



North Dakota Monthly Climate Summary

July 2012

Precipitation:

The North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) July percent of normal precipitation ranged from ~10% to an isolated ~180% of normal in Adams County (Figure 1, NDAWN Center). The greatest majority of the state had below normal precipitation with the driest areas of less than 50% of normal in the north central and east central regions. Throughout July there were hit and miss rain events across the state with very few that were wide spread. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor July 31st assessment, the eastern and south west corner of the state had a drought intensity of D2 (severe drought) with nearby areas as D1 (moderate drought). The north central region had a drought intensity of D1 (moderate drought). The few areas assessed with no drought conditions included the far north west corner, parts of west central, and central regions with the remaining areas assessed as D0 (abnormally dry). Based on the coverage and the intensity of the current drought in North Dakota, it is the worst drought to impact North Dakota since July 29, 2008.

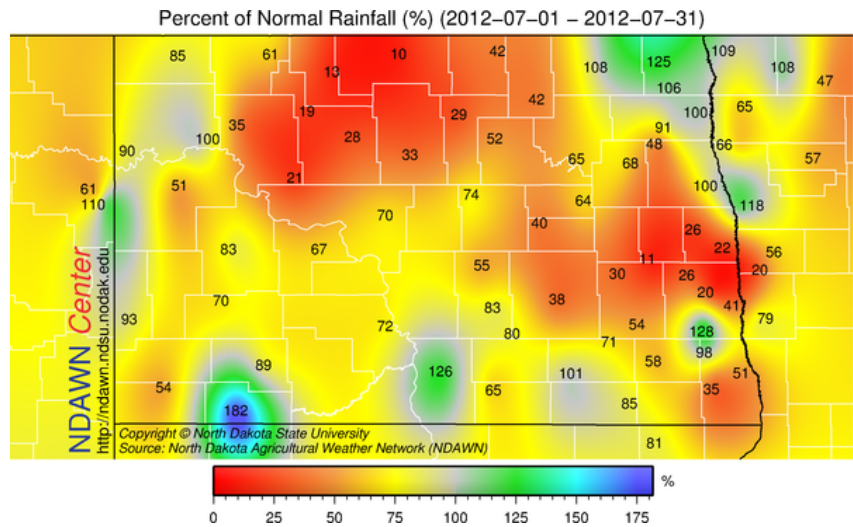


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in July 2012 for North Dakota (North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network)

Temperature:

July daily average air temperatures ranged from ~70 °F in the north to ~75 °F in the south and western regions. The departure from normal average air temperatures were above normal across the state with a range of ~2 °F to ~8 °F. Daily average air temperatures were above normal most of the month with only a few days with below normal temperatures. Many places had below normal average air temperatures on the 6th, 15th, 26th, and 27th. The National Weather Service recorded record high air temperatures at Bismarck, Minot, Jamestown, and Dickinson on the 19th with 104 °F, 101 °F, 101 °F, and 102 °F, respectively.

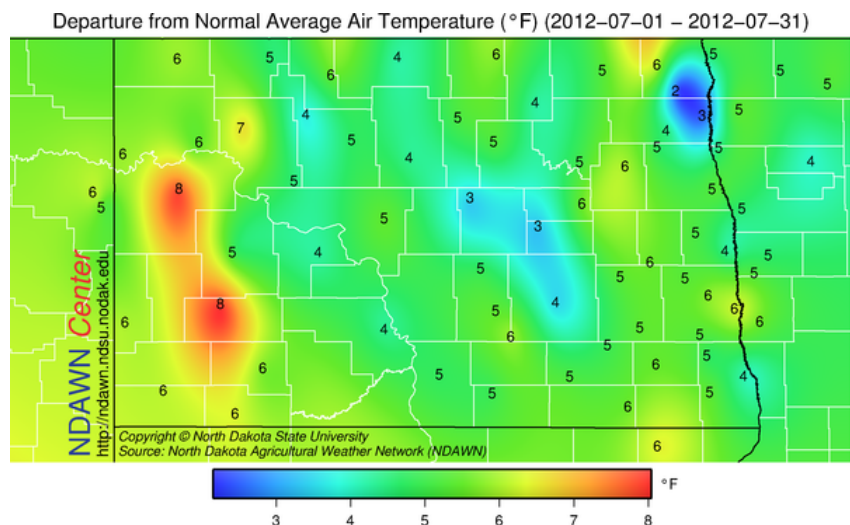


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in July 2012 for North Dakota (North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network)