

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Southern Research and Outreach Center

35838-120th Street
Waseca, MN 56093-4521

College of Food, Agricultural and
Natural Resource Sciences

507-835-3620
Fax: 507-835-3622
<http://sroc.cfans.umn.edu>

CONTACT: Thomas R. Hoverstad, Scientist

SUBJECT: SOUTHERN RESEARCH & OUTREACH CENTER WEATHER UPDATE
APRIL 26 THROUGH MAY 2, 2018

FOR RELEASE: Immediately

Below you will find the daily maximum and minimum air temperatures, 2-inch soil temps, and 24-hour precipitation amounts for this week. These values are recorded at 8 AM and reflect the conditions for the previous 24-hour period (8 AM to 8 AM) at the Southern Research & Outreach Center, Waseca.

Date	Air Temp.		2" Avg. Soil Temp.*		Precip.	
	Max.	Min.	2018	25-Yr Avg.		
		----- ° F -----		--- ° F ---		inches
Thursday	4/26	57	36	48.0	53	----
Friday	4/27	63	31	50.5	53	----
Saturday	4/28	63	31	50.5	53	----
Sunday	4/29	56	36	53.0	54	----
Monday	4/30	69	44	52.5	55	----
Tuesday	5/01	84	55	58.5	54	0.11
Wednesday	5/02	75	48	62.5	55	0.89

*Bare soil

COMMENTS: After dismal conditions for farmers through most of April, the month ended on a high note providing good conditions to get a start on field work. Temperature averaged 53.4 degrees, which is 1.0 degree warmer than normal. Rainfall totaled 1.00 inch or 0.14 inch more than normal. Soil temperature at the 2-inch depth averaged 53.6 degrees, which is very close to the long-term normal.

Last year this week was cold and wet where temperature averaged 40.9 degrees and 1.76 inches of rain fell.

Most all of southern Minnesota is glad April is now behind us. Temperatures averaged 33.1 degrees this April, which is 13 degrees colder than normal. This was our coldest April on record by a whopping 4 degrees. This was also our snowiest April on record, measuring 22.9 inches, surpassing the old record of 20 inches of snow in April of 1983. Ice-out was recorded on Clear Lake in Waseca on April 29, making it the latest ice-out in history. Ice out records for Clear Lake go back to 1874. April was our 6th consecutive month of below normal temperatures.

It is remarkable how conditions have changed in two weeks. Soil temperature at the 2 inch depth that remained below freezing until April 20 has warmed to a 60 degree average. Spring field work has begun. Small grains have been planted and a little bit of the corn crop is in.

Application of nitrogen fertilizer takes place this time of year. Nitrogen fertilizer comes in several forms and application timing can range from preplant to in-season applications. U of MN fertility specialists have answered a list of frequently asked questions about nitrogen fertilizer. These answers can be found at: <http://blog-crop-news.extension.umn.edu/2018/04/answers-to-5-spring-nitrogen-faqs.html>

####