

SOUTH DAKOTA WEATHER SUMMARY, 2010

GENERAL

The 2010 crop season started, even though the 2009 corn harvest was not yet completed. A wet spring delayed some 2010 plantings and prevented some cropland from being planted at all. A rainy early summer turned dry, with warm temperatures for most of the state. This promoted crop development, and despite the delayed plantings, harvest was completed on or ahead of average for all field crops.

JANUARY

Average temperatures ranged from 8°F to 28°F during the month; however, all stations also reported temperatures well below 0°F. The low and high temperatures recorded in the state were -34°F and 62°F, respectively. Much of the state received some snowfall during the month. The major weather story was a late January ice storm. Where possible, some producers completed harvest of the 2009 corn crop.

FEBRUARY

Another cold month was witnessed as the state ranged from 4°F to 11°F below average. Aberdeen recorded the coldest temperature at -22°F, while Hot Springs recorded the warmest at 50°F. Precipitation varied across the state during the month of February. Many stations in the eastern third of the state ranged from 150-200 percent above average precipitation. Precipitation totals in the western area were much lower and were below average. Sisseton recorded the highest monthly total at 1.54 inches. Winner had the lowest at 0.15 inch.

MARCH

Temperatures shifted as a cold start to March quickly turned warmer, resulting in slightly above average monthly temperatures for most of the state. Pickstown was the first location to break into the 70°F range, with a high of 71°F. Only a percent or two of the small grain crops were seeded in March.

APRIL

April started with wet conditions, but due to above average temperatures and limited precipitation soil moisture levels fell during the month. This allowed small grain planting progress to run near or ahead of the five-year average at month's end. Most of the state had above average Growing Degree Days (GDD) accumulations. As the month ended all weather stations reported positive amounts of precipitation.

MAY

Cold and wet conditions were the story for the first half of May as temperatures the first week were 5°F to 10°F below average for the entire state. The Black Hills had several inches of snow during the second week. Planting progress slowed as significant rainfall occurred during the second half of May, with warmer temperatures causing severe storms and hail. Depending on location, completion of planting was either on time or became a real challenge.

JUNE

Heavy rains impacted large areas of southeast South Dakota during the early part of June. Several storms dumped totals in excess of 7 inches in locations from Gregory to Huron, and widespread areas throughout the southeast received 3 to 4+ inches of rain. There were some strong winds and hail that caused damage on June 12th. The last soybean and sorghum

acres were planted by the end of June, with only sunflower acreage left to plant. Baling hay was challenging due to frequent rains. Crop development was near normal, with corn growth slightly ahead of average. Precipitation for the growing season was at least 2 inches above normal for most stations, with the highest total over 10 inches above normal.

JULY

July started off with warmer conditions, but had cooler than average temperatures the second week for most of the state. A two day storm brought tornadoes, hail, and high winds mainly in eastern parts of the state. July ended with heavy precipitation causing flooding in southeastern South Dakota. Most of the state had above average precipitation for the growing season, except for a small part of northeastern South Dakota. Crop development and small grain harvest were on normal pace. Accumulated GDD's were mixed, with the eastern part of the state above average and western South Dakota below average.

AUGUST

Limited amounts of precipitation were welcomed in eastern South Dakota during August, but created a particularly dry area centered on Spink County. Above normal temperatures for most of August allowed corn and soybean development to push ahead of normal, while the small grain harvest was completed on schedule. Accumulations of GDD's for the growing season at month's end had the eastern part of the state still above average.

SEPTEMBER

Colder than average temperatures were common most of September but returned to normal by month's end. Precipitation was fairly widespread with the heaviest in eastern South Dakota. The moisture brought relief for dry areas of the west and north central parts of the state, but the excessive rains caused flooding in eastern South Dakota. Corn maturity was significantly ahead of 2009 and about 5 days ahead of normal.

OCTOBER

October's dry weather was a relief after the wet September. Temperatures were above average all month except the last week, which created good harvest conditions. This, coupled with the advanced maturity of crops, resulted in harvesting being nearly complete by the end of the month. Soybean harvest was virtually done. Other completion rates by the end of October were 81% for corn, 95% for sorghum, and 64% for sunflowers; all were 16 points or more ahead of the 5-year average.

