



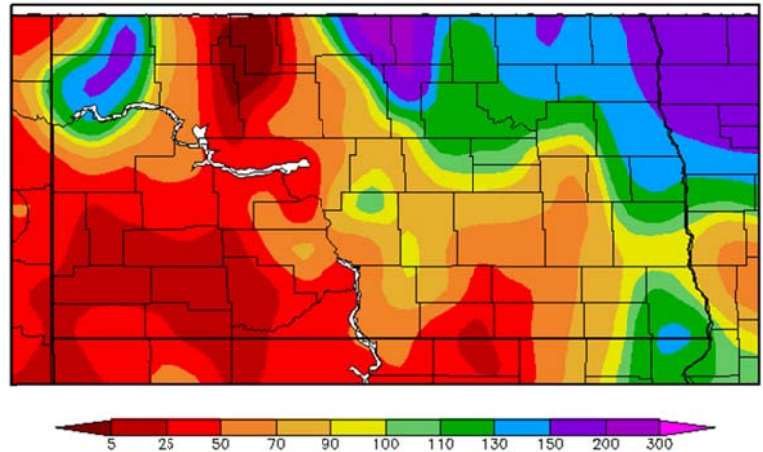
North Dakota

Monthly Climate Summary

October 2010

Precipitation:

October's percent of normal precipitation ranged from roughly 25% to 200% (Figure 1. High Plains Regional Climate Center). The first 24 days of October were primarily dry with above normal temperatures. Beginning on the 25th, a major storm system started to develop in the Midwest. By the 26th, the storm was producing winds similar to a tropical storm. Peak wind speeds in North Dakota ranged from in the 50's to 60's mph (measured at 33 feet). The National Weather Service (NWS) reported record breaking low pressure in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Fargo at 28.58 inches of Mercury came within 3 hundredths of the previous record of 28.55 inches of Mercury set on March 15, 1920. The two day rain total, 26th to 27th, in eastern North Dakota was 2 to 3 inches. The two day snow total for northeastern ND was 2 to 6 inches, north central ND was 8 to 13 inches, and central to western ND ranged from 2 to 8 inches. The remaining days of October were dry with mild temperatures.



Temperature:

The North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) October average air temperatures ranged from 45 °F to 50 °F. NDAWN departure from normal temperatures ranged from 2 °F to 6 °F (Figure 2. North Dakota State Climate Office). Temperatures were above normal across the state with the warmer temperatures falling in the southwest and eastern part of the state. Most of the month had above normal or near normal temperatures. A few days at the beginning of the month had 10 °F or more above normal temperatures. According to the USDA, NASS North Dakota Field Office, the warm, dry days helped producers make excellent harvest progress. The warmer weather did however delay sugarbeet harvest.

