



July 2012:

Significantly hot temperatures continued this month. Daytime highs averaged 3.5°C above normal, while overnight lows averaged closer to normal. The maximum temperature surpassed 30°C on 14 days in Hillier and 6 in Cherry Valley. This is well above the 30-year normal of 1 day. As of the end of June, accumulated growing degree days remain nearly as high as the same point in time during the 2010 growing season, which was a great year for heat accumulation. March through July growing degree days totaled 856 and 863 for Hillier and Cherry Valley, respectively.

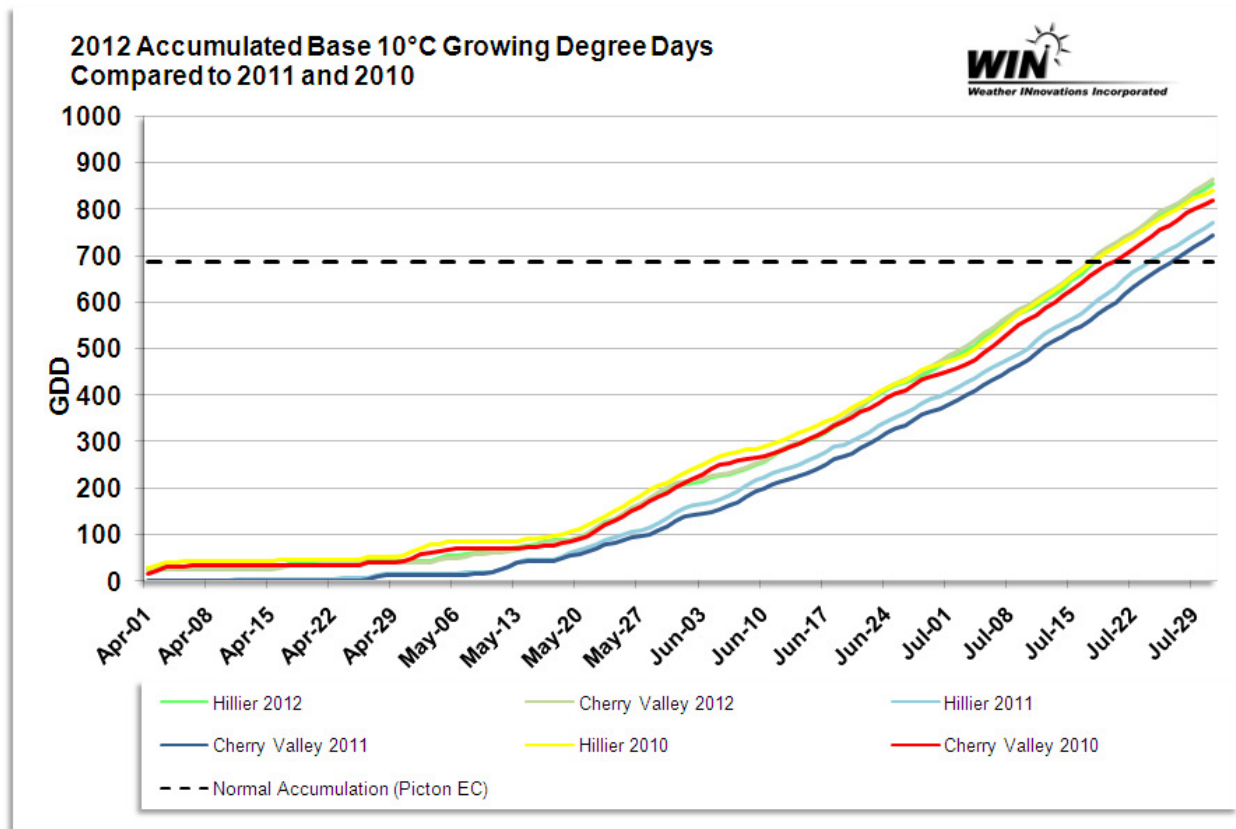


Figure 1: Growing Degree Days

The month of July brought above-normal rainfall totals for Hillier but below-normal totals for Cherry Valley. Monthly accumulations were 139% of normal for Hillier and 89% of normal for Cherry Valley. The April – July accumulated rainfall is close to normal for this appellation, as compared to the much drier Niagara and Lake Erie North Shore appellations. The 2012 growing season, thus far, has averaged 111% and 86% of normal rainfall accumulation for Hillier and Cherry Valley, respectively.

