

## Growing Degree Definition for Corn

Amount of time, or heat, required to mature a specific hybrid can be expressed in several ways. Use of "Growing Degrees" is a common method. The formula is:

$$GD = \frac{(\text{Daily max. temp.}^* + \text{Daily min. temp.}^{**})}{2} - 50^{\circ}\text{F}$$

*\* Use 86 if maximum temperature exceeds 86° F.*

*\*\* Use 50 minimum temperature if less than 50° F.*

The GDs are accumulated through the appropriate period or season. GD is a relative rating and should not be associated with absolute days. For example, on a day when the low is 48° and the high is 90°, the GD is determined as follows:

$$GD = \frac{(86^{\circ} + 50^{\circ})}{2} - 50^{\circ}\text{F} = 18$$

