

GROWING CONDITIONS

Principal climatic factors affecting small grain yields in southwestern North Dakota in 1975 were, above average precipitation in March, April, May and June, and droughty conditions and high temperatures in July and August. Without the above average rainfall from March through June, the hot, dry July and August would have been disastrous to small grain production. The hot, dry weather in July and August was, in general, effective in reducing the severity of foliar diseases affecting cereal grains.

While this description of growing conditions is generally applicable to a major portion of this region, localized heavy precipitation, often accompanied by hail, did occur in the area. Such occurrences did of course, provide adequate July precipitation, and in those instances when accompanied by hail, were particularly devastating.

Precipitation summary: Dickinson

Precipitation summary - Dickinson		
	1974-75	80 yr. avg.
Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. - 1974	2.27	3.04
Jan. Feb. March	1.91	1.58
April	4.25	1.38
May	3.34	2.36

June	4.27	3.59
July	.64	2.23
August	.54	1.78
Total	17.22	15.96

Precipitation summary - 1974-75			
	Mandan	Hettinger	Beach
Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. -1974	1.97	1.28	2.04
Jan. Feb. March	1.91	2.17	1.87
April	6.36	3.91	3.44
May	2.18	5.75	3.03
June	5.34	2.86	4.16
July	.67	.13	1.09
August	.64	.48	.95
Total	19.07	16.58	16.58

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