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GREAT PLAINS CLIMATE

Coming from the more humid eastern areas of the United States, early settlers on the Great Plains were unprepared to deal with the climate here. They discovered that in most years there is enough moisture for growing crops but not always. The threat of drought always hangs overhead. Winds are also a constant factor in the Great Plains climate. During dry periods of spring, wind can blow away tons of valuable topsoil. In the summer, hot, dry winds from the southwest can destroy crops. In the fall and winter there are blizzards that threaten the lives of man and beast. Yet, Great Plains weather tries those who live here, but in large measure, the climate is what makes the Great Plains unique.

From PLAINS TALK