Agricultural Summary

The lack of moisture caused concern across parts of the state, as some areas saw high winds and temperatures last week. There were 6.10 days suitable for field work this past week. Major activities last week included; planting of row crops, weed control, caring for livestock, calving and lambing.

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

Weather Information

Temperatures warmed for the week across the state leading to much warmer than average conditions, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Gusty winds accompanied the warmth helping dry surface soils across much of the state. Spotty heavier precipitation occurred in several places around the state over the weekend, while several other areas received none.

Temperatures for the week averaged well into the 60’s for nearly the whole state. These values were 4-11° F above average. “The warmest areas above average were in the northeast to east central. Much of the state reached 90° F or better during the week on strong southerly winds ahead of a low pressure area late in the week. The highest temperature reported was 95° F at Centerville and Philip. The lowest reported was 31° F at Custer. The warmer temperatures helped push GDD accumulation well ahead of average again. Accumulations since April 1 are a few days ahead of average across northern areas to 10 days ahead in the east central to southeast.

Precipitation was quite variable with Timber Lake in the north and several stations in the east central and southeast receiving over an inch total for the week. Many other locations in the northeast and western areas received a few tenths or less. Madison reported the most for the week at 2.15 inches. Britton, Sisseton and Webster reported no precipitation. Growing season precipitation accumulation is generally above average statewide. The exceptions are in the far southeast and much of the northeast to east central. Much of the state reached 90° F or better during the week on strong southerly winds ahead of a low pressure area late in the week. The highest temperature reported was 95° F at Centerville and Philip. The lowest reported was 31° F at Custer. The warmer temperatures helped push GDD accumulation well ahead of average again. Accumulations since April 1 are a few days ahead of average across northern areas to 10 days ahead in the east central to southeast.

SOIL CONDITION

Soil temperatures warmed with the very warm conditions across the state. Bowdle and Nisland had the low 4 inch soil temperature at 56° F; Oacoma was the warmest at 72° F. Topsoil moisture is rated at 81 percent in adequate to surplus, 16 percent short and 3 percent very short. Subsoil moisture is rated at 79 percent adequate to surplus, 16 percent short and 5 percent very short.

Field Crops Report

Winter wheat conditions are rated at 4 percent poor, 27 percent fair, and 69 percent good to excellent condition. Winter wheat is at 88 percent boot and 39 percent headed. Spring wheat conditions are rated at 7 percent poor, 14 percent fair and 79 percent good to excellent. Spring wheat is at 45 percent boot and 2 percent headed. Corn conditions are rated at 1 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 12 percent fair, and 86 percent good to excellent. Corn is at 93 percent planted with 64 percent emerged. Soybeans are at 65 percent planted with 20 percent emerged.

Livestock, Pasture, and Range Report

Cattle moved to pasture is rated at 75 percent complete. Stock water supplies are 2 percent very short, 6 percent short and 92 percent adequate to surplus. Feed supplies are 2 percent very short, 5 percent short and 93 percent adequate to surplus. Range and pasture conditions are rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 22 percent fair and72 percent good to excellent.