



MASTER GARDENER
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

CMG GardenNotes #749

Climate Summary: Northwest Colorado

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
<u>Monthly Temperatures</u>														
Craig	average extreme high	44	50	60	74	79	89	92	91	87	77	63	49	
	normal daily high	30	34	46	56	66	74	84	83	74	61	43	32	57
	normal daily low	6	10	22	29	37	44	50	49	40	30	19	8	28
	average extreme low	-14	-13	6	16	26	33	41	41	27	15	1	-11	
Hayden	average extreme high	44	48	60	73	82	90	93	91	86	77	63	48	
	normal daily high	30	34	45	57	68	79	85	83	74	61	44	32	58
	normal daily low	7	10	20	28	36	43	49	48	40	29	20	9	29
	average extreme low	-16	-13	2	15	25	32	40	39	25	15	0	-12	
Steamboat	average extreme high	44	47	57	70	78	87	90	89	84	75	60	45	
	normal daily high	29	34	43	53	64	76	82	81	72	60	42	29	55
	normal daily low	3	5	17	24	32	36	42	41	34	24	16	4	23
	average extreme low	-25	-21	-4	9	21	28	33	33	19	10	-5	-21	
Yampa	average extreme high	47	49	56	66	75	82	84	84	79	71	58	48	
	normal daily high	31	35	41	51	62	72	76	76	68	56	41	32	54
	normal daily low	6	9	16	23	32	39	45	44	36	27	16	8	25
	average extreme low	-17	-14	-5	5	19	27	35	35	21	10	-6	-14	

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
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Total Monthly Precipitation (inches)

Craig	normal	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.5	1.0	16.7
	maximum	2.4	2.3	2.7	3.4	4.0	3.0	3.0	2.4	5.2	4.5	2.9	3.4	25.0
Hayden	normal	1.6	1.2	1.2	1.6	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.5	1.5	17.3
	maximum	3.5	2.6	2.5	3.3	4.1	3.4	3.5	3.1	6.2	3.8	3.7	5.1	26.4
Steamboat Springs	normal	2.6	2.1	2.0	2.4	2.3	2.3	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.3	23.8
	maximum	5.9	4.7	3.5	4.2	5.7	3.9	3.3	3.5	6.5	4.3	5.6	6.8	34.5
Yampa	normal	1.3	3.4	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.4	2.1	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.1	19.3
	maximum	2.9	7.3	3.1	2.9	3.5	2.6	4.0	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.0	3.2	

Total Monthly Snowfall (inches)

Craig	normal	17.2	14.2	11.6	6.4	1.1	0.1	0	0	0.4	4.0	12.1	12.6	81.2
	maximum	45.5	37.5	27.0	16.0	7.0	2.0	0	0	5.0	20.0	25.0	42.0	121.8
Hayden	normal	29.2	18.5	14.1	8.8	1.2	0.3	0	0	0.2	6.3	17.4	24.3	119.3
	maximum	71.3	49.0	30.5	21.5	9.5	8.0	0	0	4.0	24.0	50.9	74.5	178.4
Steamboat Springs	normal	40.5	27.8	20.6	12.9	2.4	0.3	0	0	0.3	8.0	25.0	35.2	179.4
	maximum	111.6	51.0	35.1	31.4	10.2	5.6	0	0	3.2	32.3	57.0	92.6	301.4
Yampa	normal	21.8	15.2	17.7	12.6	2.9	0.2	0	0.1	0.6	7.9	19.2	19.6	118.8
	maximum	68.6	40.5	34.5	28.0	15.0	4.0	0	1.5	5.0	23.0	44.0	59.7	190.2

Frost Probability and Growing Season Length Summary

		<u>Spring Frost Probability</u>			<u>Fall Frost Probability</u>			<u>Length of Growing Season</u>		
		90%	50%	10%	10%	50%	90%	10%	50%	90%
Craig	32° threshold	May 10	May 17	May 29	Sept 4	Sept 18	Oct 1	92	111	131
	28° threshold	Apr 29	May 9	May 20	Sept 16	Sept 27	Oct 8	123	140	158
	24° threshold	Apr 10	Apr 25	May 11	Sept 22	Oct 6	Oct 20	145	163	182
Hayden	32° threshold	May 17	June 3	June 20	Aug 29	Sept 14	Oct 1	79	104	128
	28° threshold	Apr 24	May 16	June 6	Sept 9	Sept 24	Oct 9	103	132	160
	24° threshold	Apr 14	Apr 28	May 12	Sept 18	Oct 3	Oct 17	134	158	181
Steamboat Springs	32° threshold	June 11	June 26	July 10	Aug 1	Aug 24	Sept 17	28	60	91
	28° threshold	May 11	June 2	June 25	Aug 28	Sept 12	Sept 28	69	102	135
	24° threshold	Apr 23	May 15	June 5	Sept 11	Sept 22	Oct 3	104	130	156
Yampa	32° threshold	June 6	June 21	July 6	Aug 22	Sept 8	Sept 24	53	79	104
	28° threshold	May 20	June 5	June 22	Aug 31	Sept 16	Oct 2	79	102	126
	24° threshold	May 1	May 25	June 18	Sept 14	Sept 28	Oct 11	97	126	154

