

NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



USDA, NASS
North Dakota
Field Office

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

Released: April 7, 2008
For Week Ending: April 6, 2008
ND-CW1408

General: Recent precipitation has delayed fieldwork for the storm affected areas of the state; however, western areas have begun planting small grains and dry edible peas, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. Producers in the western areas show concern for potential fires due to the dry soil conditions while in eastern areas, many producers were preparing machinery as they wait for warm, dry conditions to arrive. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 31 percent very short, 31 short, 35 adequate and 3 surplus, compared with the five-year (2003-2007) average of 5 percent very short, 19 short, 65 adequate and 11 surplus.

Crops: Snow showers in the southeastern corner of the state have set back the estimated starting date of fieldwork. Planting began in the southwestern area last week. The statewide average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be April 14, unchanged from the previous week and 1 week ahead of last year. The expected starting date ranged from April 2 in the southwestern district to April 24 in the northeastern district. The statewide five-year (2003-2007) average starting date is April 17.

Livestock: Calving and lambing were 58 and 70 percent complete, respectively. Shearing gained 15 percentage points to 78 percent complete. Cow conditions were rated 1 percent poor, 14 fair, 71 good and 14 excellent. Sheep conditions were rated 2 percent poor, 19 fair, 65 good and 14 excellent. Lamb conditions were rated 2 percent poor, 18 fair, 66 good and 14 excellent.

Hay and forage supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 7 short, 84 adequate and 8 surplus, compared with last year's rating of 4 percent very short, 14 short, 76 adequate and 6 surplus. Grain and concentrate supplies were 2 percent very short, 10 short, 83 adequate and 5 surplus. Pasture and ranges were 99 percent dormant across the state.

**Livestock Condition
North Dakota, Week Ending April 6, 2008**

Livestock	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cows	0	1	14	71	14
Calves	0	1	14	68	17
Sheep	0	2	19	65	14
Lambs	0	2	18	66	14

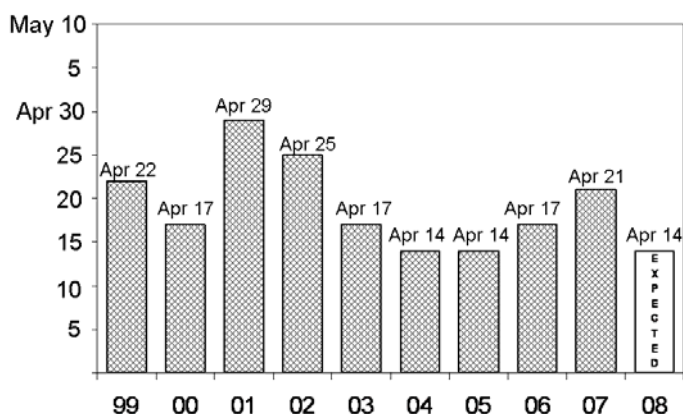
**Planting: Percent Completed
North Dakota, Week Ending April 6, 2008¹**

Crop	Week Ending			2003-2007 Avg
	April 6, 2008	March 30, 2008	April 6, 2007	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley	1	NA	0	0
Spring Wheat	2	NA	0	1
Dry Edible Peas	1	NA	0	NA

¹ Progress is based on current intended acreage. NA = Not Available

Soil Temperatures: Average soil temperatures on April 6, ranged from a low of 32 degrees F in Baker, Cavalier, Dazey, Fargo, Grand Forks, Langdon, Streeter and Wyndmere to a high of 39 in Bowman, Dickinson and Williston. These readings reflect daily average temperatures under 4 inches of bare soil recorded by the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN).

**Average Start Date for Fieldwork
North Dakota, 1999-2008**



Average Soil Temperatures*, April 6, 2008

Station	Temperature Degrees F	Station	Temperature Degrees F
NORTHWEST		CENTRAL	
Bowbells	33	Carrington	33
Minot	35	Robinson	33
Williston	39	Streeter	32
NORTH CENTRAL		EAST CENTRAL	
Baker	32	Dazey	32
Bottineau	37	Fargo	32
Rolla	33	SOUTHWEST	
NORTHEAST		Bowman	39
Cavalier	32	Dickinson	39
Grand Forks	32	SOUTH CENTRAL	
Langdon	32	Linton	35
WEST CENTRAL		SOUTHEAST	
Turtle Lake	35	Oakes	34
Watford City	36	Wyndmere	32

*Thermometers located 4 inches under bare soil.
Source: NDAWN, Department of Soil Science, NDSU.

