

December 2020 Weather Summary
West Central Research and Outreach Center
Morris, MN

The mean temperature for December was 22.1°F, which is 6.3°F above the average of 15.8°F (1886-2019). The high temperature for the month was 48°F which occurred on December 9th. The low temperature for the month was -9°F which occurred on December 25th. The highest temperature recorded in December at the WCROC from 1886 to 2019 was 69°F on December 6, 1939. The lowest temperature recorded historically was -35°F which occurred on December 22, 2000. Precipitation for the month totaled .44 of an inch, which is 0.24 below the average of 0.68 inches. A total of 7.5 inches of snow fell. Currently, we have 6 inches of snow on the ground. The frost depth was reported at 12 inches on December 28th. There were 1320 heating degree days recorded for December.

November 2020 Weather Summary
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The mean temperature for November was 34.1°F, which is 4.3°F above the average of 29.8°F (1886-2018). The high temperature for the month was 80°F on November 5th. The low temperature for the month was 10°F which occurred on November 13th and 14th. The high of 80°F was a record for that date exceeding the previous record of 73 °F set in 2016. Also the highest temperature recorded in November at the WCROC from 1886 to 2019 was 76°F on November 1, 1999. This record was also broken. The lowest temperature recorded historically was -27°F which occurred on November 28, 1891. Precipitation for the month totaled .91 inches, which is 0.06 inches below the average of 0.97 inches. A total of 1.0 inch of snow fell. 928 heating degree days were recorded for November.

October 2020 Weather Summary
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The mean temperature for October was 39.1°F, which is -7.6 °F below the average of 46.7°F (1886-2019). The high temperature for the month was 83°F on October 10. The low temperature for the month was 9°F which occurred on October 27 and 28. The highest temperature recorded in October at the WCROC from 1886 to 2017 was 93°F on October 5, 1947. The lowest temperature recorded historically was 1°F which occurred on October 29, 1895. Precipitation for the month totaled .83 inches, which is 1.04 inches below the average of 1.86 inches. 4.8 inches of snow fell in October. Killing frost (below 28°F) was recorded on October 4 with a temperature of 26°F .Heating degree days totaled 714.

September 2020 Weather Summary
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September 2020 proved to dry with near normal temperatures. The mean temperature for September was 58.1°F, which is 1.1°F below the average of 59.2°F (1886-2019). The high temperature for the month was 83°F on September 23rd. The low temperature for the month was 32°F on September 10th and 11th. We consider a killing frost to be 28°F. Therefore we did not have a killing frost in September. The highest temperature recorded in September at the WCROC from 1886 to 2019 was 106°F on September 10, 1931. The lowest temperature recorded historically was 20°F which occurred on September 22, 1974, September 30, 1939 and September 29, 1899.

Precipitation for the month totaled .71 inches, which is 1.67 inches below the average of 2.38 inches. 317 growing degree days were recorded for September, while the average is 358 (1976-2019). We have accumulated 2504 growing degree days for May, June, July, August and September. Average for this time is 2354.

The weather this fall was quite a change from the last two years. Corn and soybean harvest is progressing well and we have seen the challenges as we did in the past few years.

August 2020 Weather Summary
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Near average temperatures and precipitation was recorded in August 2020. The mean temperature for August was 70.0°F, which is 1.9°F above the average of 68.1°F (1886-2018). The high temperature for the month was 89°F on August 23. The low temperature for the month was 50°F on August 4. The highest temperature recorded in August at the WCROC from 1886 to 2017 was 104°F on August 10, 1947. The lowest temperature recorded historically was 31°F which occurred on August 30, 1931.

Precipitation for the month totaled 3.01 inches, which is 0.09 inches below the average of 3.10 inches. Precipitation for May through August totaled 12.17 inches which is 1.61 inches below the average of 13.78. Last year for this time we received 18.78 inches of precipitation. 614 growing degree days were recorded for August, while the average is 559 (1976-2018). We have accumulated 2186 growing degree days for May, June, July and August. Average for this time is 1999, which makes 187 growing degree days above average for this time. Last year we recorded 1848 growing degree days and were 151 below average. Considering on average we get about 20 growing degree days in July per day, we are about 8.9 days ahead of average and about two week ahead of last year. Corn and soybeans continue to look good in the area and silage chopping is progressing quickly.

July 2020 Weather Summary
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The mean temperature for July was 72.9°F, which is 2.0 °F above the average of 70.9°F (1886-2019). The high temperature for the month was 90°F on July 9, 25 and 26. The low temperature for the month was 54°F and occurred on July 15. The highest temperature recorded in July at the WCROC from 1886 to 2018 was 109°F on July 18, 1940. The lowest temperature recorded historically was 37°F which occurred on July 12, 1927.

Precipitation for the month totaled 3.66 inches, which equals the average of 3.66 inches. We have received 10.93 inches of precipitation for 2020 which is 4.52 inches below normal.

We accumulated 700 growing degree days in July. Average for July is 629. For May, June, and July we have accumulated 1573 growing degree days. The average is 1439 which makes 134 growing degree days above average. Last year we recorded 1344 growing degree days for May, June, and July. So far we are 229 growing degree days ahead of last year at this time. We get roughly 20 growing degree days per day in July and August. For growing degree days, this makes us about a week summer days above average and about 11 days above last year.

