

## NEWS COLUMN

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May 7, 2008

### Soil Temps Coming Up, Finally!

The Southeast Research Farm at Beresford is finally getting soil temperatures above 50°F. On Tuesday May 6<sup>th</sup> they had an average reading at a 2 inch depth of 53°F. This was only the second day of readings above 50°F. This is obvious proof that it has been too cold this late into our 2008 planting season. Hopefully things will catch up. Good luck to all with spring planting.

Listed below is a table of the minimum germination temperatures for the major crops grown in South Dakota and also for some common weeds. Germination will not take place below these temperatures.

Minimum soil temps needed for crop germination (Fahrenheit):

Corn 48-50	Sorghum 48-50	Kochia 40
Spring wheat 34-36	Soybeans 49-51	Foxtail 45-50
Oats 34-36	Barnyard grass 45-50	

### Historical Spring frost dates in Lincoln County are as follows:

Percent Probability of 30°F occurring after date shown

April 27-50%

May 7<sup>th</sup>-30%

May 15<sup>th</sup>-10%

### South Dakota's Rank in United States Agriculture 2007

#### First

- Bison

#### Second

- Alfalfa Hay Production
- Lambs Born
- Sunflower Seed Production

#### Third

- All Hay Production
- Flaxseed Production
- Honey Production
- Proso Millet Production

#### Fourth

- All Wheat Production
- Oat Production
- Spring Wheat Production

#### Fifth

- All Sheep and Lambs
- Beef Cows that have Calved
- Winter Wheat Production

#### Sixth

- Calves Born
- Corn for Grain Production
- Durum Wheat Production
- Lands in Farms & Ranches

#### Seventh

- Cattle and Calves on Feed-All Feedlots
- Heifers 500 Lbs. and over
- Market Sheep & Lambs
- All Other Hay Production
- Steers 500 Lbs. and over

#### Eighth

- All Cattle and Calves
- Harvested Acreage, Principal Crops
- Soybean Production

#### Ninth

- Sorghum for Grain Production

### New Location for Extension Office

The Lincoln County Extension Office is in the process of moving to our new location in the basement of the new Courthouse addition. As of Wednesday May 14, we will be at our new address of 104 North Main, Canton SD 57013. Our telephone number (605-764-2756) and fax number (605-764-2432) remain the same.