

# NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



Released: April 6, 2009  
For Week Ending: April 5, 2009  
ND-CW1409

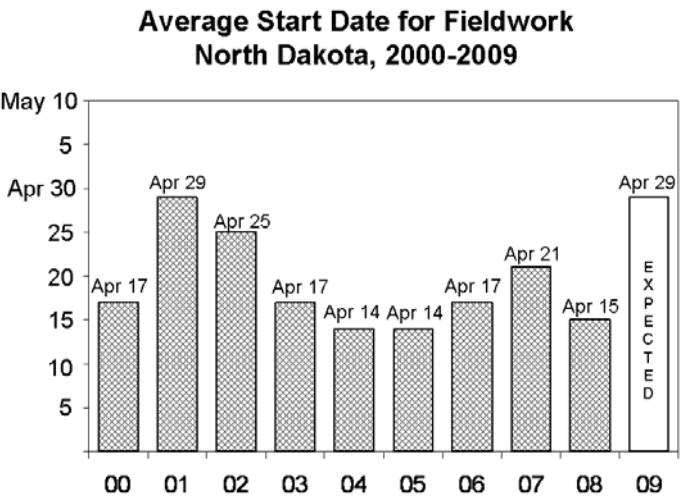
Cooperating With:  
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY,  
ND AG WEATHER NETWORK (NDAWN)  
and  
UND AEROSPACE REGIONAL WEATHER  
INFORMATION CENTER

**General:** Significant amounts of snow cover remained across the state with below normal temperatures for the week ending April 5, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. Limited access to fields and poor roads have created difficult conditions. General farm activity progress was limited, except for some producers who harvested last season's corn and sunflowers. Marketing grain and calving were difficult due to road restrictions and late season snow cover. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 2 percent short, 58 adequate and 40 surplus, compared with 31 percent very short, 31 short, 35 adequate and 3 surplus on April 6, 2008.

**Crops:** The long winter continued to hamper much of the state and reporters expect a later than normal start to the 2009 season. The statewide average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be April 29, unchanged from the previous week's estimate and 2 weeks behind last year. The expected starting date ranged from April 9 in the south central district to May 7 in the west central district. The statewide five-year (2004-2008) average starting date is April 16.

Planting: Percent Completed North Dakota, Week Ending April 5, 2009 <sup>1</sup>				
Crop	Week Ending			2004-2008 Avg
	April 5, 2009	March 29, 2009	April 5, 2008	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley	0	NA	1	0
Spring Wheat	0	NA	2	1
Dry Edible Peas	0	NA	1	NA

<sup>1</sup> Progress is based on current intended acreage. NA = Not Available



**Livestock:** Reporters noted that the long, cold, wet winter has been particularly hard on cattle and calves with reports of higher than normal death loss. Calving and lambing have been a challenge due to the cold and muddy conditions. Feed supplies were dwindling and hard to access due to the unseasonably late snow cover. Calving and lambing were 52 and 64 percent complete, respectively. Cow conditions were rated 2 percent very poor, 8 poor, 38 fair, 48 good and 4 excellent. Calf conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 8 poor, 36 fair, 52 good and 3 excellent. Sheep conditions were rated 6 percent poor, 35 fair, 54 good and 5 excellent. Lamb conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 7 poor, 32 fair, 56 good and 4 excellent. Shearing gained 10 percentage points and was 79 percent complete.

Hay and forage supplies were rated 15 percent very short, 35 short, 49 adequate and 1 surplus, compared with last year's rating of 1 percent very short, 7 short, 84 adequate and 8 surplus. Grain and concentrate supplies were 6 percent very short, 12 short, 80 adequate and 2 surplus. Pasture and ranges were still dormant across the state.

Livestock Condition North Dakota, Week Ending April 5, 2009					
Livestock	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cows	2	8	38	48	4
Calves	1	8	36	52	3
Sheep	0	6	35	54	5
Lambs	1	7	32	56	4

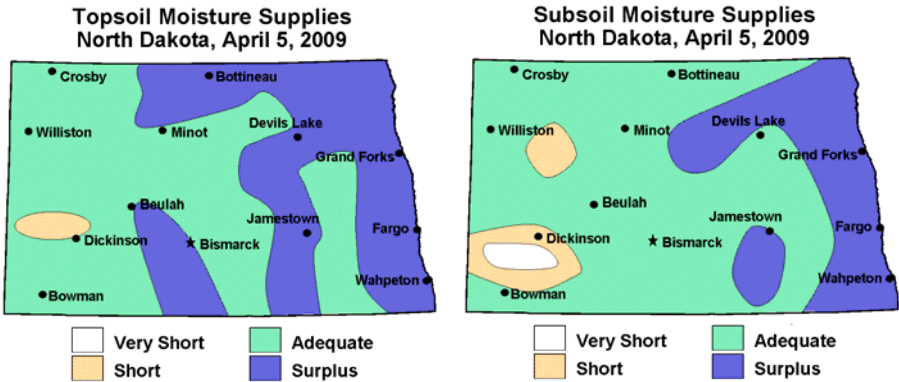
**Soil Temperatures:** Average soil temperatures on April 5, ranged from a low of 28 degrees F in Langdon to a high of 34 in Watford City. Last year on April 6, average soil temperatures ranged from 32 degrees F to 39. These readings reflect daily average temperatures under 4 inches of bare soil recorded by the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN).

