Table . Summary of climatic data by months for the 2008-2009 cropping year (September-August) compared to averages for the period of record from 1911 to 2009 at the Southern Agricultural Research Center near Huntley, Montana.

	2008				2009								
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Year
Precipitation (inches)													Total
Current Year (2008-2009)	2.79	2.26	0.44	1.17	0.41	0.18	1.03	1.90	0.88	1.79	2.56	1.40	16.81
Average (1911-2009)	1.32	1.05	0.62	0.59	0.54	0.46	0.79	1.33	2.14	2.33	1.13	0.91	13.21
Difference	+1.47	+1.21	-0.18	+0.58	-0.13	-0.28	+0.24	+0.57	-1.26	-0.54	+1.43	+0.49	+3.60
Mean Temperature (ºF)													Average
Current Year (2008-2009)	56.2	46.8	40.2	16.0	27.4	32.4	32.8	44.9	54.9	60.5	68.2	67.1	45.6
Average (1911-2009)	57.8	46.9	33.5	23.9	20.7	25.7	34.0	45.5	54.9	63.3	70.7	68.6	45.5
Difference	-1.6	-0.1	+6.7	-7.9	+6.7	+6.7	-1.2	-0.6	0.0	-2.8	-2.5	-1.5	+0.1

Last Killing Frost in Spring[1/]	2009	May 21 (32 ºF)
	Average (1911-2009)	May 17
First Killing Frost in the Fall[1/]	2009	September 22 (30 ºF)
	Average (1911-2009)	September 19
Frost-free period	2009	123 days
	Average (1911-2009)	125 days
Growing Degree Days (Base 50)[2/]	2009	1,874 GDD (ºF)
	Average (1911-2009)	1,905 GDD (ºF)
Growing Degree Days (Base Corn)[2/]	2009	1,944 GDD (ºF)
	Average (1911-2009)	2,000 GDD (ºF)
Maximum Summer Temperature	99 ºF on July 24, 2009	
Minimum Winter Temperature	-31 ºF on December 21, 2008	

1/ 32 ºF is considered a killing frost. Average last and first killing frost dates are calculated on a 50% probability of a minimum temperature occurring below a threshold temperature of 32.5 ºF based on observations from 1911 to 2009.

2/ Growing degree days calculated from temperatures observed during the frost free period from May 21 through September 22 for 2009, and for the same 123 day interval from the period of record of 1911 to 2009.