



### October 2012:

The final month of the 2012 growing season brought below-normal temperatures. Accumulated growing degree days for the entire growing season totaled 1548, 1596 and 1501 for Kingsville, Colchester and Cedar Springs, respectively, well above the normal of 1464. This is not surprising as daytime temperatures averaged above normal throughout the growing season, apart from averaging slightly below normal in October. Daily minimums were also near normal in October. A few nights between October 8<sup>th</sup> and October 13<sup>th</sup> dipped below 0°C with a low of -2.3°C in Kingsville on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

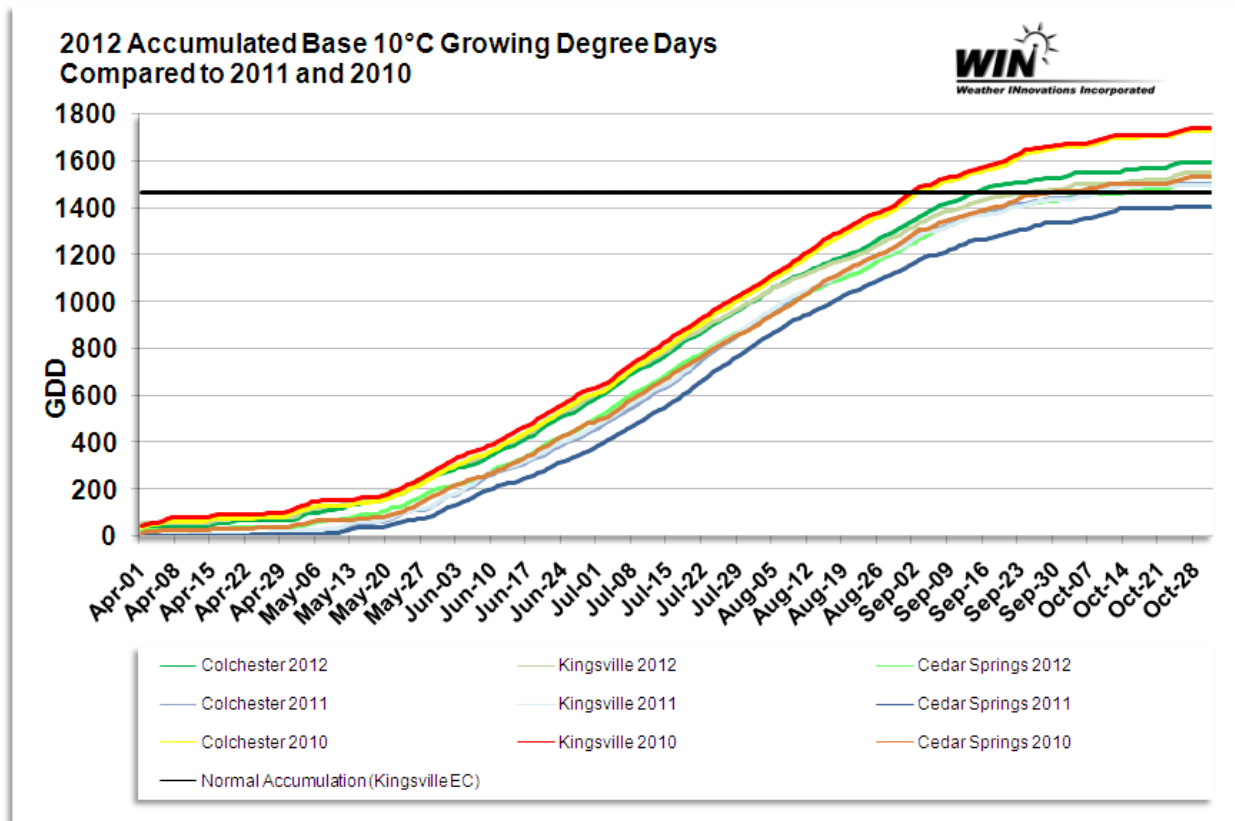


Figure 1: Growing Degree Days

The month of October brought above-normal rainfall. Monthly accumulations were 107%, 119% and 195% of normal for Colchester, Kingsville and Cedar Springs, respectively. The 2012 growing season overall averaged 86% of normal rainfall accumulation for Kingsville and Colchester and 101% of normal for Cedar Springs. The difference for Cedar Springs resulted from a greater impact by the remnants of Hurricane Sandy, bringing 2 inches of rainfall during the last 3 days of October, as compared to only 1 inch at Kingsville and a half inch at Colchester. Fortunately the overall hot and dry 2012 growing season enabled much of the harvest to be completed earlier than normal.

