



North Dakota

Monthly Climate Summary

October 2012

Precipitation:

The North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN), October percent of normal precipitation was above normal in the north and below normal in the southern parts of the state (Figure 1, NDAWN Center). NDAWN total precipitation amounts ranged from 5.81 inches at Humboldt, MN to 0.66 inches in Hettinger. There were two major storm events that trekked across North Dakota in October. The first storm started in the west on the 3rd and ended in the east on the 4th and brought the first snow of the season. Snow accumulations ranged from 1-4 inches in the west to 2-5 inches in the east. The second slow moving storm brought rain and high winds starting on the 16th in the west and ending on the 19th in the east. The high winds fueled a fast moving wildfire that broke out near Bucyrus, ND on the 17th. The fire destroyed several homes in the small town.

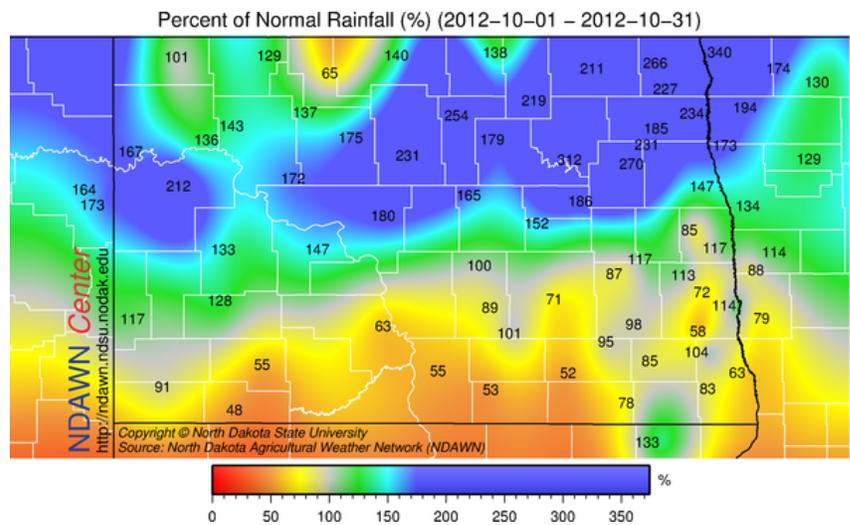


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in October 2012 for North Dakota (North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network)

Temperature:

NDAWN October average air temperatures ranged from ~37 °F in the far north to ~43 °F in the southeast. Departure from normal average air temperatures were below normal across the state and ranged from approximately -1 °F to -5 °F (Figure 2, NDAWN Center). The beginning of the month was mostly below normal and then rebounded to near and above normal during much of the middle of the month but fell to below normal toward the end with the last couple of days being above normal. Cooler and wetter than normal conditions in the central and northeastern parts of the state helped to improve dry conditions. By the end of the month, significant improvements were observed.

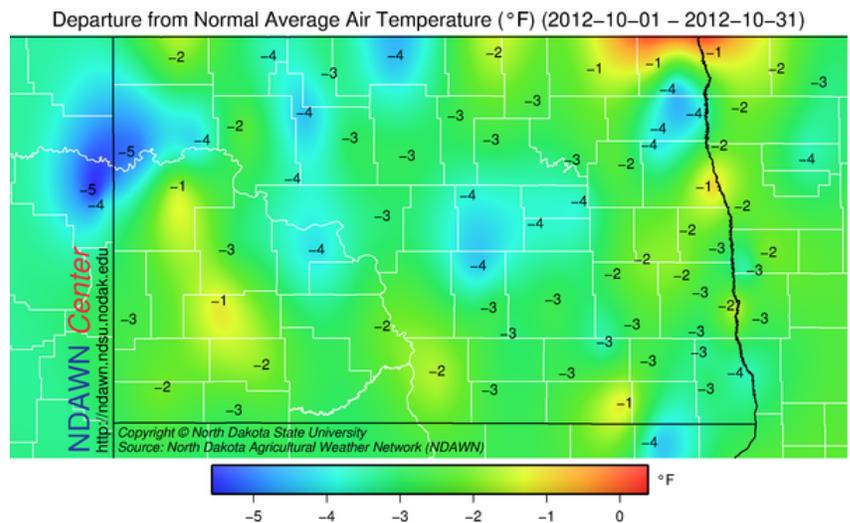


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in October 2012 for North Dakota (North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network)