

Table 1. Summary of climatic data by months for 1995-96 crop year (September thru August) and averages for the period 1949-96 at the Northwestern Agricultural Research Center, Kalispell, MT.

ITEM	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Feb. 1996	Mar. 1996	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Total or Average
Precipitation (inches)													
Current Year	1.21	2.75	2.33	1.91	2.22	1.18	1.19	3.32	4.58	2.05	0.95	0.80	24.49
Avg. 1949 to 1995-96	1.55	1.38	1.54	1.62	1.50	1.15	1.16	1.51	2.33	2.93	1.64	1.56	19.87
Mean Temperature (F)													
Current Year	54.9	41.1	34.9	26.7	17.4	24.0	29.0	43.2	46.6	58.5	65.4	62.5	42.0
Avg. 1949 to 1995-96	53.5	43.2	32.6	25.4	22.3	27.6	33.8	43.3	51.6	58.3	63.9	62.9	43.2
Last killing frost in spring													
1996													May 21 (31 degrees)
Avg. 1949-96													May 24
First killing frost in fall													
1996													September 23 (27 degrees F)
Avg. 1949-96													September 14
Frost Free Period													
1996													125 days
Avg. 1949-96													113 days
Growing Degree Days (base 50):													
	May 1-Oct. 31, 1996												1670.0 days
	Avg. 1949-96												1878.8 days
Maximum summer temperature													
													91 degrees F on 7/19/96
Minimum winter temperature													
													-32 degrees F on 1/31/96

In this summary 32 degrees is considered a killing frost.