

Table 1. Summary of climatic data by months for the 1996-97 crop year (Sept.- Aug.) and averages for the period 1909-1996.  
Central Agricultural Research Center, Moccasin, Montana.

	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June	July	Aug.	Total or
	1996	1996	1996	1996	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	Ave.
<b>Precipitation</b>													
(inches)													
Current Year	1.47	0.35	0.76	0.83	0.57	0.05	0.64	1.41	2.03	4.13	3.73	2.87	18.84
Ave. 1909-96	1.41	0.89	0.58	0.57	0.58	0.48	0.74	1.16	2.61	3.16	1.71	1.60	15.49
<b>Mean Temp.</b>													
(degrees F)													
Current Year	53.5	44.2	22.4	17.4	20.5	30.8	34.5	34.7	50.9	59.9	62.7	65.1	41.4
Ave. 1909-96	54.3	44.6	32.4	24.7	21.0	24.2	30.0	40.9	50.2	58.1	65.6	64.4	42.5
<b>Last killing frost in Spring</b>													
1997	-----												May 19 (26 degrees F)
Average 1909-1997	-----												May 27
<b>First killing frost in Fall</b>													
1997	-----												October 6 (31 degrees F)
Average 1909-1997	-----												September 15
<b>Frost free period</b>													
1997	-----												140 days
Average 1909-1997	-----												111 days
<b>Maximum summer temperature ----- 92 degrees F on Aug 4 &amp; 27, 1997</b>													
<b>Minimum winter temperature ----- -31 degrees F on January 11, 1997</b>													

In this summary 32 degrees is considered a killing frost.