October 2011

Precipitation:

The North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) October percent of normal rainfall ranged from approximately 10% to 160%. (Figure 1. North Dakota State Climate Office). Amounts of near-normal to above fell in the south central, central, and northwest regions. Most elsewhere had less than 50% of normal rainfall. NDAWN October totals ranged from 0.13 inches at Humboldt MN to 1.84 inches at Wishek. Most of the rain events happened from the 6th through the 12th and the 23rd through the 25th.

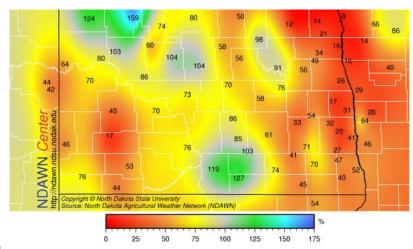


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in October 2011 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)

Temperature:

NDAWN October average air temperatures ranged from 47 °F to 52 °F. NDAWN departure from normal temperatures were above normal across the state and ranged from 3 °F to 8 °F (Figure 2. North Dakota State Climate Office). The first half of the month had temperatures far above normal to near normal on most days. The second half of the month had average air temperatures hovering at near normal for most areas. The first more wide spread hard freeze happened on the 17th and 18th. The mild temperatures and dry days made this an excellent year for harvesting. Harvesting activities for many crops concluded by the end of October. Fargo and Grand Forks had the 6th warmest October on record.

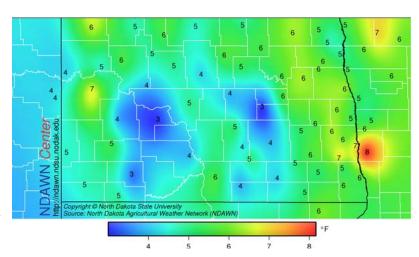


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in October 2011 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)