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SUBJECT: SOUTHERN RESEARCH & OUTREACH CENTER WEATHER UPDATE
OCTOBER 20 THROUGH OCTOBER 26, 2016

FOR RELEASE: Immediately

Below you will find the daily maximum and minimum air temperatures, 24-hour precipitation, and Average 6-inch Soil temperature 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.		Precip.	Soil Temp.	
	Max.	Min.		6-inch	
		----- ° F -----		°F	
Thursday	10/20	58	40	----	55
Friday	10/21	54	30	----	53
Saturday	10/22	60	29	----	51
Sunday	10/23	69	36	----	53
Monday	10/24	61	36	----	53
Tuesday	10/25	60	36	----	52
Wednesday	10/26	49	43	1.34	50

COMMENTS: Warmer and wetter than normal conditions returned to southern Minnesota this week, and that has been a consistent theme for this season. Temperature averaged 47.2 degrees or 1.9 degrees warmer than normal. Rainfall totaled 1.34 inches, which is 0.86 inch more than normal. Soil temperature ended the week averaging near 50 degrees.

Last year this week was warm and dry when temperature averaged 52.5 degrees and 0.29 inch of rain fell.

Before the one rain event this week, we enjoyed a 10-day streak with only 0.05 inch of rain. Much of the crop is now harvested. Some corn is coming out of the field at 15 percent moisture and needs very little if any drying. Most of the field activity now will be tillage and fertilizer applications. Long-term records indicate that soil temperatures will stay below 50 degrees from now through fall so application of fertilizer nitrogen can begin in southern Minnesota. Remember fall application of nitrogen is not an acceptable practice in southeast Minnesota.

We just experienced the wettest growing season on record and managed to get a good crop of both corn and soybean in. We were fortunate that most of the rain came after the middle of July. If rainfall would have been as much above normal in April through June as it was in July through September, crop production would have suffered much more.

We set many rainfall records this year and have but one yet to set. The state record for annual precipitation (January through December) is 53.52 inches set at St. Francis in 1991. Our current year to date precipitation is 52.33 inches with two months to go. It is very likely we will break this record. This will be the last edition of the crop weather update for the 2016 season with one exception, we will send out an update if (when) we break the state precipitation record. Look for us again in the spring of 2017 as we look forward to another season.

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