



October 2012:

The final month of the 2012 growing season brought above-normal temperatures and rainfall. Accumulated growing degree days for the entire growing season totaled 1578 for Vineland and 1675 for Virgil, well above the normals of 1324 and 1381, respectively. This is not surprising as daytime temperatures averaged above normal throughout the growing season, with average daily maximums approximately 1 °C above normal in October. Daily minimums were also above normal in Niagara East, but slightly below normal in Niagara West. A cold snap occurred near mid-month, on the night of October 12th-13th, with most stations falling below -2°C.

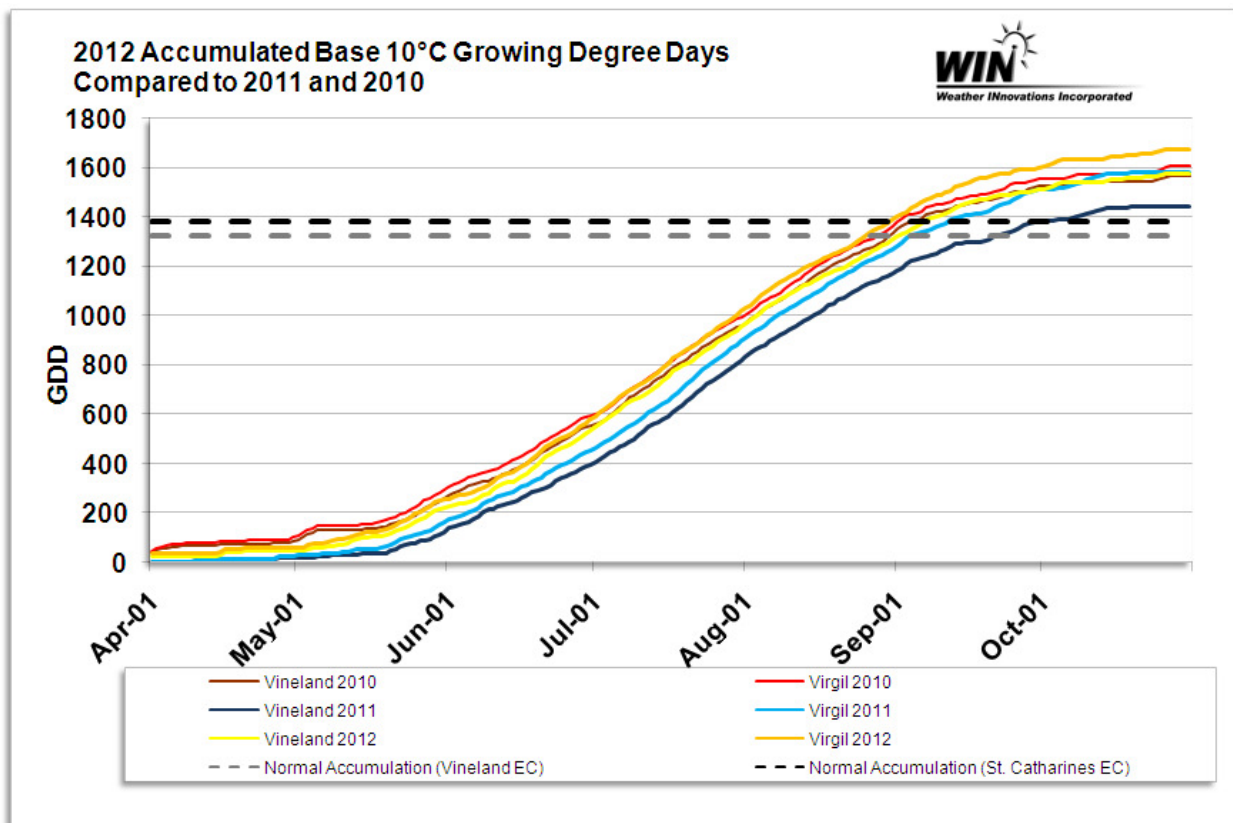


Figure 1: Growing Degree Days

The Niagara region received a staggering 6-7 inches of rainfall this month. However, 3-4 inches of this total fell within the last 5 days of the month, resulting from the combination of a cold front and remnants of Hurricane Sandy. Monthly rainfall averaged 250% of normal for Niagara West and 236% of normal for Niagara East. The Jordan Escarpment site accumulated the most rainfall, comprising 299% of the monthly normal, while the Parkway site accumulated the least, comprising 206% of normal. Fortunately the overall hot and dry 2012 growing season enabled much of the harvest to be completed earlier than normal, before the cold and rain set in.



Niagara Peninsula - Overnight Low

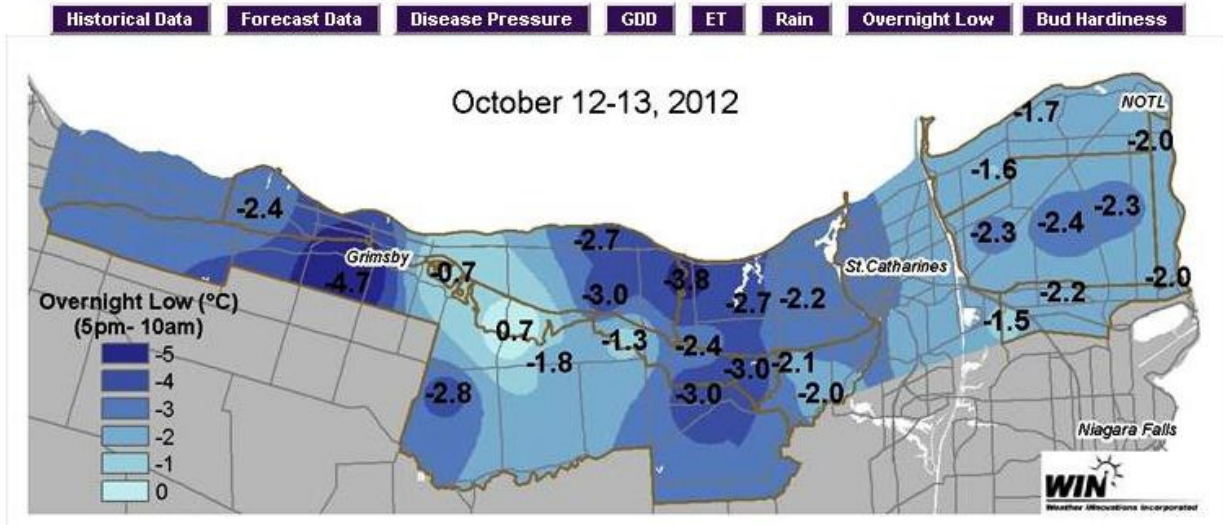


Figure 2: October 12-13, 2012 Overnight Low

Niagara West: Average Daily Maximums Compared to Normal (2012)

	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
Normal (Vineland EC)	11.1	17.8	23.1	26.5	25.1	20.9	14.1
Winona	13.3	22.2	27.5	31.4	28.4	23.0	15.3
Grimsby	12.6	22.2	26.5	30.7	28.0	22.2	14.7
West Lincoln	12.6	22.6	26.2	30.0	27.3	21.8	14.5
Lincoln Fly Road	12.5	22.4	26.9	30.9	28.6	21.9	14.8
Beamsville	12.9	22.4	26.4	30.1	27.6	21.8	15.1
Lincoln Hwy 8	12.9	21.8	26.9	30.6	28.1	22.0	14.8
Lincoln Lakeshore	12.9	21.4	27.4	30.8	27.6	22.5	15.2
Vineland Cherry Ave.	13.0	21.8	26.5	29.6	27.4	21.9	15.3
Vineland Escarpment	12.8	22.2	26.5	30.2	27.8	22.0	15.1
Jordan Escarpment	12.5	22.4	26.5	30.8	28.6	22.5	15.6
Jordan Hwy 8	13.2	22.7	26.8	30.3	28.0	22.4	15.5
Jordan Harbour	12.8	21.3	26.3	29.8	27.8	22.5	15.3
Rockway	12.7	22.6	26.2	30.0	27.7	22.1	15.1

Legend:
 — Normal
 — Above-normal
 — Below-normal

Figure 3: Niagara West – Daily Maximums

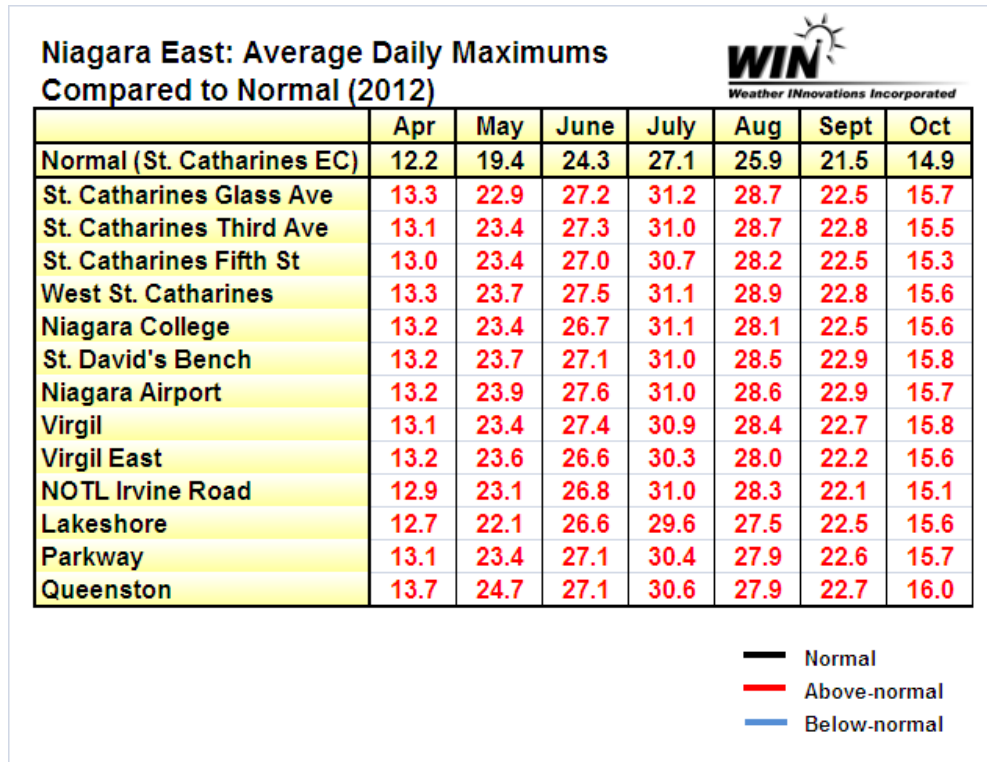


Figure 4: Niagara East – Daily Maximums

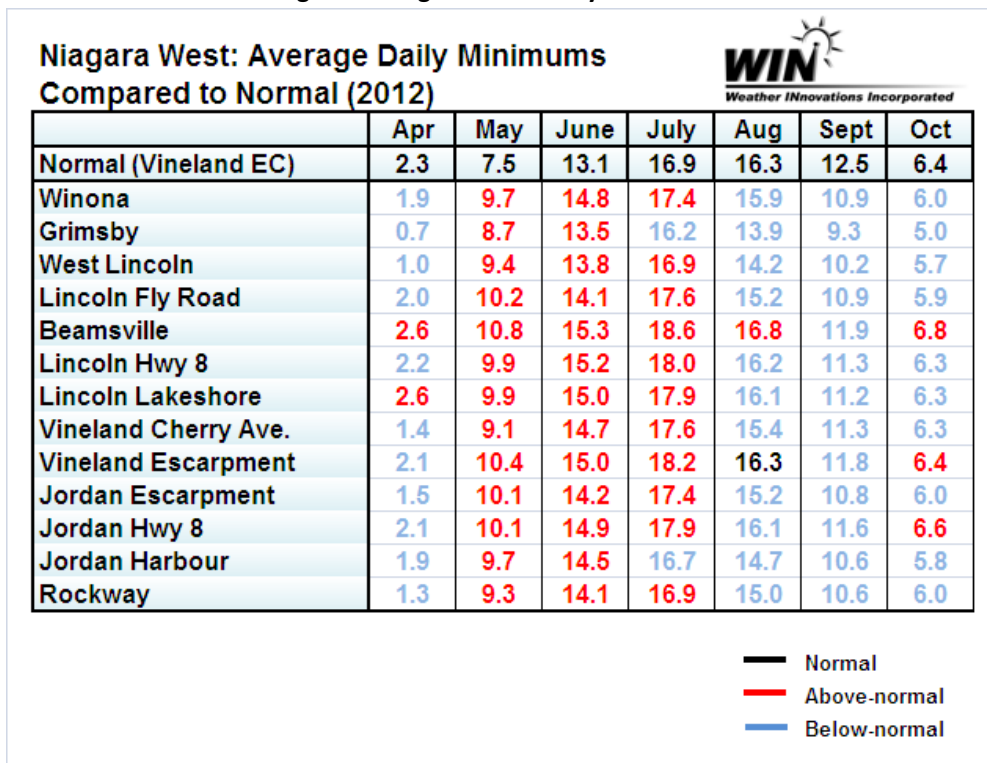


Figure 5: Niagara West – Daily Minimums



Niagara East: Average Daily Minimums Compared to Normal (2012)

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	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
Normal (St. Catharines EC)	2.1	7.8	13.3	16.4	15.7	11.6	5.6
St. Catharines Glass Ave	1.7	9.5	14.3	16.8	14.9	10.8	6.2
St. Catharines Third Ave	1.5	9.5	14.3	17.5	15.2	11.0	6.2
St. Catharines Fifth Ave	1.2	9.7	14.5	17.4	15.5	10.9	6.4
West St. Catharines	1.3	9.7	14.0	17.0	15.2	10.5	6.2
Niagara College	1.9	10.4	14.9	17.6	16.3	11.5	7.0
St. David's Bench	2.0	10.2	14.9	17.5	16.1	11.2	6.7
Niagara Airport	2.0	10.3	15.0	17.9	15.8	11.4	6.5
Virgil	1.4	9.2	14.4	17.3	15.5	11.2	6.8
Virgil East	2.1	9.8	14.4	16.6	14.9	10.5	6.3
NOTL Irvine Road	2.7	10.5	15.5	18.4	16.4	11.9	6.7
Lakeshore	2.8	10.5	15.2	18.0	15.8	11.7	6.6
Parkway	1.9	9.7	14.7	17.4	15.5	11.0	6.6
Queenston	2.3	10.1	14.7	17.5	15.8	11.3	6.9

— Normal

— Above-normal

— Below-normal

Figure 6: Niagara East – Daily Minimums

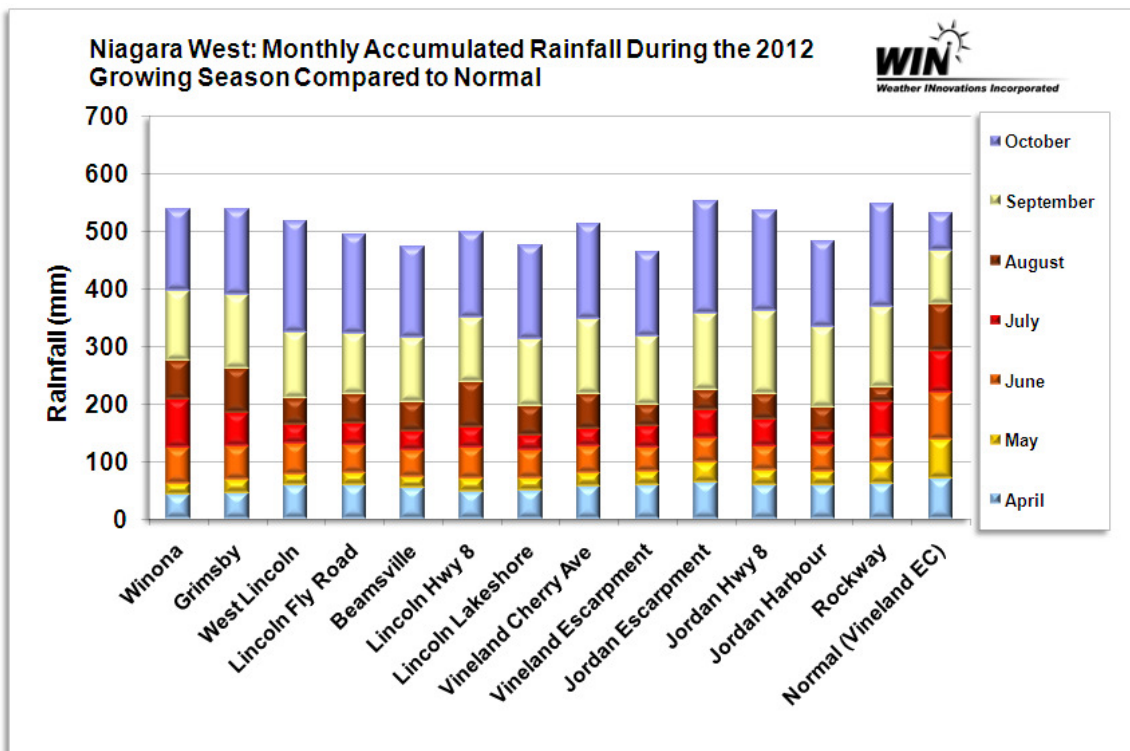


Figure 7: Niagara West - Rainfall

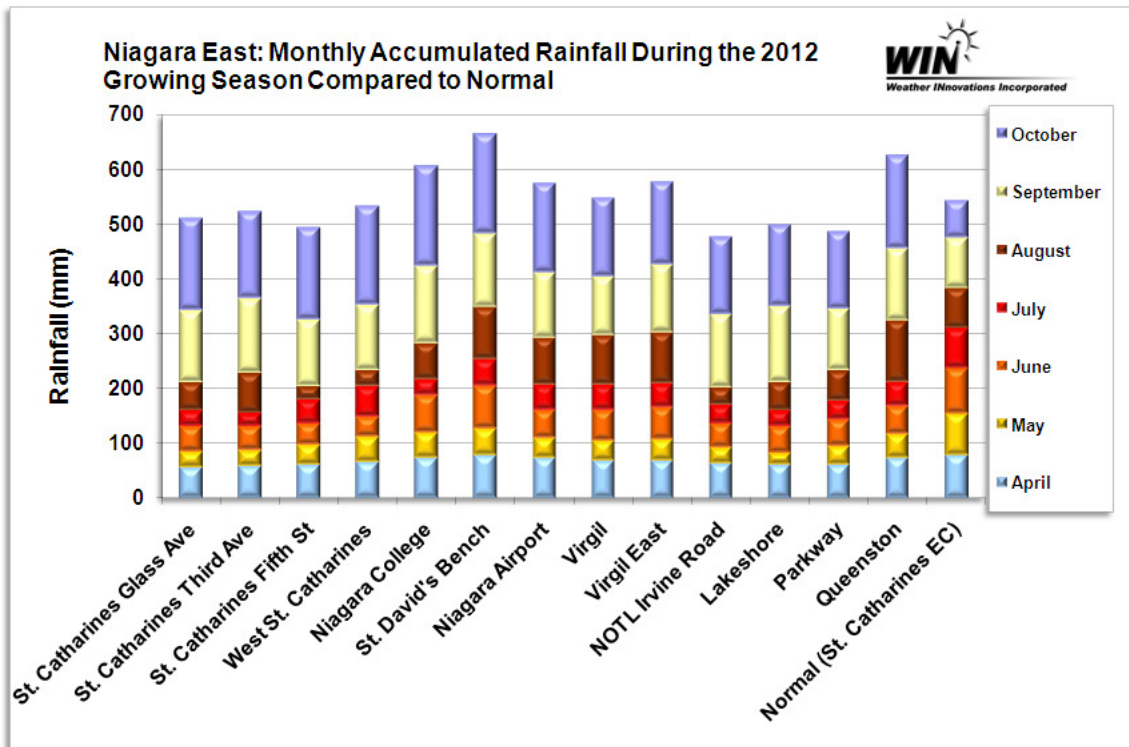


Figure 8: Niagara East – Rainfall