



# Crop Progress and Condition

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U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA  
USDA Farm Service Agency  
WV Cooperative Extension Service  
WV Department of Agriculture

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**Agricultural News:** West Virginia experienced varied temperatures and precipitation in January. Farming activities for the month included equipment maintenance, planning for the next crop season, feeding livestock, and keeping water unfrozen for livestock.

## SOIL MOISTURE and SUPPLIES for week ending 01/28/18

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	2	25	62	11
Subsoil	2	23	74	1
Hay & Roughage	-	4	87	9
Feed grain	-	1	98	1

-Represents zero.

## CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 01/28/18

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Winter Wheat	-	4	33	54	9
Cattle & Calves	-	2	7	81	10
Sheep & Lambs	-	1	5	89	5

- Represents zero.

## January Summary of Weather and Agricultural Conditions January 1 - 28, 2018

Weather conditions in January were a mix of cold and warmer temperatures with various precipitation forms. Due to re-enforced shots of cold air throughout the week ending **January 7<sup>th</sup>**, West Virginia recorded very cold temperatures during the week. All stations were at least 18 degrees below average and most were around 25 degrees below normal. The majority of the State remained below freezing for the entire week and several stations dropped to below zero. Morgantown and Clarksburg had the highest recorded temperature of 40 degrees. Elkins had the lowest recorded temperature of -14 degrees. The state average temperature was 8 degrees. WV continued to be dry, with several stations receiving zero precipitation during the week. Most all other stations received less than 0.10 of an inch. Charleston is now below average for the growing season. Most mountain counties (higher elevations) and some coalfield counties remain under a D0 drought condition. Elkins had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.17 of an inch. Several locations had the lowest with zero recorded precipitation. The state average precipitation was 0.04 of an inch.

Overall, the week ending **January 14<sup>th</sup>** began much warmer than the previous with stations at least 1 to 3 degrees above normal. Temperatures varied greatly throughout the week with exceptionally warm days featuring highs in the 50's to low 70's before plunging back down during the day with widespread lows in the single digits and negative single digits. Martinsburg had the highest recorded temperature of 72 degrees. Terra Alta had the lowest recorded temperature of -3 degrees. The state average temperature was 33 degrees. In stark contrast to the previous week, every site across the State received over an inch worth of rain for the week with a majority receiving 1.75" or greater. Most of this fell over a two day period as a strong system moved through featuring rain, sleet, ice, and eventually snow. Elkins is the only site with a seasonal deficit, but it was reduced to nearly half the previous deficit amount. Most mountain counties (higher elevations) and some coalfield counties remain under a D0 drought condition; very little change from the previous week. Creston had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 3.91 inches. White Sulphur Springs had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 1.13 inches. The state average precipitation was 2.01 inches.

After a warm up the previous week, most stations dropped back down to below average the week ending **January 21<sup>st</sup>**. The only exception was Martinsburg (+2). The East side of the mountains received some warmer temperatures than the rest of the State. All other stations were below normal, with Charleston and Bluefield (-7) being the farthest. During the week, low temperatures throughout the State dropped into the single digits, but no reporting stations reported below zero temperatures. Overall, temperatures were generally below normal the first half of the week and slightly above normal the last half. Huntington had the highest recorded temperature of 62 degrees. White Sulphur Springs had the lowest recorded temperature of zero degrees. The state average temperature was 27 degrees. The State continues to be dry; no stations met or exceeded average. Most mountain counties (higher elevations) and some coalfield counties remain under a D0 drought

condition; very little change from the previous week. Terra Alta had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.35 of an inch. Bluestone Dam and Martinsburg had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.02 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 0.14 of an inch.

The the week ending **January 28<sup>th</sup>** started off exceptionally warm ahead of a large storm system that dropped widespread moderate rainfall across the state. Then, temperatures tumbled to mostly below freezing through the end of the work week before rising again ahead of another storm system. All stations reported above average for temperatures this week, with Clarksburg at (+10), Bluefield at (+4), and the rest of the stations between. The lowest temperatures occurred during Day 3 and Day 4 with clouds clearing and radiational cooling dominating sheltered valleys. The weather pattern was active over West Virginia last week with 5 of 7 day featuring widespread appreciable rainfall and/or snow. Major precipitation systems went through Days 1&2, and again on Days 6&7. All stations except two in the South stations met or exceeded average liquid equivalent and the state average precipitation amount was 0.80 inches. All stations above with the exception of Beckley and Bluefield either expanded their surplus or decreased their deficit on the season. All counties along the southern and eastern borders remain at least partially under a D0 drought condition. Very little change from last week.

### Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending 01/28/18

Station	Temperature				Precipitation				
	High	Low	Average	Weekly Departure	Week's Total	Norm	Since April 1st 2017	Same Week Last Year	Season Normal
<b>--NORTHWEST</b>									
WHEELING	63	24	39		0.52		40.14		
PARKERSBURG	65	24	41	9	0.95	0.67	42.34	34.58	7.76
CRESTON	70	19	40		0.96		35.06		
<b>--NORTHCENTRAL</b>									
MORGANTOWN	67	21	41		0.87		40.76		
CLARKSBURG	69	21	41	10	0.81	0.71	43.31	38.51	4.80
BELINGTON	67	19	38		1.01		43.03		
WESTON	69	20	39		1.36		46.18		
<b>--SOUTHWEST</b>									
WILLIAMSON	68	28	43		0.61		46.82		
HUNTINGTON	66	26	43	9	0.85	0.66	37.74	35.42	2.32
CHARLESTON	68	21	41	6	0.82	0.68	38.04	36.74	1.30
RIPLEY	67	19	40		0.91		36.42		
<b>--CENTRAL</b>									
TERRA ALTA	61	17	35		1.12		49.89		
ELKINS	66	12	38	9	1.09	0.73	37.46	38.69	-1.23
MARLINTON	58	16	36		0.96		38.14		
<b>--SOUTHERN</b>									
BECKLEY	61	17	38	6	0.60	0.62	37.54	34.70	2.84
PINEVILLE	62	21	39		0.75		42.16		
BLUEFIELD	59	18	39	4	0.33	0.65	38.87	33.19	5.68
WHITE SUL SP	60	16	39		0.71		31.13		
BLUESTONE DAM	61	22	39		0.43		32.34		
<b>--NORTHEASTERN</b>									
MARTINSBURG	64	18	40	9	1.06	0.57	34.64	32.70	1.94
KEYSER	62	14	35		0.46		35.94		
MOOREFIELD	68	15	39		0.52		30.96		
State Average Temperature	39								
State Average Precipitation	0.80								

Source:  
Weather comments and data - Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service, Charleston, WV.

INTERNET ACCESS: ALL National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet.  
For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.