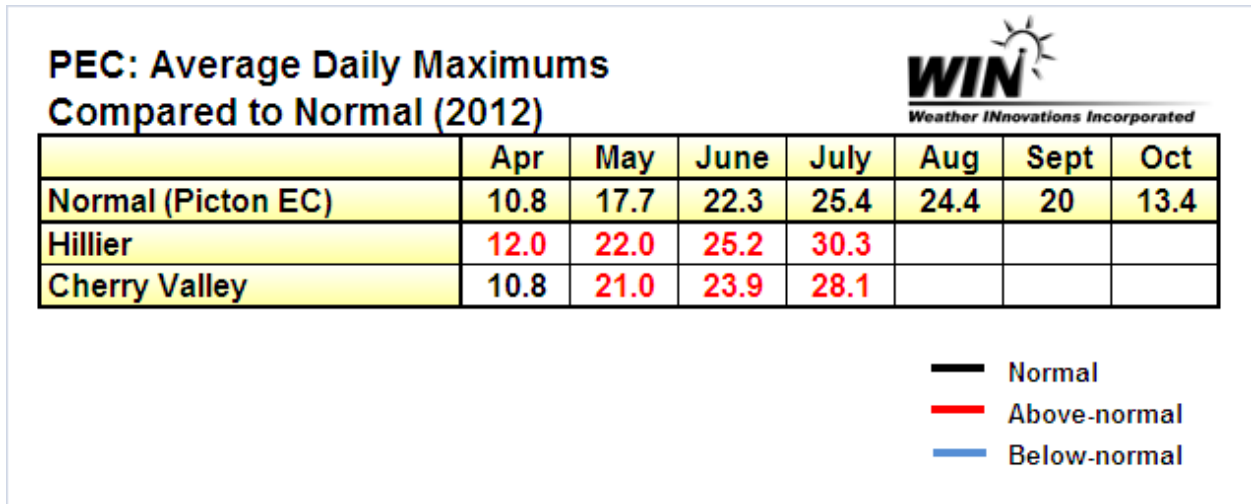


Figure 2: Daily Maximums

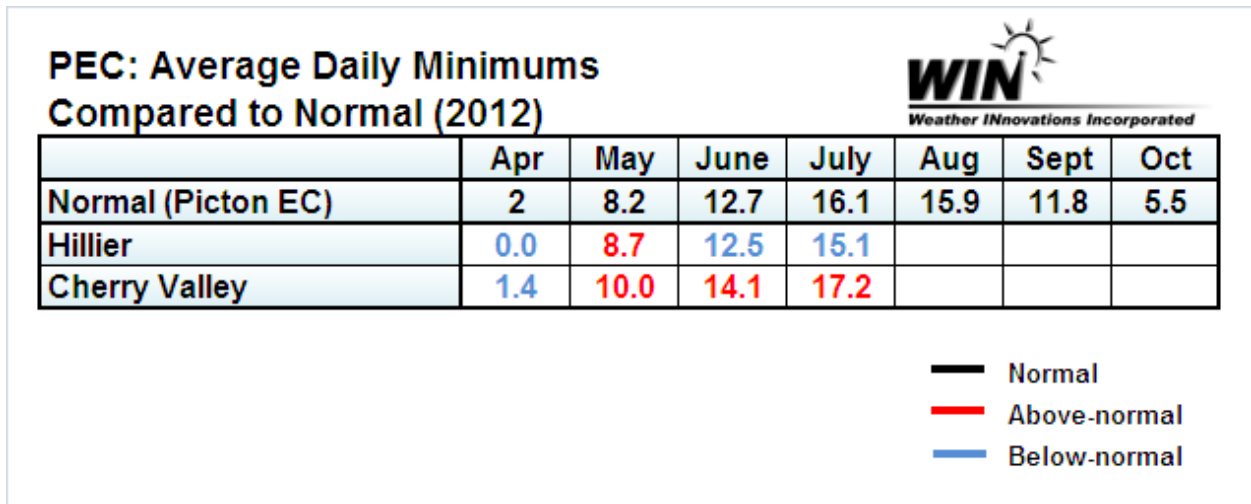


