

## Mesonet Minute with **NDAWN**

NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL WEATHER NETWORK

The North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) field crew installed four new stations in North Dakota this spring:

- ♦ [Ellendale 4NE](#), Dickey County
- ♦ [Little Missouri](#), Dunn County
- ♦ [Jud 1S](#), LaMoure County
- ♦ [Watford City 3SW](#), McKenzie County

Two additional weather stations were built this spring in Minnesota in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture – [Murdock](#), Swift County and [Willmar 2SW](#), Kandiyohi County. The NDAWN network now has a total of 224 fully-equipped weather stations – 169 in North Dakota, 49 in Minnesota, and 6 in Montana.

All six new stations feature all-season precipitation gauges; snow depth sensors; soil moisture at depths of 2", 4", 8", 20", and 40"; and deep soil temperatures with fourteen measurements at various depth increments to a depth of 7.5 feet. They also have high resolution cameras that [upload photos](#) continuously during daytime hours.



*The Little Missouri station is in the heart of the North Dakota Badlands at the edge of Little Missouri State Park.*

## NDAWN Spring Statistics

March 1 – May 31 (ND stations only)	Highest	Lowest
<b>Maximum Temperature</b>	100.4°F at Crystal 4NW (5/11/25)	18.2°F at Peace Garden (3/15/25)
<b>Minimum Temperature</b>	70.4°F at Forest River 7WNW (5/12/25)	-11.0°F at Wales 1W (3/1/25)
<b>Average Temperature</b>	46.4°F at Fort Yates 2W	38.5°F at Peace Garden
<b>Departure from Average Temperature</b>	+4.2°F at Manning 4SW, Marmarth 2N	+0.7°F at Tioga 7NW
<b>Total Precipitation</b>	10.48" at Pretty Rock 2E (216%   +5.62" of normal)	2.54" at Crystal 4NW (53%   -2.24" of normal)
<b>Peak Wind Gust at 10ft</b>	60.1 mph at Hettinger NW (5/11/25)	35.8 mph at Fort Yates 2W (3/10/25)
<b>Peak Wind Gust at 33ft</b>	67.8 mph at Hettinger NW (5/11/25)	40.0 mph at Peace Garden (5/8/25)
<b>Average Wind Speed at 10ft</b>	11.4 mph at Clyde 4SW	4.6 mph at Peace Garden

*Maximum and minimum temperatures are based on daily values. Average temperature, departure from average temperature, total precipitation, and average wind speed are based on the combined seasonal values. Peak wind gusts are based on each station's maximum for the season. Maps of monthly, seasonal, and annual statistics can be found at [ndawn.info/climate\\_statistics.html](http://ndawn.info/climate_statistics.html).*

There were two rounds of notable precipitation in close succession between May 14 and May 21 that brought much needed moisture to Western ND. Some statistics:

- The highest single day rain total was 3.09" at Banks 8SW on May 16.
- Werner 6N recorded the most rain in the first system with 5.72" in three days: 1.41" on May 14, 2.59" on May 15, and 1.72" on May 16.
- Livona 5S had the most rain in the second system with 3.01" in four days: 0.31" on May 18, 1.85" on May 19, 0.54" on May 20, 0.31" on May 21.
- Pretty Rock 2E recorded the most rain across both systems with 7.27" (5.34" in the first, 1.94" in the second).
  - The next four highest totals were: Werner 6N with 7.21" (5.72", 1.49"); Pick City 8SW with 7.13" (5.47", 1.67"); Zap 11N with 7.10" (5.46", 1.64"); and Hazen 2W with 6.49" (4.48", 2.01").

## Around the State in Photos



*An ice jam on the Little Missouri River in southern Bowman County formed on 2/25/2025 and partially covered the road until it freed itself on 3/11/2025.*

*The lack of light pollution throughout the state allows for great views of the Aurora Borealis year-round.*





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*Springtime celebrates the return of convective clouds and thunderstorms.*



*Winter lingered around until May, producing snow showers and sub-32°F temperatures until May 22.*



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*Blowing dust from the burn scars from last October's wildfires caused visibility to drop to less than a quarter of a mile, impacting traffic on US Highway 2.*

*Cows and horses are common on our station cameras, but during spring we are also treated to watching the bird migration with thousands of geese and other waterfowl collecting on the prairie potholes around the state.*

