

South Dakota Weekly Crop Weather Report



National Agricultural Statistics Service

South Dakota Field Office

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Cooperating with:

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

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For the Month of February 2013
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AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

The month of February saw mixed temperatures with an average snow depth at the end of the month of 7.0 inches across the state. As the winter season progresses, producers continue coping 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 last month included moving snow, caring for livestock, hauling grain and repairing equipment.

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

WEATHER INFORMATION

A more active weather pattern during February brought several more storm systems across the state including large events in from central to northeast South Dakota on Feb. 10-11 and south central to southeast part of the state on Feb. 21-22, according to the State Climate Office of South Dakota. Several smaller systems occurred across the state during other parts of the month. Current snow conditions are deepest in the northeast and largely non-existent in the west. The amount of snow and snow cover greatly impacted the temperature pattern leading to colder than average temperatures over most of the snow covered areas, while the non-snow-covered areas were warmer than average.

Precipitation was heaviest across eastern South Dakota with widespread amounts of 0.8 inches to over 2.0 inches in the far northeast. Most of the west received less than half an inch with the far northwest receiving less than 0.1 inches. Webster received the most precipitation for the month at 2.36 inches of liquid. Several other northeastern stations had over 1.5 inches. Of the northwest stations with low precipitation amounts, Bison was the lowest with 0.03 inches. The additional precipitation in the northeast did lead to a one category improvement in the US Drought Monitor because of the larger liquid totals, which should produce some run-off. Most of the current snow will do little to change soil moisture conditions.

Temperatures were heavily influenced by the snow cover. Colder average temperatures and coldest daily temperatures occurred over the northeast where monthly temperatures were 2° to 4° F below average. In the northwestern part of the state temperatures were 3° to 6° F above average. The highest daily temperature was 59° F at Pickstown. The coldest temperature was -31° F at Aberdeen.

SOIL CONDITION

Soil temperatures were generally in the 20's to low 30's. Warmest temperatures were in the south and west. Parkston was the highest at 32° F; Aberdeen was the coldest at 21° F.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Concern continues with some producers about the lack of snow cover protection for the winter wheat. Winter wheat condition was rated at 20 percent very poor, 46 percent poor, 31 percent fair, and 3 percent good. Snow cover for winter wheat was rated at 56 percent poor, 42 percent adequate and 2 percent excellent. Alfalfa snow cover was rated at 38 percent poor, 55 percent adequate and 7 percent excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT

Feed supplies were rated at 18 percent very short, 35 percent short and 47 percent adequate to surplus, while last year at this time feed supplies were rated at 99 percent adequate to surplus. Stock water supplies were rated at 22 percent very short, 32 percent short and 46 percent adequate. Cattle conditions were rated at 74 percent good to excellent, 24 percent fair and 2 percent poor. Cattle deaths rated at 28 percent below average and 72 percent average for the month. Newborn calf deaths rated 18 percent below average and 82 percent average. Calving was at 9 percent complete as of February 24th. Sheep conditions were rated at 83 percent good to excellent condition, 15 percent fair and 2 percent poor, with sheep and lamb deaths rated 8 percent below average and 92 percent average. Lambing was at 25 percent complete as of February 24th.

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

Location	Temp	Location	Temp
Aberdeen	21	Nisland	29
Beresford	31	Oacoma	30
Bowdle	31	Parkston	32
Brookings	23	Pierre	29
Caputa	31	Redfield	25
Cottonwood	29	South Shore	24

Crop and Livestock Conditions as of February 24, 2013

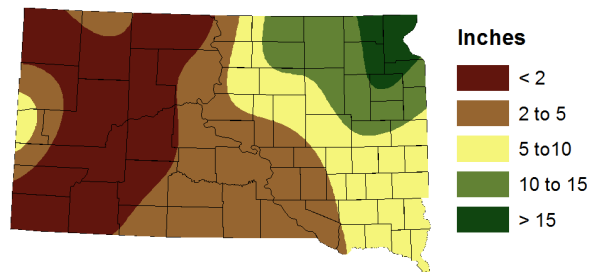
Item	V Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	20	46	31	3	0
Cattle	0	2	24	68	6
Sheep	0	2	15	70	13

