



Crop Progress and Condition

USDA, NASS, West Virginia Field Office
Charmaine Wilson, State Statistician
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, E
Charleston, WV 25305
(304) 357-5123 or 1-800-535-7088
Homepage: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wv>

In Cooperation with:
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Agricultural News: The month of February was rainy, making muddy conditions in the fields. Farming activities for the month included calving, lambing, planning for the next crop season, and taking classes.

SOIL MOISTURE and SUPPLIES for week ending 02/25/18

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	-	-	43	57
Subsoil	-	2	55	43
Hay & Roughage	1	16	70	13
Feed grain	2	11	79	8

-Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 02/25/18

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Winter Wheat	-	1	30	55	14
Cattle & Calves	-	2	22	65	11
Sheep & Lambs	-	2	13	77	8

- Represents zero.

LIVESTOCK PROGRESS for week ending 02/25/18

Crop/Livestock Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Calved	20	-	-	-
Lambled	26	-	-	-

- Represents data not available.

February Summary of Weather and Agricultural Conditions January 29 - February 25, 2018

Weather conditions in February were wet; there are no drought conditions at this time. Temperatures resembled a roller coaster during the week ending **February 4th**, due to multiple frontal passages. Arctic chill was found early in the week and again late in the week, with the coldest morning being Saturday morning when temperatures ranged from the low teens in the lowlands to down below zero in the mountains. Outside of these quick shots of arctic air, temperatures were seasonal. However, all stations reported below average temperatures this week. Keyser and Moorefield had the highest recorded temperature of 54 degrees. White Sulphur Springs had the lowest recorded temperature of -4 degrees. The state average temperature was 26 degrees. Several rounds of mostly wintry precipitation accompanied the frequent frontal passages during the week. All counties along the Southern and Eastern borders remain at least partially under a D0 drought condition. Pineville had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 1.66 inches. Wheeling had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.13 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 0.90 of an inch.

West Virginia began the week ending **February 11th** with below average temperatures, but throughout the week, warmed up. Overall, the sites ended at or above normal for the week, with Clarksburg and Elkins ending four degrees over average. Williamson and Charleston had the highest recorded temperature of 65 degrees. Terra Alta had the lowest recorded temperature of 11 degrees. The state average temperature was 34 degrees. With two rounds of heavy showers (falling mostly as rain) during the week, all stations exceeded precipitation normals. The heavy precipitation also caused flooding across several areas in the State. All recording stations at least doubled the average for the week. The majority of stations received over two inches. All stations greatly increased the precipitation surplus for the season. All sites are now above average for the growing season. All counties along the Eastern borders remain at least partially under a D0 drought condition. Pineville had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 3.26 inches. Wheeling had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 1.25 inches. The state average precipitation was 2.18 inches.

For the week ending **February 18th**, with the exception of a few locations on the first day of the reporting week, all stations were above average in temperature throughout the week. Temperatures peaked in the 60's and 70's. Martinsburg had the highest recorded temperature of 76 degrees. Wheeling had the lowest recorded temperature of 15 degrees. The state average temperature was 42 degrees. The very wet pattern seen this month continues. Heavy precipitation caused flooding across much of the State in and especially West of the mountains and on several rivers including the Ohio River. Though the Eastern Panhandle still recorded above average precipitation, it was the driest of all regions with Martinsburg only surpassing average by 0.04". Outside of this, all recording stations at least doubled the average for the week and several stations tripled and even quadrupled the precipitation average. All but 3 stations reported at least 1" this week with 7 of 22 stations exceeding 3". There are now no drought conditions in the State. Terra Alta had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 4.46 inches. Martinsburg had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.61 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 2.31 inches.

All stations were very well above average in temperatures throughout the week ending **February 25th**. Overall, all sites ended 15 to 25 degrees above normal for the week. Record high temperatures were set at numerous locations on more than one day. Martinsburg had the highest recorded temperature of 83 degrees. Keyser and Weston had the lowest recorded temperature of 30 degrees. The state average temperature was 56 degrees. Similar to prior weeks, this week continued a wet pattern with a front oscillating back and forth across the Western lowlands up to the mountains. The heaviest rain tended to fall toward the Northwest near the Ohio River which remained high through the week. The start of the week was on the downtrend of a previous flooding crest and a couple points briefly flooded at the very end of the week. Flooding was also reported in smaller streams toward the North and West as soils remain very saturated, converting much of the rainfall to runoff. Parkersburg had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 2.59 inches. Bluestone Dam had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.30 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 1.41 inches.

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending 02/25/18

Station	Temperature				Precipitation					
	High	Low	Weekly Average	Weekly Departure	Week's Total	Week's Norm	Since April 1st 2017	Same Week Last Year	Season Normal	
--NORTHWEST										
WHEELING	77	36	54		1.79		46.69	35.40		
PARKERSBURG	79	39	56	20	2.59	0.69	49.53	35.66	37.27	
CRESTON	80	37	56		1.16		42.23	39.93		
--NORTHCENTRAL										
MORGANTOWN	78	39	56		1.98		47.16	43.61		
CLARKSBURG	79	34	57	22	1.75	0.78	50.87	46.73	41.63	
BELINGTON	79	41	57		1.42		50.20	46.89		
WESTON	79	30	57		1.76		54.23	53.90		
--SOUTHWEST										
WILLIAMSON	81	45	60		1.61		54.35	52.79		
HUNTINGTON	80	43	59	20	2.11	0.81	45.88	42.32	38.46	
CHARLESTON	82	42	59	20	1.88	0.84	46.65	44.98	39.87	
RIPLEY	80	37	56		1.16		43.39	40.85		
--CENTRAL										
TERRA ALTA	74	34	50		2.37		59.35	50.63		
ELKINS	77	41	58	25	1.38	0.80	44.70	50.27	41.75	
MARLINTON	72	32	54		0.96		44.15	44.62		
--SOUTHERN										
BECKLEY	76	31	57	21	0.86	0.70	44.96	46.79	37.42	
PINEVILLE	80	44	59		1.19		50.38	41.87		
BLUEFIELD	77	43	61	23	0.53	0.71	45.06	41.68	35.91	
WHITE SUL SP	77	37	56		0.49		36.32	41.78		
BLUESTONE DAM	79	40	60		0.30		38.13	37.29		
--NORTHEASTERN										
MARTINSBURG	83	38	50	15	1.11	0.59	38.66	29.84	35.03	
KEYSER	82	30	48		1.46		40.88	34.90		
MOOREFIELD	82	38	53		1.23		34.68	26.95		
State Average Temperature	56									
State Average Precipitation	1.41									

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

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