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SUBJECT: SOUTHERN RESEARCH & OUTREACH CENTER WEATHER UPDATE
APRIL 7 THROUGH APRIL 13, 2016

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" Soil Temp.*		Precip.	
	Max.	Min.	2016	25-Yr Avg.		
		----- ° F -----		--- ° F ---		inches
Thursday	4/07	51	32	42	41	0.03
Friday	4/08	43	30	41	41	0.03
Saturday	4/09	36	17	37	41	0.02
Sunday	4/10	47	20	38	42	---
Monday	4/11	59	29	43	43	T
Tuesday	4/12	45	18	42	44	---
Wednesday	4/13	56	19	40	45	0.03

*Bare soil

COMMENTS: Spring is arriving in southern Minnesota and along with it, the first installment of our Weekly Crop and Weather Update.

After a mild winter, the first half of April has been cold but dry. January through March averaged 4.9 degrees warmer than normal. This winter was also drier than normal and snowfall totals were seven inches less than normal. Soil frost did not penetrate very deep this winter and soils were frost-free by March 1. Clear Lake in Waseca was ice-free on March 15. Nearly three weeks ahead of normal.

Temperature this week averaged 35.9 degrees. This is 7.6 degrees cooler than normal. Rainfall has been light totaling 0.11 inch, which is 0.62 inch less than normal. Soil temperatures at the 2-inch depth averaged 40.4 degrees, 2 degrees cooler than normal.

Last year this week was warmer and wetter with temperatures averaging 44.6 degrees and 1.57 inches of rain fell. Last year at this time soil temperatures averaged 44 degrees.

Soil moisture measurements taken April 1 show we were at field moist capacity with 11.42 inches of available soil moisture in the top five feet.

Some field work has begun, but the cool weather has slowed much of the enthusiasm to plant corn. The dry weather has been helpful and there has been progress in fertilizer application, small grain planting and a small start to corn planting. For more information on corn planting and soil temperatures from Jeff Coulter, Extension Agronomist read the following link: <http://blog-crop-news.extension.umn.edu/2016/04/corn-planting-decisions-to-establish.html>

Follow us on Twitter at: @SROCcrops and find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/mnsroc/>. As always, check your email for the Weekly Crop and Weather Update throughout the growing season.

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