Hot and dry weather in May and early June resulted in poor small grain yields in the area. However, rains in late June and July and good growing degree days have made the corn and soybeans crop look very good.

June 2020 Weather Summary
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The mean temperature for June was 71.0°F, which is 4.9 °F above the average of 66.1°F (1886-2019). The high temperature for the month was 100°F on June 8 which broke the old high temperature record of 95 °F set in 2011. The low temperature for the month was 53°F and occurred on June 22. The highest temperature recorded in June at the WCROC from 1886 to 2019 was 104°F on June 25, 1988, and June 28, 1931. The lowest temperature recorded historically was 27°F which occurred on June 1, 1929.

Precipitation for the month totaled 4.67 inches, which is .65 inches above the average of 4.02 inches. A new rain fall record was set June 29 with 2.4 inches falling on June 29. The past record was 1.65 inches recorded in 1916.

We accumulated 603 growing degree days in June. Average for June is 497. For May and June, we have accumulated 873 growing degree days. The average is 794 which makes 79 growing degree days above average.

May 2020 Weather Summary
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Dry conditions and about average temperatures prevail for May. The mean temperature for May was 55.0°F, which is 1.3°F below the average of 56.3°F (1886-2019). The high temperature for the month was 85°F on May 28. The low temperature for the month was 25°F and occurred on May 12. The highest temperature recorded in May at the WCROC from 1886 to 2019 was 106°F on May 31, 1934. The lowest temperature recorded historically was 18°F which occurred on three days, May 2, 1911, May 3, 1926, and May 11, 1946.

Precipitation for the month totaled .83 inches, which is 2.17 inches below the average of 3.00 inches. This May ranks seventh for the least amount of precipitation (1886-2019). We accumulated 270 growing degree days in May. The average is 312 for May which leaves us at 42 growing degree days below average. With 99 growing degree days in April, we have accumulated 369 growing degree days for both months. The average is 427.

April 2020 Weather Summary
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April weather was a little cooler than normal and drier. The mean temperature for April was 40.2°F, which is 3.2°F below the average of 43.4°F (1886-2019). The high temperature for the month was 71°F on April 23rd and 28th. The low temperature for the month was 14°F and occurred on April 15th. The highest temperature recorded in April at the WCROC from 1886 to 2019 was 98°F on April 22, 1980. The lowest temperature recorded historically was -2°F which occurred on April 7, 1936.

Precipitation for the month totaled .98 inches, which is 1.28 inches below the average of 2.26 inches. Snowfall was recorded at 0.4 inches which is 2.9 inches below the average of 3.3 inches. Heating degree days totaled 724 and the average is 652. We accumulated 99 growing degree days in April. The average is 115.

March 2020 Weather Summary
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March weather was warmer and drier than normal. The mean temperature for March was 30.8°F, which is 3.8°F above the average of 27.0°F (1886-2019). The high temperature for the month was 57°F on March 31. The low temperature for the month was 8°F and occurred on March 20th and 21st. The highest temperature recorded in March at the WCROC from 1886 to 2019 was 83°F on March 23, 1910. The lowest temperature recorded historically was -30°F which occurred on March 11, 1948. Precipitation totaled .11 inches which ranks fifth for the least amount of precipitation in 134 years. This is 1.04 inches lower than the average of 1.15. Snowfall was recorded at .7 inches and we have received 25.5 inches for the season. We observed 1060.5 heating degree days and the average is 1166.

February 2020 Weather Summary
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Average temperatures and low precipitation occurred in February 2020. The mean temperature for February was 13.4 °F, which is .2°F above the average of 13.2°F (1886-2019). Last year 23 days were recorded with a minimum temperature of 0°F or lower. This year we only had eight. The high temperature for the month was 45°F on February 2. The low temperature for the month was -21°F and occurred two days February 13 and 14. The highest temperature recorded in February at the WCROC from 1886 to 2019 was 60°F on February 25, 1902. The lowest temperature recorded historically was -41°F which occurred on February 16, 1936. Precipitation for the month totaled .06 inches, which is 0.62 inches below the average of .68 inches. Snowfall was recorded at 2.7 inches which is 4.6 inches below the average of 7.3 inches. This February ranks third lowest for the least amount of precipitation recorded since 1886. Five inches of snow cover was reported at the end of February. We have recorded 24.8 inches of snow for the winter of 2019 to 2020. The average for this time is 27.9 inches. On February 3, 18.5 inches of frost was measured. By the end of February, frost depth was at 25 inches. Heating degree days totaled 1496 and the average is 1444.

January 2020 Weather Summary
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January was above average for temperature and about average for precipitation. The mean temperature for January was 12.6°F, which is 3.9°F above the average of 8.7°F (1886-2019). The high temperature for the month was 38°F on January 5th. The low temperature for the month was -20°F and occurred on January 16th and 17th. The highest temperature recorded in January at the WCROC from 1886 to 2018 was 60°F on January 25, 1981. The lowest temperature recorded historically was -40°F which occurred on January 21, 1888. Precipitation for the month totaled .62 inches, which is 0.06 inches below the average of .68 inches. Snowfall was recorded at 9.8 inches which is 1.8 inches above the average of 8.0 inches. Nine inches of snow cover was reported at the end of January. We have recorded 21.1 inches of snow for the winter of 2019 to 2020. The average for this time is 20.7 inches. Heating degree days totaled 1659 and the average is 1722.