



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

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NORTH DAKOTA CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

FARGO, ND April 8, 2013 – For the week ending April 7, 2013, rainfall over the weekend reduced snow piles and opened up some fields, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. However, many areas in the northern and eastern parts of the state are still experiencing average to above-average snow depths, with 5.3 inches reported across the state. Temperatures so far this spring have been below normal with the exception of the southwest, which has been 3 to 6 degrees above normal. Agricultural activities during the week included some fertilizer applications in the south central portion of the state and some planting of peas in the southwest. Other activities include hauling grain to market, calving and lambing, and preparing equipment for fieldwork.

With the continued snow cover in many areas, there was only one day suitable for fieldwork last week. Reports indicated that, on average, producers intended to begin fieldwork by April 24. The 2013 small grain seeding has not begun and is well behind last year's early progress and also behind the 5 year average. Topsoil moisture supplies rated 6 percent very short, 25 percent short, 58 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 10 percent very short, 40 percent short, 47 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus.

Weather Report: Precipitation and temperature data are now being provided through the High Plains Regional Climate Center. See link below for the latest updates. A link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor graphic is also provided.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Calving was 56 percent complete, while lambing was 70 percent complete, and shearing 83 percent complete. Cattle and calf conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 68 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Sheep and lamb conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 68 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Hay and forage supplies rated 3 percent very short, 21 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were 3 percent very short, 14 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus.

Data for this news release were provided at the county level by USDA Farm Service Agency and NDSU Extension Service.

Access the National publication for Crop Progress and Condition tables at:

<http://usda01.library.cornell.edu/usda/nass/CropProg//2010s/2013/CropProg-04-08-2013.pdf>

Access the High Plains Region Climate Center for Temperature and Precipitation Maps at:

http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/maps/current/index.php?action=update_region&state=ND®ion=HPRCC

Access the US Drought Monitor at:

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DM_state.htm?ND,HP