

Weather Problems

The worst weather problem in 1996 was flooding and wet weather, as reported for 34% of Minnesota respondents' acres, 47% of North Dakota respondents' acres and 44% of Northharvest respondents' acres (Table 11), numbers lower than in either of the past two years. Acres lost due to flooding were only 2% in each state, down from 7% in Minnesota and 6% in North Dakota in 1995. Drought or dry conditions were a problem on 16% of Minnesota, 9% of North Dakota and 11% of Northharvest respondents' acres. Hail was a problem on 12% of Minnesota and 5% of North Dakota respondents' acres, and heat stress was a problem on 10% of respondents' acres in each state. Losses other than those from flooding and wet weather were minimal in both states.

Flooding and wet conditions damaged 66% of respondents' acres in MN1, down from 91% in 1995. Damage from flooding and wet conditions in other Minnesota districts ranged from none in MN2 to 34% of respondents' acres in MN5. Flooding and wet conditions damaged 67% of respondents' acres in ND4, slightly less than in 1995, followed by 54% in ND2, 49% in ND1, 43% in ND3 and 26% in ND5. The percentage of acres lost due to flooding were highest in MN1 and ND4, where losses were 4% (Table 12).

The greatest damage from drought and dry conditions occurred in districts MN3, MN4 and MN5, where 23%, 33% and 21% of respondents' acres were damaged, respectively. Hail damage was greatest in MN2, where 32% of respondents' acres were damaged, followed by MN5 where 27% of respondents' acres were damaged. Damage from heat stress was greatest in MN2, where 30% of respondents' acres were damaged, followed by ND2, where 16% of respondents' acres were damaged, and MN5 and ND1, each with 10% of acres damaged (Table 12).

Table 11. Worst weather problem in 1996 for respondents in Minnesota and North Dakota.

Worst Weather Problem Reported	Respondents		Acres Reported ^b			
	Number	% ^a	Number	%	Acres Lost	%
Minnesota						
Flooding/Wet	61	33.3	18,695	34.4	1,001	1.8
Drought/Dry	51	27.9	8,835	16.3	7	trc
Hail	19	10.4	6,603	12.1	25	tr
Heat Stress	25	13.7	5,505	10.1	6	tr
Wind/Sandblast	4	2.2	1,270	2.3	0	0
None	19	10.4	2,727	5.0	0	0
North Dakota						
Flooding/Wet	206	55.1	80,258	47.0	3,920	2.3
Drought/Dry	48	12.8	15,546	9.1	188	0.1
Heat Stress	41	11.0	17,299	10.1	0	0
Hail	23	6.1	8,271	4.8	373	0.2
Wind/Sandblast	2	0.5	560	0.3	0	0
Frost	1	0.3	460	0.3	0	0
None	35	9.4	9,913	5.8	0	0
Northharvest						
Flooding/Wet	267	47.9	98,953	44.0	4,921	2.2

Drought/Dry	99	17.8	24,381	10.8	195	0.1
Heat Stress	66	11.8	22,804	10.1	6	tr
Hail	42	7.5	14,874	6.6	398	0.2
Wind/Sandblast	6	1.1	1,830	0.8	0	0
Frost	1	0.2	460	0.2	0	0
None	54	9.7	12,640	5.6	0	0

^aBased on 183 responding in Minnesota and 374 responding in North Dakota.

^bBased on acres of all respondents.

^ctr=trace

Table 12. Weather damage reported in 1996 in each Northharvest district of Minnesota and North Dakota.

Area Damaged ^a									Acres Lost ^a	
Northharvest District	Drought Dry		Flooding Wet		Hail		Heat Stress		Flooding Wet	
	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%
Minnesota										
MN1	2,262	8.9	16,784	65.8	1,111	4.4	2,055	8.1	923	3.6
MN2	1,016	16.3	0	0	2,015	32.4	1,860	29.9	0	0
MN3	1,260	23.4	508	9.4	273	5.1	339	6.3	3	0.1
MN4	2,015	32.9	654	10.7	199	3.2	171	2.8	55	0.9
MN5	2,282	20.5	749	6.7	3,005	27.0	1,030	9.7	20	0.2
<i>MN Total</i>	8,835	16.3	18,695	34.4	6,603	12.1	5,505	10.1	1,001	1.8
North Dakota										
ND1	3,205	8.5	18,529	49.3	2,388	6.4	3,560	9.5	1,271	3.4
ND2	3,393	9.3	19,596	53.9	1,820	5.0	5,874	16.2	911	2.5
ND3	4,866	11.2	18,630	42.7	2,087	4.8	5,791	13.3	474	1.1
ND4	90	0.4	15,831	66.6	1,266	5.3	85	0.4	1,035	4.4
ND5	3,992	13.6	7,672	26.1	710	2.4	1,989	6.8	229	0.8
<i>ND Total</i>	15,546	9.1	80,258	47.0	8,271	4.8	7,299	10.1	3,920	2.3

^aRespondents' acres only.