July 2011

Precipitation:

Percent of normal precipitation ranged from approximately 40% to 230% (Figure 1. North Dakota State Climate Office). Below normal precipitation fell in the northwest and southwest corners and along the northern edge with above normal precipitation falling most elsewhere. The North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) July rainfall totals ranged from 1.19 inches at Crosby to 10.14 inches at Britton SD. July had scattered thundershowers throughout the month. Most of the daily rainfall events happened during the second half of the month. Minot recorded it's third wettest July since 1948 with 5.58 inches. Minot's wettest July was in 1903 with 7.20 inches. Bigmerels tied the 1060

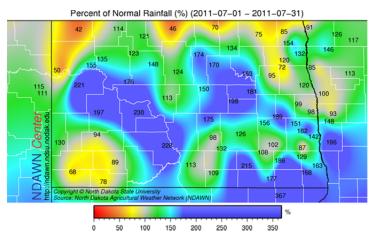


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in July 2011 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)

in 1993 with 7.39 inches. Bismarck tied the 1969 record for the fourth wettest July since 1874 with 5.24 inches. Bismarck's wettest July was in 1993 with 13.75 inches.

Temperature:

NDAWN July average air temperatures ranged from 68 °F to 76 °F. NDAWN departure from normal temperatures ranged from 0 °F to 5 °F (Figure 2. North Dakota State Climate Office). Average daily air temperatures were near normal on most days. July's favorable temperatures and precipitation aided crop development across the state. There was a stretch of hot and humid days from the 15th through the 19th. Maximum air temperatures across the state reached in the 80's and 90's. Minimum air temperatures on the 18th and 19th were in the upper 60's to 70's for most of the state. Fargo's July average minimum air temperature of 63.9 °F ranked 5th warmest since

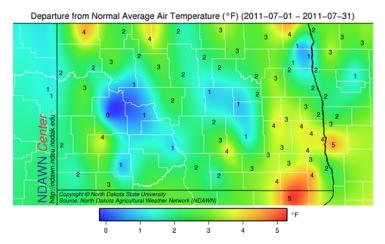


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in July 2011 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)

temperature of 63.9 °F ranked 5th warmest since 1881. Grand Fork's July average minimum air temperature of 60.6 °F ranked 6th warmest since 1890.