 percent

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Spring wheat, oats, and barley all made advances in the percent planted over the last week as fieldwork conditions continue to improve. Thirty-five percent of the spring wheat has been planted, ahead of last year's estimate of 10 percent and just ahead of the five-year average of 34 percent. Forty-two percent of the oats has been planted, up from 29 percent for the five-year average. Fourteen percent of the barley has been planted, compared to 1 percent last year and 17 percent for the five-year average. Percent of winter wheat that has broken dormancy is estimated at 95 percent, ahead of last year's progress of 73 percent and the five-year average of 90 percent. Winter wheat conditions increased in the good to excellent categories, this week estimated at 79 percent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Livestock producers enjoyed good-to-excellent weather as calving and lambing progressed this week. Cattle are rated at 88 percent in good to excellent condition. Calf death losses were rated at 9 percent below normal, 85 percent normal, and 6 percent above normal. Calving is estimated to be 67 percent complete and 14 percent of cattle have been moved to pasture. Sheep are rated 93 percent in good to excellent condition, with sheep and lamb deaths rated 5 percent below average, 90 percent average, and 5 percent above average. Lambing is estimated to be 80 percent complete. Feed supplies are rated at 90 percent adequate to surplus, up 9 percentage points from last year. Stock water supplies are also in good shape with 97 percent in the adequate to surplus categories, up 23 percentage point from last year. Range and pasture conditions are rated at 73 percent good to excellent, up 17 percentage points from last year, and 28 percentage points higher than the five-year average.

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of April 18, 2010

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	1	4	5	2	1	12
Short	9	15	14	1	4	13
Adequate	84	74	76	74	73	65
Surplus	6	7	5	23	22	9

Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of April 18, 2010

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	1	0	1
Short	5	2	0	1	2	5
Adequate	75	74	61	71	68	77
Surplus	20	24	39	27	30	16

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of April 18, 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	19	67	12
Cattle	0	1	11	77	11
Sheep	0	1	6	70	23
Range & Pasture	1	5	21	65	8

Crop Progress as of April 18, 2010 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	95	88	73	90
Barley				
Seeded	14	6	1	17
Emerged	1	0	0	2
Oats				
Seeded	42	10	5	29
Emerged	4	0	0	6
Spring Wheat				
Seeded	35	14	10	34
Emerged	4	0	1	8
Corn				
Planted	4	0	0	1

¹ Percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

NO WEATHER DATA AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PUBLICATION