Figure 3: Daily Minimums

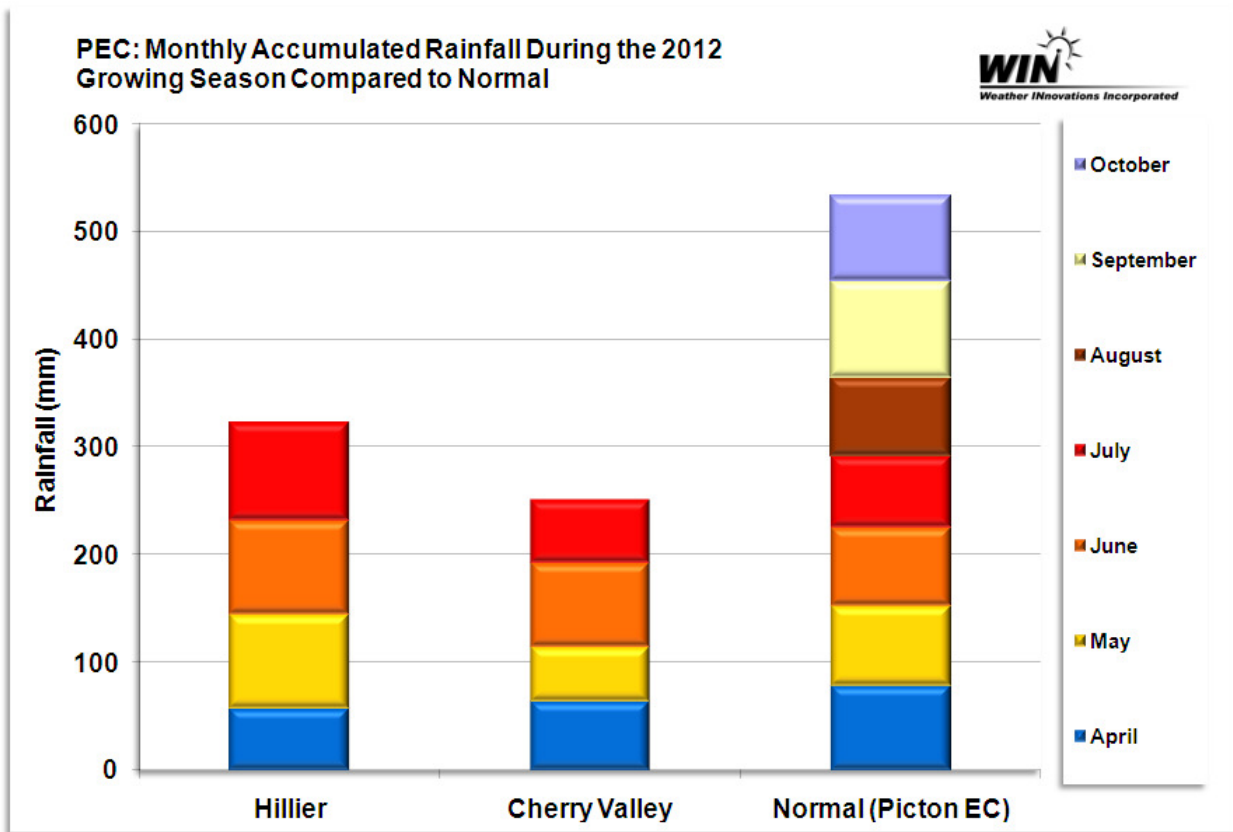


Figure 4: Rainfall