April 2012

Precipitation:

The North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) April percent of normal precipitation was less than 100% in the northeast and northwest. The remaining areas were above normal (Figure 1 North Dakota State Climate Office). The greatest amounts of around 200% of normal fell in the central and southern parts of the state. The first 12 days of April were relatively dry with only a few scattered showers across the state. Rain events were more wide spread for the remainder of the month. NDAWN total monthly rainfall ranged from approximately 0.50 inches in the northwest to 3.60 inches in the southeast. The

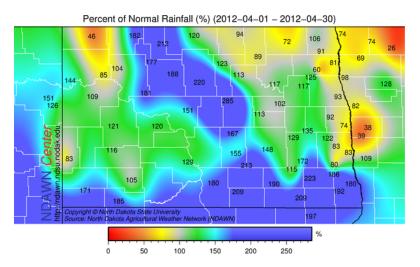


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in April 2012 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)

US Drought Monitor April 24, 2012 report had moderate (D1) drought listed for the northeast corner and the southwest, no drought conditions in the north central and southeast, and abnormally dry (D0) conditions listed elsewhere.

Temperature:

NDAWN April monthly average air temperatures ranged from 43 °F to 49 °F. NDAWN departure from normal average temperatures were above normal across the state and ranged from 2 °F to 7 °F (Figure 2. North Dakota State Climate Office). Daily average air temperatures were primarily above normal the first few days of April with the remainder of the month having mostly near normal to above. The National Weather Service reported breaking several high temperature records on the 23rd and 24th in the central and western parts of the state.

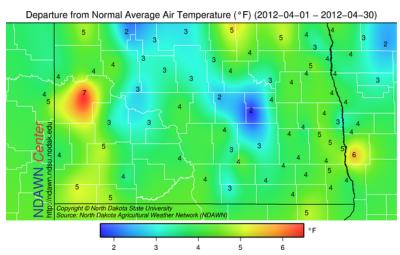


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in April 2012 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)