Site Information	Station	Number	Elevation	Latitude	Longitude
	Craig	51932	6440	40° 27''	107° 36'
	Hayden	53867	6340	40° 30'	107° 15'
	Steamboat Springs	57936	6770	40° 30'	106° 50'
	Yampa	59265	7890	40° 09'	106° 54'

Typical planting and harvest period based on average frost dates and normal temperatures

	Late April	Early May	Mid May	Late May	Early June	Mid June	Late June	Early July	Mid July	Late July	Early Aug.	Mid Aug.	Late Aug.	Early Sept.	Mid Sept.	Late Sept.	
Craig	40-50 day, cool season crops (spinach, lettuce)															FROST	
	55-60 day cool season crops (beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard),																
	65-70 day, cool season crops (peas)																
	75 day, cool season crops																
	50 day, semi-tender, warm season crops (summer squash)																
	55-60 day, semi-tender, warm season crops (cucumbers)																
	65 day, semi-tender, warm season crops																
	70 day, semi-tender, warm season crops (beans)																
	75 day, semi-tender, warm season crop (corn)																
			FROST	70 day, tender, warm season crop (tomatoes, peppers, eggplant)													
	70-75 day cool season crops																
	60-65 day, cool season crops (beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, peas)																
	45-55 day, cool season crops (lettuce, kohlrabi)																
	40 day, cool season crops (spinach)																

	Late April	Early May	Mid May	Late May	Early June	Mid June	Late June	Early July	Mid July	Late July	Early Aug.	Mid Aug.	Late Aug.	Early Sept.	Mid Sept.	Late Sept.
Steamboat Springs							FROST						FROST			
	40 day, cool season crops (spinach)															
	45-50 day, cool season crops (lettuce, kohlrabi)															
	55 day, cool season crops															
	60-65 day, cool season crops (beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, peas)															
	70-75 day cool season crops															

	Late April	Early May	Mid May	Late May	Early June	Mid June	Late June	Early July	Mid July	Late July	Early Aug.	Mid Aug.	Late Aug.	Early Sept.	Mid Sept.	Late Sept.	
Hayden			40 day, cool season crops (spinach)													FROST	
			45-50 day, cool season crops (lettuce, kohlrabi)														
			55-65 day, cool season crops (beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, peas)														
			70-75 day, cool season crops														
					50 day, semi-tender, warm season crops (summer squash)												
					55 day, semi-tender, warm season crops												
					60 day, semi-tender, warm season crops (cucumbers)												
					65 day, semi-tender, warm season crops												
					70 day, semi-tender, warm season crops (beans)												
					FROST	70 day, tender, warm season crops (tomatoes, peppers, eggplants)											
						70-75 day, cool season crops											
							55-65 day, cool season crops (beets, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, chard, peas)										
								45-50 day, cool season crops (lettuce, kohlrabi)									
								40 day, cool season crops (spinach)									

	Late April	Early May	Mid May	Late May	Early June	Mid June	Late June	Early July	Mid July	Late July	Early Aug.	Mid Aug.	Late Aug.	Early Sept.	Mid Sept.	Late Sept.
Yampa							FROST							FROST		
					40-45 day, cool season crops (spinach, lettuce)											
					50-55 day, cool season crops (kohlrabi)											
					60-65 day, cool season crops (beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, peas)											
					70-75 day, cool season crops											

Prepared by David Whiting Extension Consumer Horticulture Specialist (retired), Department of Horticulture and LA, Colorado State University
Source: Colorado Climate Center at www.wrcc.dri.edu/summary/climsmco.html

- o CMG GardenNotes are available online at www.cmg.colostate.edu.
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 - o Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Colorado counties cooperating.
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