Feed and Water Supplies Comparison as of February 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	18	0	1	22	1	4
Short	35	1	7	32	4	7
Adequate	45	93	87	46	93	83
Surplus	2	6	5	0	2	6

<p>The next Crop Weather Report will be for the month of March and will be released April 1, 2013</p>

SNOW DEPTH
February 25, 2013



TEMPERATURE and PRECIPITATION
Month Ending February 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>
Northwest							
Bison	27	4	51	-1	0.03	1.18	-2.09
Buffalo	29	6	54	2	0.04	1.12	-0.71
Dupree	29	6	56	-3	0.13	1.34	-1.84
McIntosh	24	3	50	-7	0.08	1.19	-1.82
Newell	28	4	55	7	0.04	1.21	-1.84
Timber Lake	25	3	52	-8	0.20	1.77	-1.79
North Central							
Aberdeen	15	-2	38	-31	1.06	4.03	-0.13
Faulkton	19	-1	41	-19	1.53	3.44	-0.88
Mobridge	24	4	48	-9	0.36	2.26	-0.79
Roscoe	16	-1	39	-19	0.77	2.46	-1.52
Northeast							
Britton	14	-4	36	-26	1.77	5.73	1.43
Clear Lake	13	-4	38	-18	1.23	5.06	-0.54
Sisseton	13	-4	35	-23	1.58	5.46	1.64
Watertown	14	-3	36	-19	0.94	4.00	-0.18
Webster	15	-2	35	-20	2.36	8.10	3.33
West Central							
Faith	28	5	56	-3	0.19	1.35	-1.64
Milesville	29	4	56	0	0.30	1.83	-1.83
Philip	29	4	57	5	0.29	1.83	-1.31
Rapid City	29	2	58	3	0.18	1.75	-1.27
Sturgis	31	3	55	6	0.14	2.51	-1.80
Central							
Chamberlain	25	0	50	-2	1.33	4.19	0.23
Highmore	21	-1	42	-16	1.15	2.81	-1.32
Huron	20	-1	41	-12	1.10	3.77	-0.40
Onida	24	3	47	-8	0.65	2.31	-1.79
Pierre	26	2	48	-1	0.79	3.12	-0.74
Wessington Spr.	20	-2	42	-11	1.33	3.37	-1.32
East Central							
Brookings	17	0	39	-13	0.77	4.71	-0.23
Madison	18	-1	39	-11	0.58	3.51	-1.33
Mitchell	23	0	46	-8	1.35	3.43	0.07
Sioux Falls	21	0	44	-8	0.94	3.87	-1.40
Southwest							
Custer	24	-1	45	-3	0.13	3.32	0.07
Hot Springs	32	2	53	7	0.15	2.86	-0.01
Martin	27	0	53	2	0.41	2.31	-1.39
Oelrichs	31	4	56	4	0.00	2.48	-0.58
South Central							
Kennebec	27	2	51	-13	0.81	2.61	-0.81
Mission	25	0	55	-7	0.93	2.43	-1.39
Murdo	26	1	55	-7	0.81	2.68	-1.36
Winner	29	2	57	4	0.00	0.05	-3.23
Southeast							
Academy	23	-1	53	-10	0.93	2.21	-2.05
Centerville	23	1	51	-7	0.95	3.07	-1.58
Pickstown	28	2	59	-7	0.60	2.16	-2.46
Vermillion	27	2	53	-5	0.55	3.86	-1.47
Yankton	24	0	54	-6	0.80	3.77	-1.88

DATA AND MAP SOURCE: State Climate Office of South Dakota