

## ■ CLIMATE

### From Page 5

than an inch of precipitation for the year so far," Edwards said.

Another 33 stations ranked January through April 2015 as one of the five driest on record. "Across a large part of the state, these totals are less than half their average precipitation to this point in the year," Edwards said.

In addition to lack of moisture, Today added that nearly all of the state recorded above average temperatures for April. "Eastern parts of the state were warmest overall, with several places 4 to 5 degrees Fahrenheit above average for April," he said. "Although, a few daily high and low temperature records were set in April, the widely varying temperatures for the year have left temperatures close to average so far."

The dryness early in the spring was not a serious issue, and was actually beneficial for early agricultural work and livestock producers, explained Edwards. "However, now the precipitation deficits are having a negative impact on agriculture due to limited soil moisture, rangeland and forage concerns as well as some problems with seed emergence," she said.

Along with the dry spring conditions, much of the state's winter wheat crop experienced multiple challenges resulting from the dry fall conditions and low snow cover which resulted in winter kill.

The dryness has also obviously contributed to the large number of spring wildland and grass fires.

What Current Climate & Drought Outlook have to say

The National Oceanic Atmospheric Association (NOAA) Climate and Drought Outlook for May 2015 tells us a little about where we might be headed, explained Today. "Basically, the drought conditions are unlikely to make major shifts in the next month," he said.

The NOAA U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Map indicates drought conditions are likely to persist across the state and region, because precipitation totals are not expected to be sufficient to make large drought improvements.

"Precipitation deficits across most of the state are severe enough, that even with decent precipitation amounts, improvements will be difficult to see," Today said.

On average, in most areas of South Dakota, the month of May is the wettest month of the year. Moisture averages often total between 3 and 4 inches of precipitation. "Thus, larger precipitation totals will be needed not to lose more ground," Today said.

The NOAA Climate Prediction Center Precipitation Outlook for the next 30 days is not pessimistic, but Today said it also was optimistic as it is in some states to the south of South Dakota.

"The precipitation outlook indicates increased chances of precipitation along the southern edge of South Dakota and further south into the Central Plains," he said. "Thus, areas to the south have better chances for drought improvement into May."

Bottom line, Today explained that the precipitation chances are equally as likely to fall below average as they are to fall above average. "In most years that would not be a major issue. This year, above average precipitation is needed to help overcome the deficits accumulated since last fall," he said.

Crop losses are not guaranteed

This situation does not yet mean crop losses are guaranteed in all fields across the state, explained Edwards. "Winter wheat yields have been negatively impacted and rangeland will need precipitation very soon to limit losses, however due to the fact that April and May are critical months for summer forage production, and given the fact that corn and soybeans are just being planted this week, there is still time to limit damage to other crops across the state," she said.

However, Edwards said regular, heavier precipitation amounts are needed to limit the problems for the remainder of the growing season.

"In general, summertime precipitation tends to be localized in thunderstorms, and not widespread events like we typically see in the winter season," she said.

Throughout the growing season, SDSU Extension will publish frequent climate updates.

■ iGrow

# Applications Now Being Accepted for the South Dakota Farm & Ranch Recognition Program

**HURON, S.D.** – Applications are currently being accepted for the South Dakota Farm & Ranch Recognition program. Farm and ranch families who have enjoyed ownership of their South Dakota farm or ranch for 100 or 125 years have the opportunity to apply and be honored on Thursday, Sept. 3, during the South Dakota State Fair in Huron.

Agriculture has long been the foundation of South Dakota history. The South Dakota Farm Bureau (SDFB) and the South Dakota Department of Agriculture (SDDA) would like to recognize and honor these South Dakota families.

To qualify as a South Dakota Century Farm or Ranch, a family must have retained continuous ownership of at least 80 acres of original farmland for 100 years or more. Quasiquicentennial Farms and Ranches, those that have been continually owned for 125 years or more, will also be recognized.

Application forms are available online at [www.sdfbf.org](http://www.sdfbf.org) by clicking "All About Ag" and then "Century-Quasiquicentennial Farm & Ranch Program" or call the SDFB at (605) 353-8052. The deadline to apply is Thursday, Aug. 13, 2015. Documentation of the original date of purchase must be included with the application.

The South Dakota Farm & Ranch Recognition program was initiated in 1984 by the SDFB. Since then, the SDDA has joined in recognizing these South Dakota families. The program has recognized 2,770 century farms and ranches and 250 quasiquicentennial farms and ranches thus far.

