

**MINNESOTA TURF SEED COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER
July 31, 2016**

RYEGRASS GROWING DEGREE DAYS (GDD)

Ryegrass GDD will be tracked for the 2016 growing season with comparisons to the previous six years. A base temperature of 32 degrees F will be used for ryegrass (T-Base = 32 F)

Reported GDD are based on the total accumulation from the beginning of the year to the current calendar date. Thus far in 2016, we have accumulated 3,134 GDD, as of July 31th (Table 1). Last week averaged 256 GDD (36.6/day).

Table 1. Growing degree days (GDD), March - July 2010 to March - July 2016 near Roseau MN.

Year	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2016 vs. 15
March	38	119	0	0	304	7	137	-81
April	263	367	159	80	370	278	476	-104
May	765	659	654	640	726	639	707	+106
June	945	941	964	975	979	898	911	+4
July	1,123	1,147	1,066	1,088	1,230	1,162	1,174	-24
Total	3,134	3,030	2,843	2,783	3,609	2,984	3,405	

GENERAL CROP CONDITION

The short term forecast points to several days of primarily sunny weather with daily temps in the 70's and lows in the 50's. Last week was a busy one for ryegrass swathing with the combines out in several fields. If this week's forecast holds, combines will be rolling later in the week and ryegrass swathing should about wrap up for the year.

This will be the last weekly MN Turf Seed Newsletter as we are into ryegrass harvest.