



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

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## SOUTH DAKOTA CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

SIOUX FALLS, SD April 1, 2013 – For the week ending March 31, 2013, below normal temperatures limited snowmelt and kept soil temperatures at or below freezing in many areas, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, South Dakota Field Office. With only 1.7 days suitable for fieldwork, activities were limited to fertilizer applications to wheat, alfalfa, and pastures. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 34 percent very short, 38 percent short, 23 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 52 percent very short, 35 percent short, 11 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Other agricultural activities during the week included calving, lambing, and preparing for spring planting.

**Weather Report:** Precipitation and temperature data are now being provided through the High Plains Regional Climate Center. See link below for the latest updates. A link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor graphic is also provided.

**Field Crops Report:** South Dakota winter wheat condition was rated 20 percent very poor, 56 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 2 percent good, and 0 percent excellent. Twenty-six percent of the winter wheat acreage was reported lost to winter kill. Only one percent of spring wheat has been seeded, compared to 21 percent last year and 5 percent for the five-year average.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** As of March 31, calving was 39 percent complete, while lambing was 64 percent complete. Only 2 percent of cattle were reported as moved to pasture. Cattle and calf conditions were rated 4 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Sheep and lamb conditions were rated 3 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 67 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Pasture and range conditions were rated 34 percent very poor, 37 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 5 percent good, and 0 percent excellent. Hay and forage supplies were rated 25 percent very short, 31 percent short, 42 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were rated 27 percent very short, 31 percent short, 39 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus.

*Data for this news release were provided at the county level by USDA Farm Service Agency, SDSU Extension Service and other reporters across the state.*

*Access the National publication for Crop Progress and Condition tables at:*

<http://usda01.library.cornell.edu/usda/nass/CropProg//2010s/2013/CropProg-04-01-2013.pdf>

*Access the High Plains Region Climate Center for Temperature and Precipitation Maps at:*

[http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/maps/current/index.php?action=update\\_region&state=SD&region=HPRCC](http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/maps/current/index.php?action=update_region&state=SD&region=HPRCC)

*Access the US Drought Monitor at:*

[http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DM\\_state.htm?SD,HP](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DM_state.htm?SD,HP)