

# South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report

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

## AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

The month of March was mostly below normal for temperatures. As the winter season progresses, producers continue to manage their herds with drought reduced feed supplies and stock water supplies. Livestock were doing well in most areas of the state. County road conditions in the state were rated at 94 percent open, 5 percent difficult and 1 percent closed. Township road conditions were rated at 91 percent open, 7 percent difficult and 2 percent closed. Major activities included moving snow, caring for livestock, hauling grain, repairing equipment and preparing for spring.

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

## WEATHER INFORMATION

As is usual for the spring, conditions across the South Dakota have been quite variable in time and location throughout the month, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Colder weather with more snow during the latter part of the month has given the perception of a very cold and snowy month overall. This is only the case for part of the state. The situation across the state is more variable.

Snowfall accumulations in the northeast have been fairly heavy for the month leaving accumulations still above 15 inches on the ground in the few counties of the far northeast corner, more than eight inches above average for this time of year. While this area has had above average for the month, most of the northern part of the state has been below average for the month by 0.5 inches or more. Areas of far northeast, east central, south central and the central Black Hills have been near to above average for the month. The highest total for the month was 1.65 inches at Wessington Springs. The lowest total was 0.12 inches at Newell.

Temperatures for the month were largely impacted by location, also. Most areas east of the Missouri River were 6° - 12° F below average with the coldest temperatures occurring over the snow pack in the far northeast corner of the state. Western stations were near average to 4° F below average for the month. The coldest daily temperature was -10° F at Sisseton while Oelrichs and Philip reached 74° F.

## SOIL CONDITION

Soil temperatures were generally in the 20's to low 30's. Warmest temperatures were in the south and west with warmer temperatures and no snow pack. Coldest were in the northeast under the snow pack. Caputa was the highest at 35° F; South Shore was the coldest at 25° F.

## FIELD CROPS REPORT

As winter ends, many areas around the state lack soil moisture. Winter wheat condition was rated at 31 percent very poor, 40 percent poor, 27 percent fair, and 2 percent good, compared to 20 percent very poor, 46 percent poor, 31 percent fair, and 3 percent good last month.

## LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Feed supplies were rated at 16 percent very short, 37 percent short, 45 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus, while last year at this time feed supplies were rated at 99 percent adequate to surplus. Stock water supplies were rated at 26 percent very short, 30 percent short, 44 percent adequate. Range and pasture conditions are rated 27 percent very poor, 37 percent poor, 31 percent fair, and 5 percent good. Cattle conditions were rated at 75 percent good to excellent, 23 percent fair and 2 percent poor. Cattle deaths rated at 18 percent below average and 82 percent average for the month. Newborn calf deaths rated 10 percent below average, 89 percent average and 1 percent above average. Calving was at 27 percent complete as of March 24<sup>th</sup>. Cattle moved to pasture is rated at 1 percent complete compared to 3 percent complete last year at this time. Sheep conditions were rated at 78 percent good to excellent condition, 19 percent fair and 3 percent poor, with sheep and lamb deaths rated 8 percent below average, 91 percent average and 1 percent above average. Lambing was at 59 percent complete as of March 24<sup>th</sup>.

### Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of March 24, 2013

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	16	0	1	26	0	3
Short	37	1	7	30	7	7
Adequate	45	89	79	44	91	73
Surplus	2	10	13	0	2	17

### Soil Moisture Condition Comparison as of March 24, 2013

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	33	NA	7	49	NA	4
Short	41	NA	43	34	NA	40
Adequate	24	NA	48	17	NA	55
Surplus	2	NA	2	0	NA	1

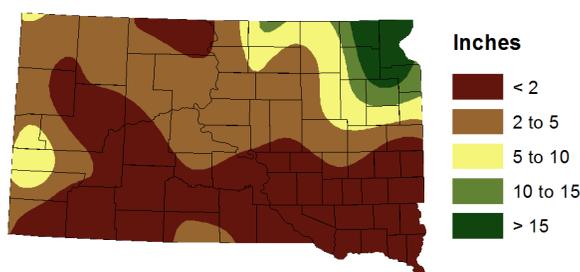
### Crop and Livestock Conditions as of March 24, 2013

