

A MIRACULOUS MAY

By Mark D. Schneider

North Dakota's growing season was slow to start, but ample rainfall in mid to late May provided farmers and ranchers the moisture needed to get crops going and put water in stock ponds. Most of western and central North Dakota received four to six inches of rain between May 14-22, while the eastern half of the state varied between one and four inches.



Looking at soil moisture conditions in the western half of our state, significant improvement can be seen between April and May.





The seasonal temperature and precipitation outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center are predicting an increased chance for hotter and drier conditions for this summer; however, the summer season is difficult to predict, and localized rain showers and thunderstorms can make all the difference for a specific area.



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