

Ryegrass Growing Degree Days (GDD)

Ryegrass GDD units have been tracked since the 2005 season. A base temp of 32 degrees F has been used for ryegrass (T-Base =32 F). The GDD information presented in the table below is year to date data, through and including June 7th for the years 2005 to 2008.

Year	2008	2007	2006	2005	08 vs. 07
March	6	90	53	35	-84
April	202	322	529	448	-120
May	508	746	749	641	-238
June 1-7	174	193	246	205	-19
Total	890	1,351	1,577	1,329	-461

The 2008 season continues to track cooler than any year since 2005. Year-to-date GDD has the 2008 season -461 behind the 2007, -687 behind 2006 and -439 behind 2005.

Mildew in bluegrass was detected in Roseau and Lake of the Woods counties the last week of May. Thus far in 2008, mildew infestations are light (just a white spot on a few leaves). However, mildew can “flare” in a few days if environmental conditions are favorable. Field scouting will determine the severity of pest outbreaks and the need for an application of a fungicide for disease control.

Early bluegrass varieties, e.g. Park and Minnfine, are heading. Later maturing varieties are still vegetative.

Spring seeded ryegrass three to four nodes and fall seeded ryegrass vegetative to two nodes.