Item	V Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	31	40	27	2	0
Cattle	0	2	23	69	6
Sheep	0	3	19	68	10

### Average Soil Temperatures Week Ending March 24, 2013 (4-inch Depth)

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	26	Nisland	34
Beresford	31	Oacoma	32
Bowdle	31	Parkston	30
Brookings	28	Pierre	30
Caputa	35	Redfield	29
Cottonwood	34	South Shore	25

**SNOW DEPTH**  
March 25, 2013



**TEMPERATURE and PRECIPITATION**  
Month Ending March 24, 2013,

District And Station	Temperature Past Month				Precipitation		
	Average	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Monthly Total	Total Since Oct 1, 2012	Departure from Normal Since Oct 1, 2012
	<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	26	-5	69	4	0.22	1.43	-2.84
Buffalo	29	-2	69	1	0.33	1.46	-1.00
Dupree	31	0	72	4	0.36	1.70	-2.37
McIntosh	23	-7	70	0	0.44	1.75	-1.92
Newell	30	0	72	6	0.12	1.35	-2.52
Timber Lake	27	-4	69	0	0.50	2.27	-2.25
<b>North Central</b>							
Aberdeen	18	-10	47	-8	0.24	4.27	-0.83
Faulkton	19	-11	51	-5	0.35	3.79	-1.74
Mobridge	24	-6	71	-2	0.38	2.64	-1.17
Roscoe	18	-9	52	-1	0.37	2.83	-2.14
<b>Northeast</b>							
Britton	18	-12	36	-7	0.48	6.21	1.03
Clear Lake	16	-11	42	-5	1.35	6.41	-0.53
Sisseton	16	-12	38	-10	0.93	6.39	1.69
Watertown	18	-10	37	-7	1.18	5.18	0.09
Webster	18	-10	38	-4	0.96	9.06	3.08
<b>West Central</b>							
Faith	29	-2	71	6	0.41	1.76	-1.93
Milesville	32	-1	72	3	0.25	2.08	-2.68
Philip	32	-1	74	3	0.40	2.23	-2.02
Rapid City	33	-1	73	4	0.80	2.55	-1.24
Sturgis	34	-1	70	9	0.31	2.87	-2.69
<b>Central</b>							
Chamberlain	28	-5	62	6	0.84	5.03	0.37
Highmore	23	-8	60	3	0.21	3.47	-1.93
Huron	22	-10	47	3	0.78	4.55	-0.74
Onida	29	-4	70	4	0.26	2.00	-2.55
Pierre	28	-5	71	3	0.15	3.27	-1.58
Wessington Spr.	21	-11	53	4	1.65	5.02	-0.97
<b>East Central</b>							
Brookings	20	-8	40	0	1.18	4.71	-0.23
Madison	22	-8	47	3	1.05	4.56	-1.32
Mitchell	25	-8	51	8	0.80	4.23	0.11
Sioux Falls	25	-6	53	6	0.86	4.73	-1.84
<b>Southwest</b>							
Custer	29	-2	61	1	0.71	4.03	0.02
Hot Springs	37	-1	72	8	0.39	3.25	-0.49
Martin	33	-1	73	10	0.63	2.94	-1.87
Oelrichs	35	0	74	8	0.20	2.78	-1.20
<b>South Central</b>							
Kennebec	29	-5	63	2	0.78	3.39	-1.00
Mission	30	-3	63	8	1.44	3.87	-0.93
Murdo	29	-5	72	10	0.38	3.07	-2.24
Winner	30	-5	68	4	0.57	0.62	-3.56
<b>Southeast</b>							
Academy	26	-7	64	9	0.61	2.74	-2.63
Centerville	27	-5	55	4	0.98	3.07	-1.58
Pickstown	29	-6	66	9	1.19	3.35	-2.48
Vermillion	29	-6	58	4	0.64	4.50	-2.04
Yankton	26	-8	59	7	0.67	4.44	-2.56

DATA AND MAP SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota