Cool, but warmer than normal temperatures along with dry conditions allowed Minnesota farmers to nearly complete the corn harvest during the week ending November 22, 2020, according to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. There were 4.7 days suitable for fieldwork. An estimated 99% of the corn acreage has been harvested statewide. The University of Minnesota’s Soil, Water, and Climate department reported the recent moderation in temperature looks to prevail through the Thanksgiving holiday until the end of the month. As such, it is likely that November 2020 will end up falling among the 20 warmest Novembers in state history, quite a remarkable turnaround from last month, when we recorded one of the coldest Octobers in history. Field activities included ditch maintenance and tiling projects, manure and fertilizer application, fall tillage and harvesting corn for grain.

The cool, dry weather decreased both topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies statewide. Topsoil moisture condition rated 2% very short, 10% short, 83% adequate and 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture condition rated 4% very short, 14% short, 77% adequate and 5% surplus.
Maps from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center reflect data collected from 7:00 A.M. Central Time on November 16, 2020, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on November 22, 2020.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1981-2010 Normal
November 16, 2020 to November 22, 2020

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
November 16, 2020 to November 22, 2020

Growing Degree Days can be found at https://mygeohub.org/groups/u2u/gdd
Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/