NOVEMBER

Above average temperatures with little rainfall the first two weeks in November enabled producers to complete row crop harvest by Thanksgiving, well ahead of the delayed 2009 harvest. With the mostly dry mild weather until late November, producers were able to get some fall tillage done before winter set in.

DECEMBER

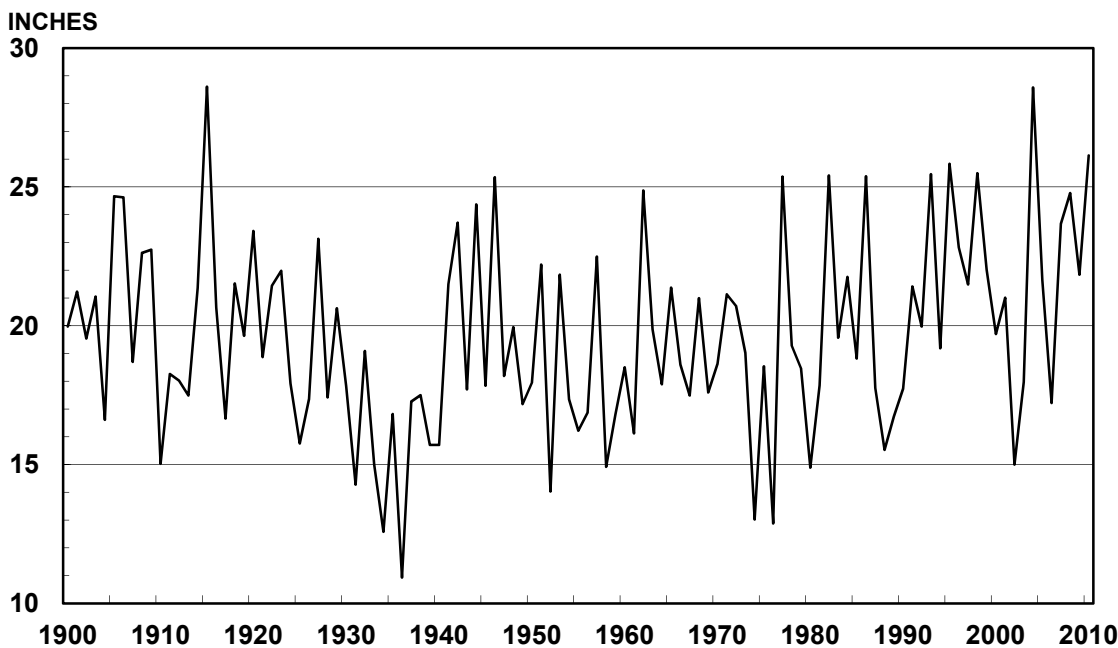
Temperatures generally were 0°F to 5°F below average during the month. Three large winter storms crossed the state during December, leading to travel problems and a significant snow pack. The snow storms left all of the state with at least a few inches of snow cover by the end of the month. The larger amounts ranged from over a foot across northern counties to over 20 inches in the far northeast.

**PRECIPITATION,
SOUTH DAKOTA, 2009-2010**

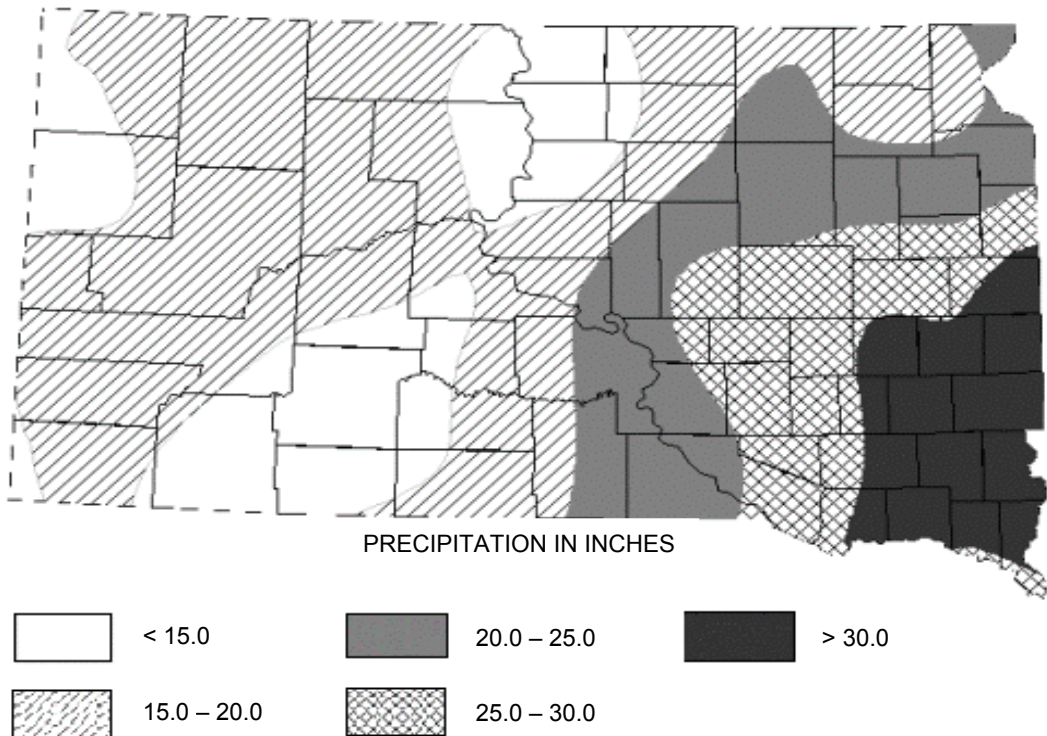
DIST.	STATION	GROWING SEASON				ANNUAL			
		APR 1-SEP 30, 2009		APR 1-SEP 30, 2010		2009		2010	
		TOTAL	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	TOTAL	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	TOTAL	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	TOTAL	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL
		-----INCHES-----							
NW	CAMP CROOK	7.75	-3.36	18.24	7.13	13.22	-1.15	20.50	6.13
	NEWELL	10.45	-0.94	13.31	1.92	16.56	1.08	16.69	1.21
	LEMMON	15.07	1.51	22.92	9.36	22.60	4.36	25.56	7.32
	DUPREE	12.79	-0.59	22.62	9.24	19.46	1.62	26.20	8.36
NC	MOBRIDGE	11.60	-1.09	11.45	-1.24	17.29	0.35	15.10	-1.84
	FAULKTON	15.07	0.22	18.04	3.19	25.25	4.94	24.44	4.13
	ABERDEEN	15.80	0.64	21.34	6.18	24.27	4.05	27.21	6.99
NE	WAUBAY	13.96	-1.93	18.85	2.96	23.87	2.92	25.35	4.40
	WATERTOWN	13.63	-2.74	21.61	5.24	24.62	2.68	28.77	6.83
	MILBANK	14.93	-1.15	20.56	4.48	27.81	5.76	26.69	4.64
WC	SPEARFISH	12.21	-2.99	16.97	1.77	20.81	-0.85	22.75	1.09
	RAPID CITY	12.57	0.18	17.29	4.90	18.64	2.00	19.24	2.60
	COTTONWOOD	8.89	-3.85	15.38	2.64	17.13	-0.03	19.52	2.36
	MILESVILLE	11.44	-3.24	19.69	5.01	21.50	1.87	24.36	4.73
C	PIERRE	11.53	-3.28	17.25	2.44	20.31	0.43	29.54	9.66
	HIGHMORE	18.21	2.22	25.03	9.04	27.21	5.98	30.04	8.81
	HURON	14.81	-0.49	25.12	9.82	23.20	2.30	30.89	9.99
EC	MITCHELL	12.21	-4.58	21.49	4.70	22.27	-0.59	34.41	11.55
	BROOKINGS	14.52	-3.22	34.16	16.42	23.49	0.68	39.80	16.99
	SIOUX FALLS	13.30	-4.75	31.78	13.73	23.06	-1.63	38.26	13.57
SW	OELRICHS	14.20	1.21	16.15	3.16	20.26	3.01	18.35	1.10
	PORCUPINE	12.76	-0.48	13.66	0.42	22.75	5.23	20.54	3.02
SC	MURDO	15.50	1.28	16.36	2.14	23.91	4.14	21.71	1.94
	KENNEBEC	13.84	-0.45	20.17	5.88	21.21	2.50	24.41	5.70
	WINNER	17.53	0.11	20.34	2.92	23.80	0.08	25.22	1.50
SE	PICKSTOWN	15.68	-1.84	26.55	9.03	24.36	0.99	30.68	7.31
	YANKTON	13.22	-5.53	32.71	13.96	23.49	-1.60	39.20	14.11

