November 2009

Precipitation:

November monthly precipitation was far below normal across the state. The eastern edge of the state had less than 50% of normal precipitation. The remainder of the state had less than 25% of normal precipitation (Figure 1. High Plains Regional Climate Center). The monthly total precipitation ranged from less than 0.5 inches along the eastern edge to less than 0.1 inches for the remainder of the state. The state average precipitation was 0.06 inches which figured to 11% of normal precipitation. At Bismarck, the total precipitation tied for the 9th driest November (data since 1874). The dry conditions were a welcomed change after a wet October.

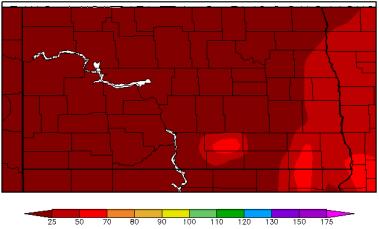


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in November 2009 for North Dakota (High Plains Regional Climate Center)

Producers were able to harvest crops and prepare fields for the 2010 growing season.

Temperature:

November brought dry conditions and warmer temperatures. The monthly departure from normal air temperatures were above normal across the state with a range of 3°F to 13°F above normal, with the greater departures of 11 to 13 in the east and the smaller departures of 8 to 11 in the west (Figure 2. North Dakota State Climate Office). The monthly average temperatures ranged from 33°F to 40°F where the cooler temperatures were to the north and warmer temperatures to the south. The November average temperatures ranked 5th warmest at Bismarck (data since 1874), 3rd warmest at Williston (data since 1962), 2nd

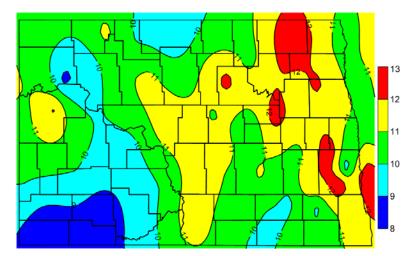


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in November 2009 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)

warmest at Fargo (data since 1881), and 3rd warmest at Grand Forks (data since 1893).