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This figure summarizes the surface and bottom melt of the sea ice cover at ice mass balance buoy (IMB) sites on 20 July, 2011 (<http://imb.crrel.usace.army.mil/newdata.htm>). Surface melt at IMBs located in the vicinity of the ice edge are consistent with past years. IMBs located closer to the North Pole are experiencing a relatively high degree of surface melt, where the average amount of surface melt since 2000 is approximately 20 cm. While surface melt is likely to reach a maximum in August, bottom melt has just gotten underway at all the sites.

