



North Dakota

Monthly Climate Summary

December 2012

Precipitation:

The High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC) percent of normal precipitation was above normal in the far northwest and parts of the south central with below normal primarily in the east and far southwest (Figure 1, HPRCC). HPRCC total precipitation amounts were less than an inch across the state with amounts of less than a half inch in the east and southwest. A snow storm from the 7th through the 10th produced a three day snowfall total of 1 to 8 inches. Eight inches fell at St. Anthony and Watford City. Seven inches fell at Havana. The U.S. Drought Monitor December 25th report listed 88.91% of the state as having anywhere from Abnormally Dry (D0) through Severe Drought (D2). The Severe Drought (D2) was reported for 30.51% of the state with 11.09% of the state having no drought conditions.

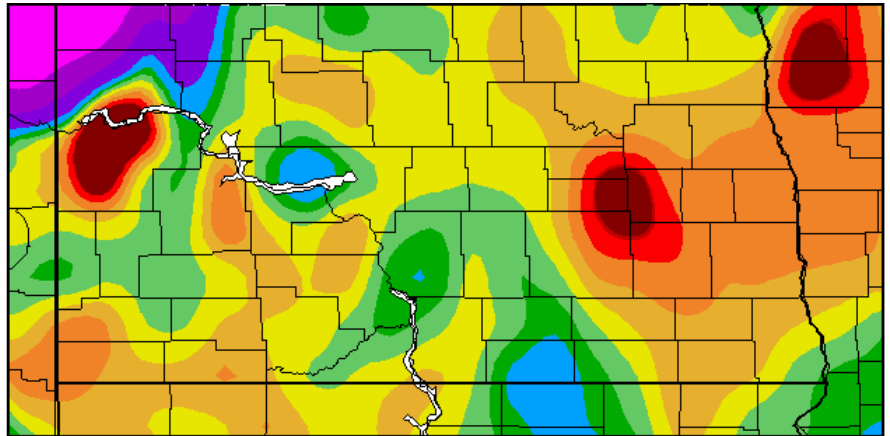


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in December 2012 for North Dakota (High Plains Regional Climate Center, HPRCC)

Temperature:

NDAWN December average air temperatures ranged from ~6 °F in the far north to ~20 °F in the southwest. Departure from normal average air temperatures ranged from near normal to 4 °F below normal (Figure 2, NDAWN Center). The 1st through the 6th of December had average air temperatures near and above normal. Temperatures fell sharply to below normal from the 7th through the 13th when temperatures rebounded to near normal. The near normal temperatures held through the middle of the month then fell sharply again to below normal for the holidays.

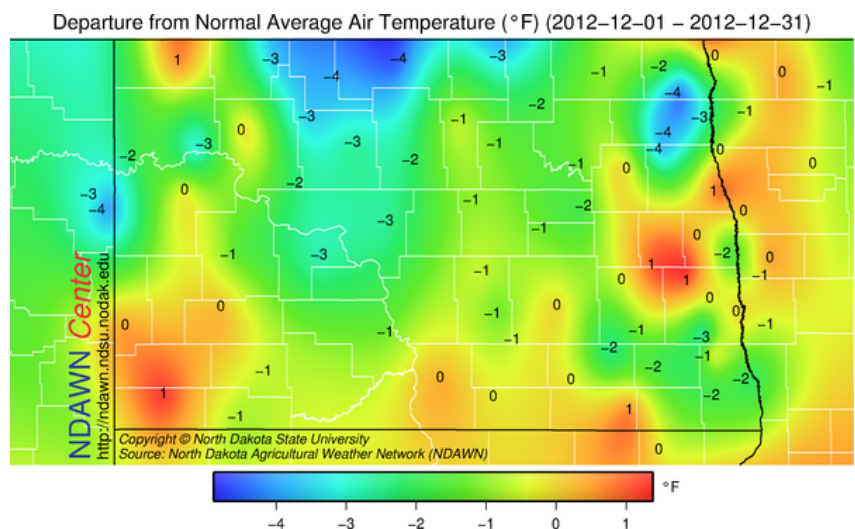


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in December 2012 for North Dakota (North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network, NDAWN)