

# NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



Cooperating With:  
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY,  
ND AG WEATHER NETWORK (NDAWN)  
and  
UND AEROSPACE REGIONAL WEATHER  
INFORMATION CENTER

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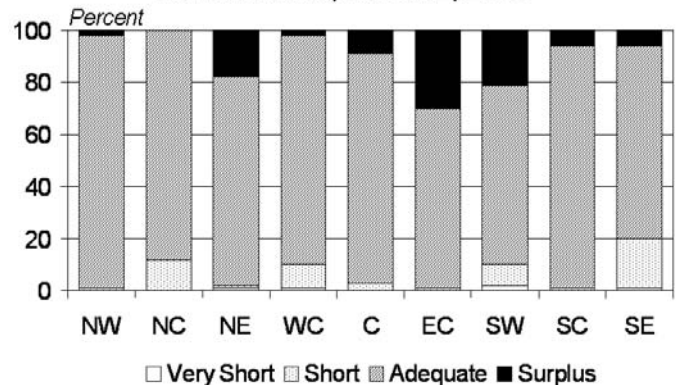
**General:** Cold temperatures swept across the state with near normal precipitation during February, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. Limited snowfall amounts were received in the western part of the state as producers remain concerned about winter crop protection. Reporters also noted western areas need more moisture to provide adequate runoff for crops. Major farm activities included marketing grain, lining up supplies for spring, calving and lambing. County and secondary roads were rated 89 percent open, 9 difficult and 2 closed to traffic. Road conditions were rated 10 percent drifted, 15 icy, 1 muddy and 74 dry.

Statewide average snow cover was 3.6 inches on March 2, compared with 11.0 inches last year. The northeastern and north central districts reported the most snow cover with 12.0 and 8.3 inches, respectively. The south central district reported no snow cover and represents the least amount in the state.

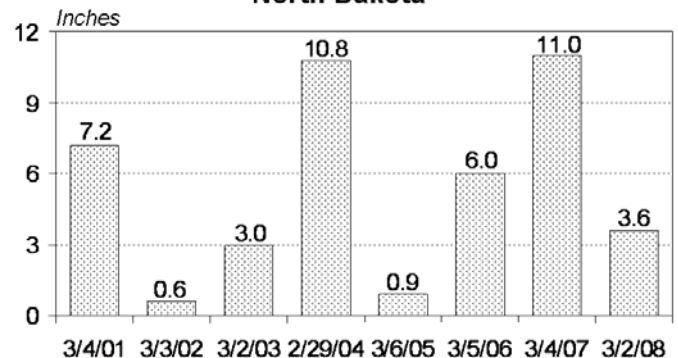
**Crops:** As of March 2, snow cover protection for alfalfa was rated 70 percent poor, 26 adequate and 4 excellent. Snow cover protection for winter wheat was rated at 52 percent poor, 38 adequate and 10 excellent. Producers in western districts are concerned about the lack of snow cover protection to alfalfa and winter wheat as well as the overall dry moisture levels.

**Livestock:** Calving and lambing has started with 9 and 16 percent complete, respectively. Cattle conditions were rated 1 percent poor, 15 fair, 70 good and 14 excellent. Sheep conditions were rated 2 percent poor, 14 fair, 66 good and 18 excellent. Hay and forage supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 7 short, 82 adequate and 10 surplus.

**Hay and Forage Supplies by District  
North Dakota, March 2, 2008**



**Average Snow Depth by Date  
North Dakota**



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**Weather:** Overall, February had below normal temperatures, but near normal precipitation due to two major storm systems moving through the state. The month started with below normal temperatures and light precipitation in the central and eastern regions of the state. The second week had a major system move through North Dakota on February 9-10 that brought snow and severe blowing snow conditions. The central and eastern regions of the state received most of the precipitation from this system. Another system gave most of the state precipitation and blowing snow on February 13. The third week was fairly dry with below normal temperatures throughout the state. The final week of February ended with near normal temperatures with only light precipitation falling mainly in the northern regions of the state. Moderate to severe drought conditions are still present for the western half of the state.

**Outlook, March:** March looks like it will start off with above normal temperatures, but below normal precipitation thanks to no major systems moving through the state during the first week. There is a chance of snow statewide early this week, but most of the snowfall will be light. The second week temperatures will be above normal with most of the precipitation occurring in the northern regions of the state. Unfortunately, current predictions show only some improvement to the drought in the northwestern part of the state thanks to possible precipitation in March, but the drought in the southwestern part of the state will be ongoing. Overall for the month of March, the state will see near normal temperatures and near normal precipitation.

TEMPERATURE, February 1-29, 2008

District & Stations	Temperature			
	High	Low	Average	Depart/Norm <sup>1/</sup>
	Degrees F	Degrees F	Degrees F	Degrees F
<b>NORTHWEST</b>				
Bowbells	39	-27	10	-4
Williston	56	-20	17	-1
Mohall	38	-29	9	-5
Minot	44	-24	11	-6
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>				
Baker	34	-30	6	-6
Bottineau	37	-34	6	-6
Rugby	35	-33	6	-8
<b>NORTHEAST</b>				
Cando	34	-36	4	-14
Cavalier	36	-32	7	-4
Forest River	36	-33	7	-7
Grand Forks	34	-31	6	-7
Langdon	33	-34	3	-6
St. Thomas	34	-30	6	-8
<b>WEST CENTRAL</b>				
Hazen	52	-20	15	-4
Turtle Lake	46	-28	11	-5
Watford City	60	-20	17	-6
<b>CENTRAL</b>				
Carrington	36	-31	8	-7
Harvey	40	-33	10	-8
Jamestown	38	-31	9	-8
Robinson	41	-34	9	-9
Streeter	42	-30	10	-4
<b>EAST CENTRAL</b>				
Dazey	35	-33	14	-7
Fargo	35	-29	15	-6
Hillsboro	34	-32	14	-9
<b>SOUTHWEST</b>				
Beach	59	-10	21	-1
Bowman	60	-10	21	0
Dickinson	62	-13	20	-1
Hettinger	63	-13	20	-2
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>				
Mandan	50	-23	14	-4
Linton	51	-23	15	-3
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>				
Edgeley	44	-27	13	-4
Oakes	40	-29	12	-4
Wyndmere	39	-30	9	-7

<sup>1/</sup> Normal is the 1971-2000 average. Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.