Agriculture is South Dakota's No. 1 industry, generating over \$25.6 billion in annual economic activity and employing more than 115,000 South Dakotans. The South Dakota Department of Agriculture's mission is to promote, protect, preserve and improve this industry for today and tomorrow. Visit us online at <http://sdda.sd.gov> or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

■ SDDA

## RON'S AUTO GLASS

**WE DO ALL GLASS**

**Auto Home Commercial**  
1915 Broadway, Yankton, SD  
**605-665-9841**

## Schuermans Farm Supply



**2011 JD Z930A**  
29 H.P. Kawasaki  
60" 7 Iron Deck, 270 hrs.

**\$7,995**  
**JUST LIKE NEW!**



**Hustler XOne**  
23.5 H.P. Kawasaki  
54" Rear Discharge Deck  
66 hours, has warranty

**Great buy at \$7,950**



**Hustler FasTrak Super Duty**  
25 H.P. Kawasaki  
60" Deck, 261 hours  
Just like NEW

**\$5,200**

5 miles West of Tyndall on Hwy. 50 Corner of Hwys. 50 and 37

[www.schuermansfarmsupply.com](http://www.schuermansfarmsupply.com)

Ph. (605) 589-3909 or Cell (605)464-1113



**Floral Shop**

Floral: Mon-Sat 7am-8pm, Sun 9am-6pm  
2100 Broadway, Yankton - 665-3412  
Floral Dept. - 665-0662

**Mother's DAY**  
Sunday May 10

**We Deliver! Call 665-0662**

**EARN 10¢ OFF PER GALLON**

**Dozen Wrapped Rainbow Roses**  
**\$17.50**  
with vase \$35



**Vintage Garden \$50.00**

Snapdragons, spray roses, hydrangea and alstromeria in a pastel hobnail vase



**Orchid Garden \$55.00**

The ever popular orchid planter perfect for Mom



**Gorgeous Garden \$100.00**  
Beautiful mix of flowers in a gorgeous pearly art glass vase



**Old Fashioned Love \$40.00**

Pastel canning jar with a fresh spring bouquet



**Always in Style \$25.00**

Flashy high heel bud vase with lilies and a rose



**Just Like Mom \$40.00**  
Roly poly vase with snapdragons, carnations, roses and much more



**Mornings with Mom \$30.00**  
Floral mug filled with bright fresh flowers



**Carousel Hydrangeas \$35.00**



**Country Garden \$30.00**  
Pink swirl vase with peonies, roses, gerberas and more



**You're So Special \$25.00**  
Colorful mixed bouquet in a 6" ceramic pot

Call Classifieds **665-5884**

15th Annual **BRANDON, SD**

**CITYWIDE Rummage SALES**

**Thursday, May 7  
Friday, May 8  
Saturday, May 9  
OVER 200 SALES!**

A list of addresses & items is available online at...  
**www.BrandonRummages.com**

## Public Auction

Of 28 x 40 Building, Tractors, Fishing Boat & Equipment, Tools, Trailers, Etc.

**Saturday, May 9, 2015  
Sale Time: 10:00 A.M.**

416 17th St. Hawarden, IA 51023 or from the old Casey's go approx. 2 blks West then 1 blk North

Go to [zomerauctions.com](http://zomerauctions.com) for more pics

Auctioneers Note: This is a once in a lifetime auction. This auction features a large amount of items--this is definitely an auction where there is something for everyone. The fisherman or someone wanting to increase their inventory--there is a large assortment of fishing items. A big portion of these items are new and gently used. We will begin promptly at 10:00 A.M. then at 12:10 P.M. we will sell the pole building and property. Once that is done we will continue with the fishing and tools.

**Lunch on grounds. Something for Everyone!!**  
**Carroll & Betty Winterfeld-owners**

Auctioneers: Ivan Huenink-712-470-2003 • Mark Zomer-712-470-2526

**EHRESMANN ENGINEERING** For All Your Steel Needs!  
**STEEL SPECIALS**

• Flat Bars • Solid Bars • Angle Iron • Channel Iron  
• Round, Square & Rectangle Tubing  
• Many More types of steel to choose from

**We Want to be Your Steel Supplier**

**Call us at 605-665-7532**

4400 W. 31st St., Yankton, SD 57078

**SAVE NOW \$1950**  
with manufacture & utility Rebates up to

**Cool Cash** turn to the experts®

Home Comfort...more than just Heating and Cooling

• Experienced Technicians  
• Mobile Dispatching  
• 24 Hour Emergency Service  
• Planned Maintenance Agreement  
• Financing Available

**Larry's HEATING & COOLING**  
920 Broadway, Yankton • 665-9461 • [www.larrysheatingandcooling.com](http://www.larrysheatingandcooling.com)