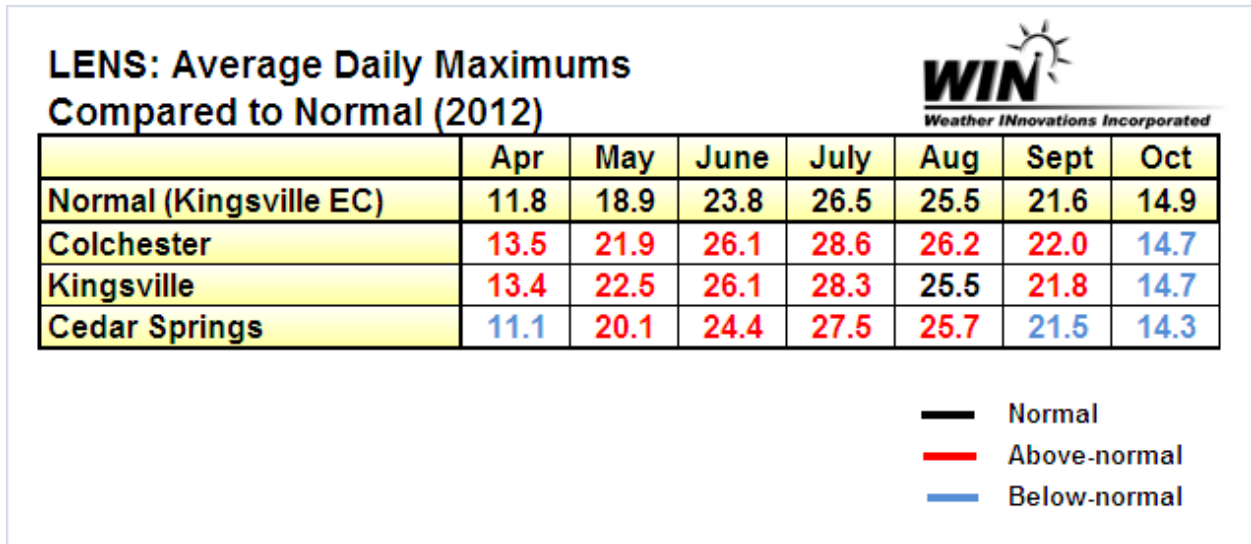


Figure 2: Daily Maximums

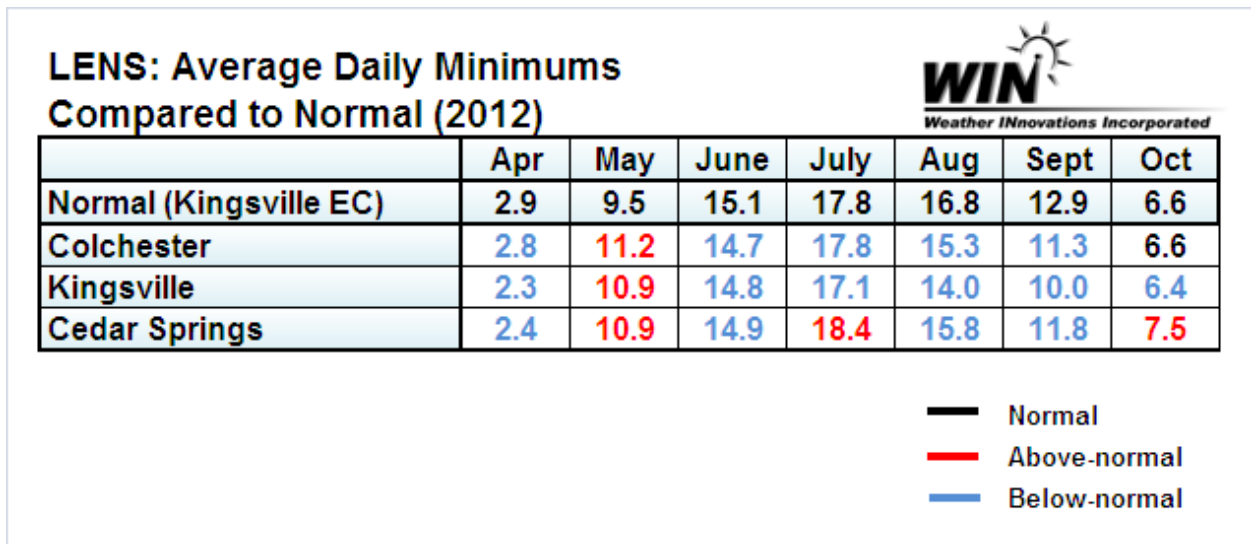


