

Soil temperatures rising rapidly: PRE's needed ASAP
May 5, 2015

Seven day average soil temperatures at 4" depths under bare soils range from 57F to 63F. Soil temperatures may vary under turf cover and depend on soil type, moisture, southern exposure, distance to a heat sink like a sidewalk, etc. Crabgrass germinates when soil temperatures are sustained between 55 and 60F, thus preemergence herbicides (PRE) for crabgrass should be applied as soon as possible. Consider use of products containing dithiopyr (Dimension) or mesotrione (Tenacity) since these products offer both PRE and POST control of crabgrass. For newly seeded areas, the PREs siduron (Tupersan) or mesotrione are safe on seedlings. Do not use mesotrione on creeping bentgrass seedlings. Water in PREs to increase control. Alternatively, spot treatment with herbicides like mesotrione or quinclorac (Drive, Quinstar, Quinclorac, etc.) can be used after crabgrass emergence in areas with a history of low crabgrass pressure.

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Soil Temperature (F at 4 inches)

4/28/2015 – 5/4/2015

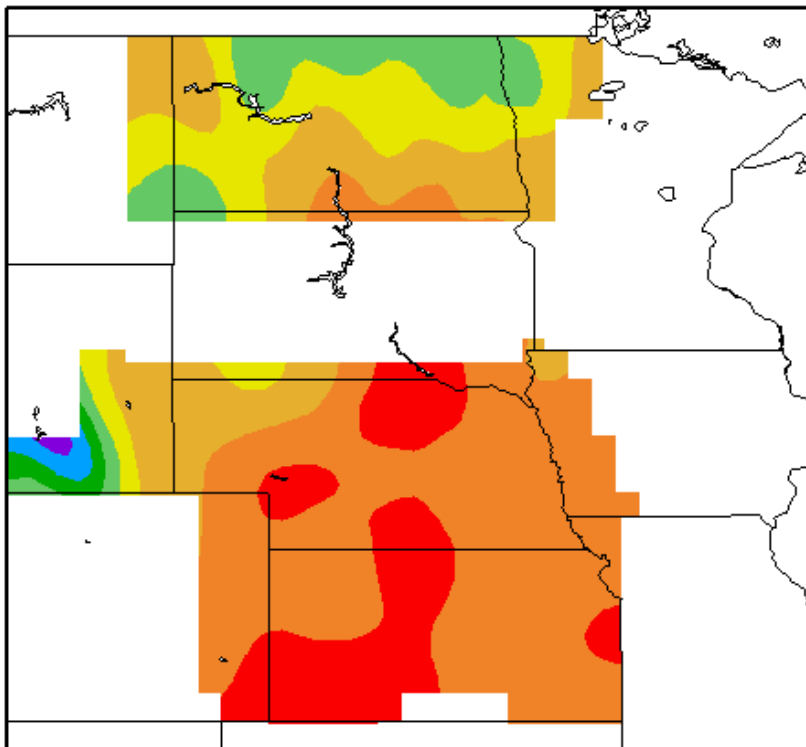


Figure 1. Seven day average soil temperatures (4" depth) as of May 5. Image courtesy of the High Plains Regional Climate Center.

High Plains Regional Climate Center
Generated 5/5/2015 using AWDN data.