~ Compiled and Published by ~

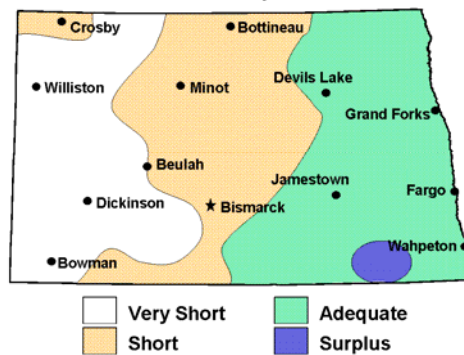
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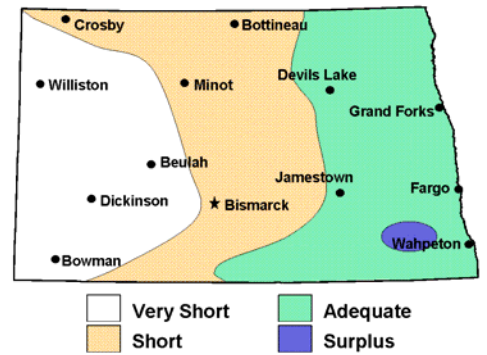
**Soil Moisture Supplies
 North Dakota, April 6, 2008**

Date	Week Ending		2003-2007 Avg
	April 6, 2008	April 6, 2007	
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil			
Very Short	31	1	5
Short	31	15	19
Adequate	35	74	65
Surplus	3	10	11
Subsoil			
Very Short	26	7	9
Short	37	36	25
Adequate	36	53	60
Surplus	1	4	6

**Topsoil Moisture Supplies
 North Dakota, April 6, 2008**



**Subsoil Moisture Supplies
 North Dakota, April 6, 2008**



Weather: The western side of the state had cooler than normal temperatures while the eastern side had warmer than normal temperatures. Monday started the week with a system bringing precipitation to the southwest part of the state with highs in the 30s to lower 40s. On Tuesday, some isolated showers fell in the central and eastern regions of the state with highs in the 40s. Wednesday and Thursday remained dry as temperatures warmed up into the upper 40s to 50s. Friday continued to stay dry statewide as temperatures rose into the 50s to lower 60s. Saturday temperatures plummeted down to the upper 30s to 40s. Sunday highs stayed in the 30s to 40s as a strong, narrow band of snow stalled in the southeastern and south central part of the state, bringing about three to five inches of snow to areas affected by the storm.

Outlook, April 7-13: This week looks to have near normal temperatures as it will be starting off dry, but getting wetter later in the week. Monday will be dry with a chance of lingering precipitation in the southeastern part of the state from yesterday's storm with highs in the 40s to 50s. Tuesday will be dry with highs in the mid-40s to 50s with the western half of the state seeing the higher of the temperatures. Wednesday will start off dry with highs in the mid-40s to 50s, but later on in the day there is a chance of a rain and snow mix statewide. On Thursday, the threat of a rain and snow mix continues statewide with highs cooling down to the 40s. On Friday, there is a chance of showers in the western half of the state and a rain snow mix in the eastern half of the state with highs in the 40s to lower 50s. On Saturday, there is a chance of isolated showers in the eastern half of the state as the system leaves the state with highs in the 50s. Sunday looks to be dry with highs in the 50s to lower 60s.

**Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
 North Dakota, Week ending April 6, 2008**

Stations by District	Temperature Past Week		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1 ^{1/}		
	High	Low	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal ^{2/}
	(Degrees F)	(Degrees F)	(Inches)	(Inches)	(Inches)
(1) Bowbells	51	13			
Williston	53	17			
Mohall	53	10			
Minot	53	15			
(2) Baker	52	19			
Bottineau	53	6			
Rugby	53	17			
(3) Cando	51	20			
Cavalier	52	18			
Forest River	53	23			
Grand Forks	56	24			
Langdon	48	17			
St. Thomas	51	23			
(4) Hazen	60	11			
Turtle Lake	56	18			
Watford City	56	17			
(5) Carrington	57	19			
Harvey	56	17			
Jamestown	60	20			
Robinson	58	17			
Streeter	57	17			
(6) Dazey	58	22			
Fargo	58	26			
Hillsboro	57	24			
(7) Beach	56	14			
Bowman	58	17			
Dickinson	58	15			
Hettinger	59	10			
(8) Mandan	60	17			
Linton	60	20			
(9) Edgeley	59	22			
Oakes	60	23			
Wyndmere	59	25			

**Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
 North Dakota, Week ending April 6, 2008**

District Averages	Average Temperature		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1 ^{1/}		
	Past Week	Depart Normal ^{2/}	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal ^{2/}
	(Degrees F)	(Degrees F)	(Inches)	(Inches)	(Inches)
Northwest(1)	33	-2			
N. Central(2)	33	0			
Northeast (3)	36	1			
W. Central(4)	36	-1			
Central (5)	37	1			
E. Central(6)	40	4			
Southwest(7)	35	-1			
S. Central(8)	39	1			
Southeast(9)	41	4			

^{1/} Precipitation amounts may vary due to an inaccurate snowfall melt. ^{2/} Normal is the 1971-2000 average. NA=Not available. Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.

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