

**MINNESOTA TURF SEED COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER
August 11 2015**

RYEGRASS GROWING DEGREE DAYS (GDD)

Ryegrass GDD will be tracked for the 2015 growing season with comparisons to the previous five 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 calendar year to the current date. As of August 9th, accumulated GDD for 2015 are 3,538 (adjusted GDD = 3,266), see Table 1. The most recent seven day forecast suggest temperatures above long term average for the second week of August. Projected GDD for the week ending August 16th is 283 or 40.4/day.

Table 1. Growing degree days (GDD) for March 2010 to June 2015 near Roseau MN.

Year	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2015 vs. 14
March	119	0	0	304	7	137	+119
April	367	159	80	370	278	476	+208
May	659	654	640	726	639	707	+5
June	941	964	975	979	898	911	-23
July	1,147	1,066	1,088	1,230	1,162	1,174	+81
Aug 1-9	305						
Total	3,538 [^]	2,843	2,783	3,609	2,984	3,405	
Aug 10 -19 *	386						

* Forecasted GDD at Roseau for the next 10 days.

[^] Total GDD for 2015.

[^]Adjusted GDD (-272 GDD) due to extensive ryegrass leaf desiccation in April 2015 = **3,266**

GENERAL CROP CONDITION

After a couple days of thunder storms last week, the short term forecast suggests several days of daily temps in the high 80's to low 90's and night-time low temps in the low 60's. The remainder of the week points to dry weather. This week will be a busy one for ryegrass swathing and harvesting.

This will be the last weekly MN Turf Seed Newsletter as we are into ryegrass harvest. The newsletter format will change to a monthly format for the late summer and fall.