



Crop Progress and Condition

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Agricultural News: West Virginia weather conditions for the month of March have been a mix of warmer periods mixed with some colder ones. The month has had periods of rain, leaving some muddy conditions. Farming activities for the month included preparing fields, calving, fence repairs, and some brush removal.

SOIL MOISTURE and SUPPLIES for week ending 03/29/20

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	-	2	77	21
Subsoil	-	2	83	15
Hay & Roughage	-	16	76	8
Feed grain	-	11	81	8

-Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 03/29/20

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Winter Wheat	-	-	-	62	38
Pasture	9	1	23	59	8
Cattle & Calves	-	2	36	56	6
Sheep & Lambs	-	1	36	60	3

- Represents zero.

LIVESTOCK PROGRESS for week ending 03/29/20

Livestock Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Calved	67	-	66	-
Lambled	72	-	70	-

- Represents data not available.

**March Summary of Weather and Agricultural Conditions
February 24 - March 29, 2020**

The week ending **March 1st** began very warm as Southerly winds blew over the Mountain State prior to a cold front that moved over the area in the middle of the workweek, dropping the temperatures to below normal for this time of year. Overall, West Virginia ended the week just below normal for most stations. Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 63 degrees. Elkins had the lowest recorded temperature of 10 degrees. The state average temperature was 36 degrees. The majority of the precipitation that fell during the week occurred during the first half. Early in the week, light to moderate precipitation occurred as weather disturbances ahead of the cold front produced showers across the State. The heavier precipitation fell as the cold front passed over. Following the front, light snow showers fell over most of the area. Pineville had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 1.29 inches. Wheeling and Martinsburg had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.57 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 0.83 of an inch.

Warm spring temperatures by day and chilly nights were felt across the State during the week ending **March 8th**. At some point during the week, all stations reached at least 60 degrees aided by warm air moving in from the South and the stronger influence from the sun this time of year. Moorefield and Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 68 degrees. Beckley and White Sulphur Springs had the lowest recorded temperature of 17 degrees. The state average temperature was 42 degrees. A couple of upper level disturbances and a cold front brought all the precipitation for the week. No stations received large downpours or accumulations in the State and nearly all stations reported less than normal precipitation. Morgantown had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 1.09 inches. White Sulphur Springs had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.33 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 0.66 of an inch.

For the week ending **March 15th**, all stations reported above average temperatures for this time of year due to Southerly airflow. During this time, temperatures regularly rose into the 60s and 70s prior to a cold front that passed near the end of the week. The Northern half of the State was much warmer than normal. Charleston and Pineville had the highest recorded temperature of 75 degrees. Marlinton had the lowest recorded temperature of 23 degrees. The state average temperature was 48 degrees. Precipitation amounts varied across the State, generally increasing from North to South. The high precipitation values were due to areas of instability riding along an area of high moisture prior to the cold frontal passage. Several stations received over one inch. Williamson had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 3.11 inches. Wheeling and Moorefield had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.48 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 1.20 inches.

All stations reported above average temperatures for the week ending **March 22nd**. The warm temperatures resulted from Southern airflow as a string of low pressure systems passed to the North. Several stations reached the 70s, and two stations reached the 80s for the first time this year. Martinsburg had the highest recorded temperature of 83 degrees. Terra Alta had the lowest recorded temperature of 25 degrees. The state average temperature was 48 degrees. West Virginia experienced a fairly rainy week. Precipitation was recorded at some point in the State every day. For some stations, much precipitation was recorded and some stations recorded over one inch in 24 hours. Wheeling had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 2.35 inches. Moorefield had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.33 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 1.05 inches.

West Virginia experienced unseasonably warm temperatures the week ending **March 29th**. All stations reported greater than average temperatures and several records were broken. The warm temperatures were from strong winds arriving from the Southeast as frontal systems passed to the North. Pineville had the highest recorded temperature of 89 degrees. Martinsburg had the lowest recorded temperature of 24 degrees. The state average temperature was 55 degrees. Showers and a few thunderstorms pushed over the State as several weather disturbances passed over. Some of the systems dropped over one inch of precipitation and with saturated soil, there was some flooding. Bluefield had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 2.08 inches. Huntington had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.55 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 1.01 inches.

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending 03/29/20

Station	Temperature				Precipitation				
	High	Low	Average	Weekly Departure	Week's Total	Norm	Since April 1st 2019	Same Week Last Year	Season Normal
--NORTHWEST									
WHEELING	79	38	54	10	1.59	0.81	40.51	54.32	37.91
PARKERSBURG	85	36	56	9	0.57	0.86	48.29	53.84	41.03
CRESTON	86	33	55		1.08		53.23	58.69	
--NORTHCENTRAL									
MORGANTOWN	83	35	55	9	0.94	0.86	46.28	52.94	41.68
CLARKSBURG	86	34	56	11	1.33	0.98	42.83	53.00	45.61
BELINGTON	83	31	54		0.60		41.44	62.90	
WESTON	84	34	54		1.24		51.57	70.49	
--SOUTHWEST									
WILLIAMSON	87	39	60		0.85		53.16	52.56	
HUNTINGTON	86	38	58	9	0.55	0.87	50.78	56.81	42.44
CHARLESTON	87	32	57	8	0.71	0.84	50.33	59.86	43.90
RIPLEY	83	32	56		0.67		51.73	57.21	
--CENTRAL									
TERRA ALTA	81	34	54		1.00		54.31	74.75	
ELKINS	84	31	55	12	0.81	0.93	52.32	65.19	45.76
MARLINTON	84	33	53		1.24		48.67	59.87	
--SOUTHERN									
BECKLEY	84	29	54	9	1.01	0.84	48.08	55.48	41.07
PINEVILLE	89	37	57		0.75		46.62	54.64	
BLUEFIELD	85	30	56	7	2.08	0.81	43.62	55.57	39.52
WHITE SUL SP	86	31	55		1.27		43.25	57.89	
BLUESTONE DAM	85	37	57		1.09		40.05	52.66	
--NORTHEASTERN									
MARTINSBURG	70	24	49	3	1.28	0.86	36.50	67.34	38.55
KEYSER	85	39	54		0.98		36.87	64.32	
MOOREFIELD	86	33	57		0.61		38.06	47.99	
State Average Temperature	55								
State Average Precipitation	1.01								

Source:

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