Average Soil Temperatures*, April 5, 2009			
Station	Temperature	Station	Temperature
	Degrees F		Degrees F
NORTHWEST		CENTRAL	
Bowbells	32	Carrington	32
Minot	32	Robinson	31
Williston	33	Streeter	30
NORTH CENTRAL		EAST CENTRAL	
Baker	31	Dazey	31
Bottineau	32	Fargo	31
Rolla	31	SOUTHWEST	
NORTHEAST		Bowman	31
Cavalier	31	Dickinson	32
Grand Forks	33	SOUTH CENTRAL	
Langdon	28	Linton	31
WEST CENTRAL		SOUTHEAST	
Turtle Lake	31	Oakes	32
Watford City	34	Wyndmere	32

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

Soil Moisture Supplies  
North Dakota, Week Ending April 5, 2009

	April 5, 2009	April 6, 2008
	Percent	Percent
Topsoil		
Very Short	0	31
Short	2	31
Adequate	58	35
Surplus	40	3
Subsoil		
Very Short	2	26
Short	6	37
Adequate	63	36
Surplus	29	1



**Weather:** Temperatures were below normal statewide for the week of March 30 to April 5. Temperatures were well below normal in the southern and central areas of the state mainly because of additional snowfall in this area from March 29-31. A storm system affected the southeastern part of the state on Monday and Tuesday with heavy snow. Highs were in the mid-20s to mid-30s. A few snow showers affected the northern and eastern areas on Wednesday. Highs were mainly in the 30s. Thursday was dry with highs in the 30s to low 40s. Dry conditions continued for Friday and Saturday with in the 30s. Sunday was dry and cooler with highs in the upper 20s to mid-30s.

**Outlook, April 6-12:** Temperatures will be near to below normal for much of the week with above normal temperatures returning by late in the week. Precipitation will be below normal for most of the state. The only significant chance of precipitation will come late in the week in the form of rain and mainly in the eastern half of the state. Monday will start out cold and dry with highs in the 30s statewide. Tuesday and Wednesday will be dry with highs in the upper 30s to low 40s over snow covered areas and in the mid to upper 40s elsewhere. Thursday and Friday will be dry with highs in the lower to mid-40s over snow covered areas to the upper 40s to lower 50s elsewhere. Highs on Saturday will be in the low to mid-50s statewide with dry conditions. Highs on Sunday will be in the 50s with a chance of rain. Flooding will continue in the Red River Valley and will become more likely statewide as the snow cover melts by late in the week.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations  
North Dakota, Week ending April 5, 2009

District Averages	Average Temperature		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1 <sup>1</sup>		
	Past Week	Depart Normal <sup>2</sup>	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal <sup>2</sup>
	(Degrees F)	(Degrees F)	(Inches)	(Inches)	(Inches)
Northwest (1)	25	-8	NOT AVAILABLE		
N. Central(2)	25	-7			
Northeast (3)	26	-7			
W. Central(4)	25	-11			
Central (5)	24	-11			
E. Central(6)	25	-9			
Southwest(7)	19	-17			
S. Central(8)	23	-13			
Southeast(9)	25	-10			

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations  
North Dakota, Week ending April 5, 2009

Stations by District	Temperature Past Week		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1 <sup>1</sup>		
	High	Low	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal <sup>2</sup>
	(Degrees F)	(Degrees F)	(Inches)	(Inches)	(Inches)
(1) Bowbells	36	7	NOT AVAILABLE		
Williston	44	19			
Mohall	37	10			
Minot	37	14			
(2) Baker	35	16			
Bottineau	38	15			
Rugby	35	14			
(3) Cando	35	16			
Cavalier	35	19			
Forest River	35	21			
Grand Forks	36	23			
Langdon	32	13			
St. Thomas	33	21			
(4) Hazen	35	7			
Turtle Lake	36	14			
Watford City	43	19			
(5) Carrington	47	11			
Harvey	35	14			
Jamestown	33	11			
Robinson	34	15			
Streeter	34	12			
(6) Dazey	36	12			
Fargo	38	16			
Hillsboro	36	15			
(7) Beach	38	10			
Bowman	30	6			
Dickinson	36	0			
Hettinger	34	3			
(8) Mandan	34	13			
Linton	34	13			
(9) Edgeley	40	9			
Oakes	40	17			
Wyndmere	36	13			

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

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