Figure 3: Daily Minimums

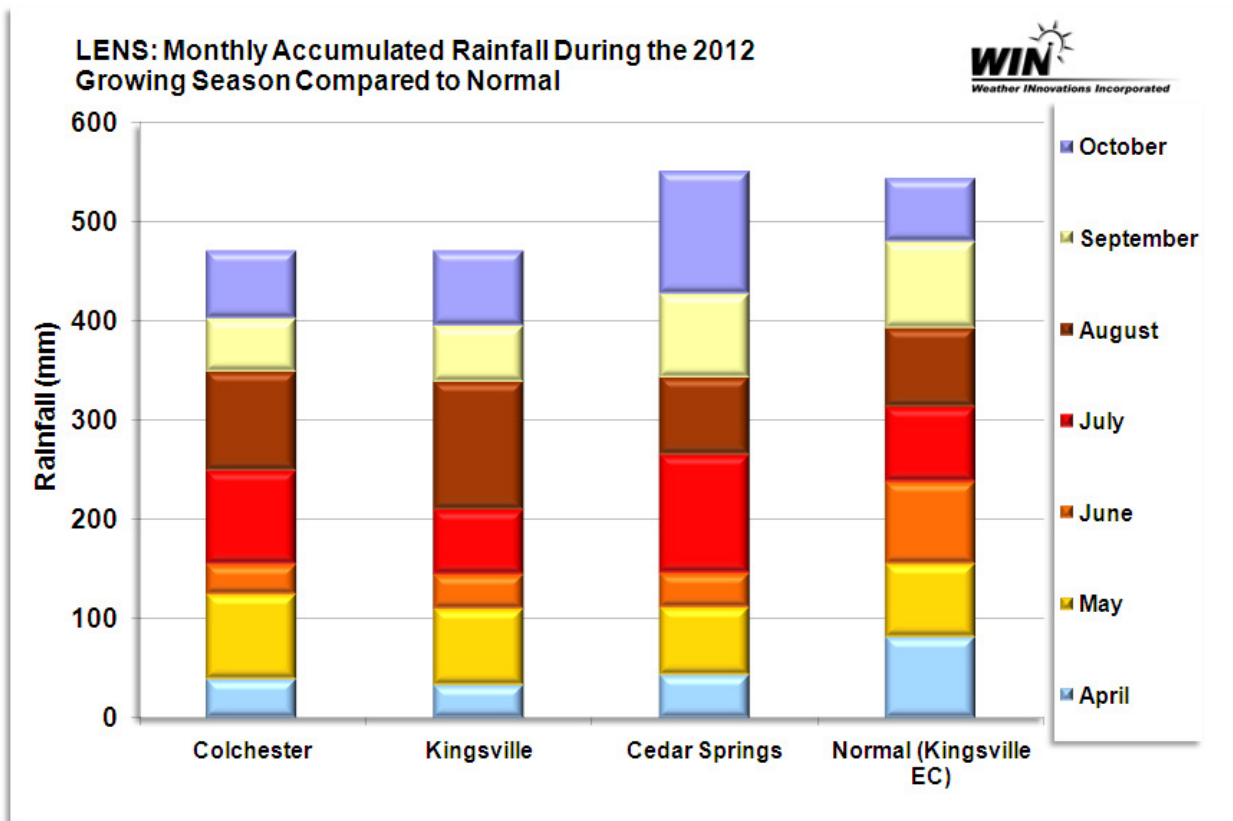


Figure 4: Rainfall