



North Dakota Monthly Climate Summary

March 2014

Precipitation:

March 2014 was a dry month in much of North Dakota. Many parts of the state recorded less than 50% of normal precipitation (see Figure 1). Preliminary data suggests a state wide average of 0.42 inches of liquid precipitation in comparison to the average of 0.74 inches. That would rank March 2014 as the 31st driest March on record. The U.S. Drought Monitor listed a small portion of northeastern North Dakota as abnormally dry as of April 1. Of note many locations recorded a high percentage of that limited monthly moisture on the last day of the month (see page 2).

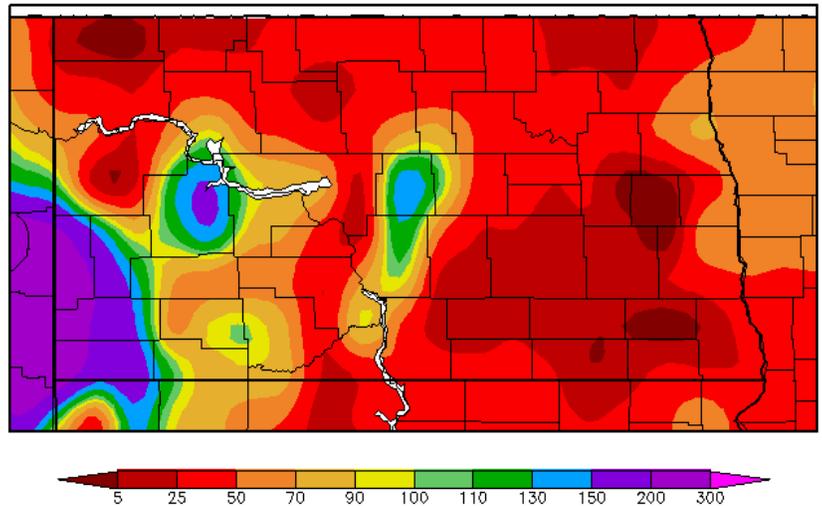


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in March 2014 for North Dakota (High Plains Regional Climate Center)

Temperature:

March was not only a dry month for the state but also a cold one. NDAWN average temperature anomalies ranged from 5 to 10 degrees below normal for the month. The coldest readings were in the northeastern portion of North Dakota. Not surprisingly, that area also maintained the highest snow cover from the winter throughout the month. The preliminary statewide average temperature was 22.2 degrees which is 2.6 degrees below normal and would rank March 2014 as the 30th coldest on record.

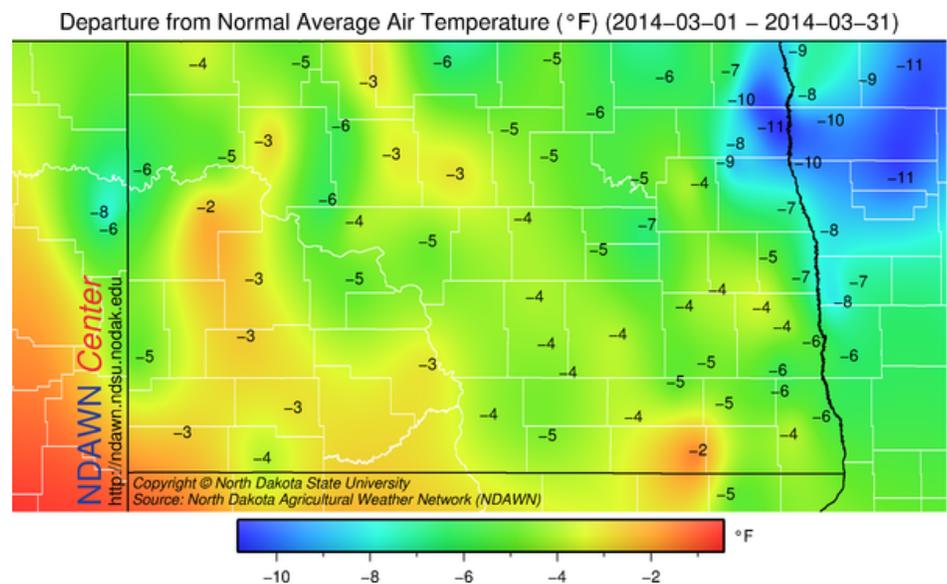


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in March 2014 for North Dakota (North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network, NDAWN)

