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The Imperial Republican

Moisture is the topic people around this area seem to gravitate to when talking weather.

A look back at the weather of 2013 brings out one big factor when talking moisture, and that's the fact two more inches were recorded than in the drought-stricken year of 2012.

A total of 14.52 inches fell in Imperial in 2013. That was just over two inches more than in 2012 when just 12.51 inches were recorded, and marked the lowest in 10 years.

May 2013 proved to be the wettest month of the year, dropping 3.61 inches. June came in second with 1.98 inches recorded.

Unlike 2012, Imperial did receive moisture every month last year, though some months it was barely noticeable.

December was a good example when just .09 of an inch of moisture was recorded. January 2013 wasn't much better.

Average amounts of snowfall came last year with 34 inches measured. The biggest month for snow was February when 8.8 inches fell.

While the moisture was up a bit last year, high temperatures were not.

Compared to 2012 when 22 days recorded a reading of 100 degrees or higher, there were only nine days last year that hit that mark.

The hot days came in June, July, August and September, with the year's hottest of 104 degrees falling on Sept. 7.

On the other end, there were 11 days at zero or colder. The chilliest day of 2013 was Dec. 13 when the mercury dropped to a frigid -14 degrees. Overall, December proved to be the coldest month of the year with six days at or below zero.

January and February 2013 had the only other zero or colder readings.

Official weather readings measured by local recorder Cory Schuller coupled with additional information from the National Weather Service in North Platte were used in compiling the annual weather review.

Moisture totals 2002-2013

2002—9.38”(lowest on record)

2003—15.11”

2004—13.03”
2005—16.40”
2006—16.55”
2007—21.31”
2008—22.77”
2009—26.27”
2010—26.39”
2011—26.67”
2012—12.51”
2013—14.52”