



North Dakota

Monthly Climate Summary

May 2012

Precipitation:

The North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) May percent of normal precipitation was up to ~130% of normal in the northwest and a few scattered areas in the eastern half. The remaining areas were below normal with the driest areas of ~50% of normal precipitation in the southeast and north central regions. (Figure 1 North Dakota State Climate Office). The first one third of the month had scattered showers with the heavier amounts falling in the northwest corner. The middle of the month was dry with roughly six days of no precipitation across the state. The last one-third of the month had the greatest total amount of rainfall. The US Drought Monitor May 29, 2012 report had moderate (D1) drought listed for the northeast corner, moderate (D1) to mostly Abnormally Dry (D0) for the southwest corner, and no drought conditions elsewhere.

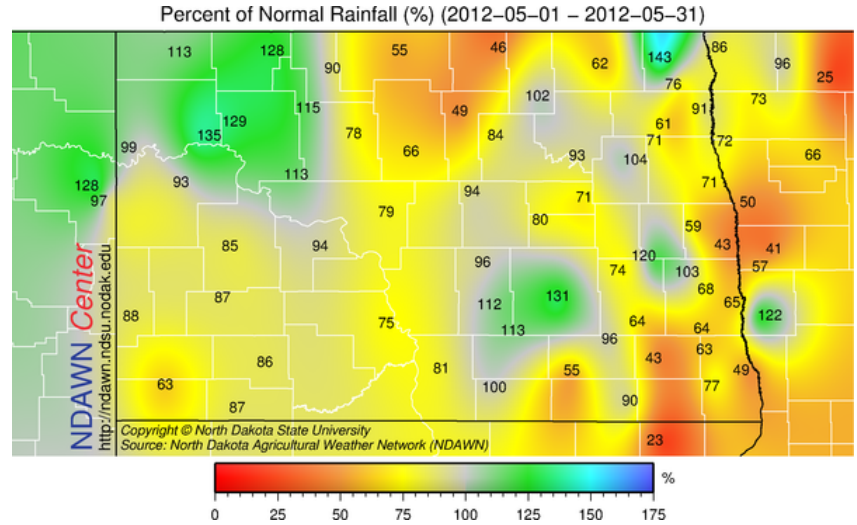


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in May 2012 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)

Temperature:

NDAWN May monthly average air temperatures ranged from 51 °F to 61 °F. NDAWN departure from normal average temperatures ranged from -3 °F to 4 °F (Figure 2. North Dakota State Climate Office). Daily average air temperatures hovered near normal across the state for the first half of the month. From roughly the 12th through the 19th average air temperatures climbed to 10 and 20 °F above normal. From the 24th through the end of the month there was seasonably cooler weather as average daily air temperatures dropped to between 10 °F and 20 °F below normal.

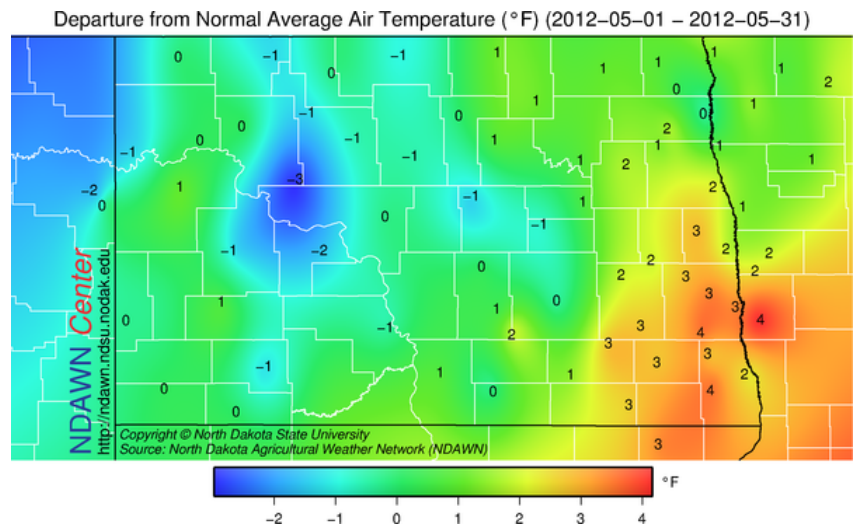


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in May 2012 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)