

MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARY, AUGUST, 2002

NIU WEATHER SERVICE, DEKALB, IL

Day	Record HI	Record LO	Average HI	Average LO	Obs. HI	Obs. LO	Obs. Avg.	CDD	HDD	Precip. (in)	Snow fall (in)
1	98	42	83	61	92	71	81.5	16.5	0	0.00	0.0
2	98	44	83	61	94	65	79.5	14.5	0	0.00	0.0
3	100	42	83	61	84	62	73	8	0	0.00	0.0
4	99	44	82	61	89	66	77.5	12.5	0	0.00	0.0
5	100	43	83	61	90	70	80	15	0	2.01	0.0
6	102	44	83	61	85	60	72.5	7.5	0	0.00	0.0
7	100	46	83	61	75	56	65.5	0.5	0	0.00	0.0
8	103	43	82	61	77	57	67	2	0	0.00	0.0
9	102	44	82	60	80	59	69.5	4.5	0	0.00	0.0
10	98	47	82	60	82	62	72	7	0	0.00	0.0
11	97	45	82	60	88	64	76	11	0	0.00	0.0
12	104	45	82	60	92	68	80	15	0	0.00	0.0
13	98	47	82	61	86	66	76	11	0	0.83	0.0
14	99	43	82	61	80	64	72	7	0	0.96	0.0
15	97	44	83	61	78	59	68.5	3.5	0	T	0.0
16	99	42	83	61	84	60	72	7	0	0.00	0.0
17	103	44	83	61	81	69	75	10	0	0.00	0.0
18	102	43	83	61	86	51	68.5	3.5	0	0.00	0.0
19	100	45	83	61	76	52	64	0	1	0.04	0.0
20	100	40	82	60	76	52	64	0	1	T	0.0
21	100	42	82	60	76	58	67	2	0	0.00	0.0
22	99	41	82	59	87	65	76	11	0	1.89	0.0
23	99	43	82	60	80	66	73	8	0	0.61	0.0
24	100	40	81	60	75	66	70.5	5.5	0	0.40	0.0
25	95	41	82	60	81	64	72.5	7.5	0	0.00	0.0
26	97	42	82	60	84	64	74	9	0	0.00	0.0
27	97	40	81	61	81	62	71.5	6.5	0	0.00	0.0
28	99	39	81	60	83	64	73.5	8.5	0	0.00	0.0
29	96	38	81	59	79	58	68.5	3.5	0	0.00	0.0
30	98	36	81	59	80	59	69.5	4.5	0	0.00	0.0
31	100	35	81	59	83	61	72	7	0	0.00	0.0

Temperature

1896-1995 AVG. HI: 82.2(F)
 1896-1995 AVG. LOW: 60.5(F)
 1896-1995 AVG. TEMP: 71.6(F)
 August 2002 AVG. HI: 82.7(F)
 August 2002 AVG. LO: 62.0(F)
 August 2002 AVG. TEMP: 72.3(F)

Precipitation

August TOTAL: 6.74in
 August AVG: 4.21in.
 SNOW: 0.0in.
 YEAR TO DATE: 25.54 in.
 YEAR TO DATE AVG: 25.11in.

Degree Days

COOLING: 8/02: 229.0
 1/02-Now: 889.5
 HEATING: 8/02: 2.0
 7/02-Now: 2.0

Discussion

In contrast to July's dry heat, August's near average temperatures were accompanied by a surplus of precipitation nearly erasing the deficit created in July. Three heavy precipitation events accounted for nearly all of the month's 6.74" of precipitation. The first of which was on August 5th where 2.01" was recorded, August 13th and 14th when 1.79" was recorded and finally on the 22nd - 24th 2.90" was recorded. The rains on the 22nd-24th of the month prompted Flood Warnings for much of Northern Illinois in lieu of the heavy rains earlier in the month. In total, the month's heavy precipitation just barely brought us back to above normal for the year following the abnormally dry July. The average temperature for August was 72.3° F, only .7° F above normal.

The end of August also marks the end of meteorological summer. To summarize, this summer may look nearly normal on paper, but that would be far from how it felt to most people, especially those with interests in the local agricultural community. This summer averaged 73.6° F, which is 1.8° F above the normal of 71.8° F, which ranks as the 10th warmest summer on record in DeKalb dating back to 1896. The summer also included 22 days that were 90° F or warmer, which is 8 days above our 1966-1995 average of 14 days. Although temperatures had a greater departure from normal for the summer months, it is definitely the precipitation and when it fell that impacted the local community more. The summer totaled 12.42" of rain, only .35" below the normal of 12.77". However, the timing of the heavy precipitation could not have been worse for the local agricultural community. The heavy rains at the beginning of June (4.23" June 4th-5th) were too early in the growing season and then the heavy rains in August were too late. Peak water use in the typical corn plant is from the middle of July through the beginning of August and this is when DeKalb experienced the peak of the dry spell, which included a 59-day stretch from June 6th through August 3rd when only 0.80" of rain fell. This should result in decreased corn yields locally.

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Forecast Information (updated once daily at approx. 7:30 am): (815) 753-1623

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