SOURCE: SOUTH DAKOTA STATE CLIMATOLOGIST.

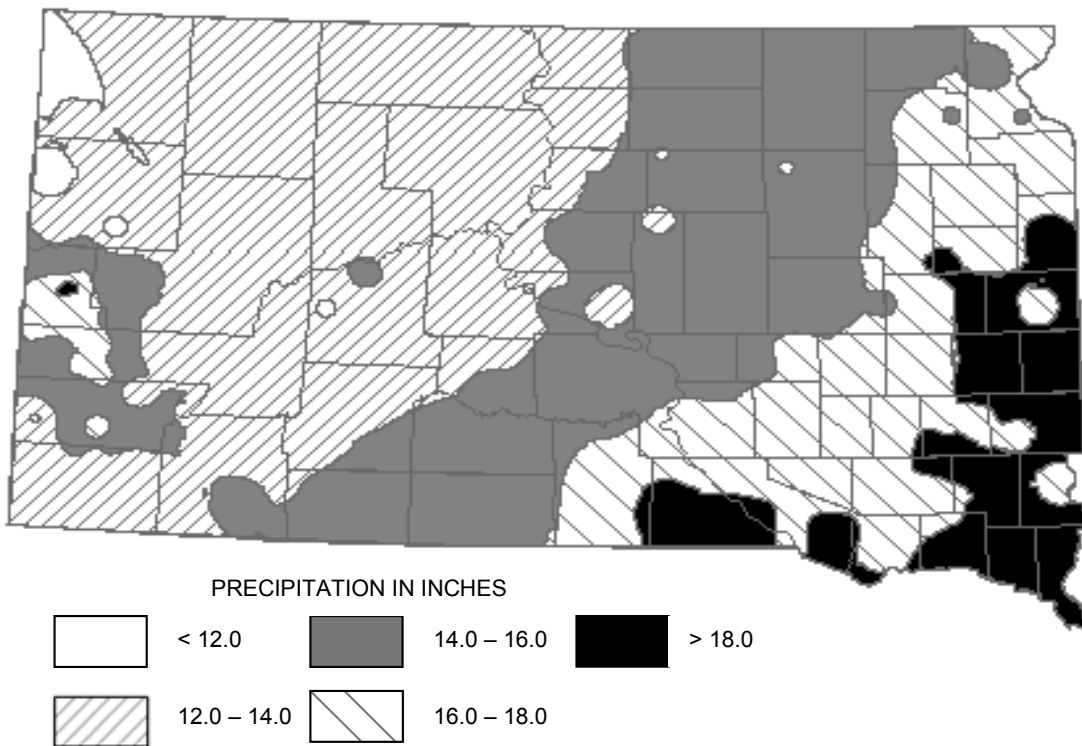
**AVERAGE ANNUAL PRECIPITATION,
SOUTH DAKOTA, 1900-2010**



**GROWING SEASON PRECIPITATION,
SOUTH DAKOTA, APRIL THROUGH SEPTEMBER, 2010**



**GROWING SEASON PRECIPITATION,
SOUTH DAKOTA, APRIL THROUGH SEPTEMBER AVERAGE, 1971-2000**



SOURCE: STATE CLIMATE OFFICE OF SOUTH DAKOTA