

MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARY, OCTOBER, 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)	Snowfall (in)
1	93	28	71	46	85	63	74	9	0	0.00	0.0
2	90	25	70	45	81	63	72	7	0	0.67	0.0
3	89	26	69	45	71	56	63.5	0	1.5	T	0.0
4	92	27	68	44	69	56	62.5	0	2.5	0.03	0.0
5	88	26	67	44	69	43	56	0	9	0.85	0.0
6	92	20	66	43	64	43	53.5	0	11.5	0.00	0.0
7	86	26	65	42	70	38	54	0	11	0.00	0.0
8	86	22	64	42	55	38	46.5	0	18.5	0.00	0.0
9	86	23	64	42	67	45	56	0	9	0.00	0.0
10	87	21	64	41	69	45	57	0	8	0.00	0.0
11	86	20	63	41	74	51	62.5	0	2.5	0.00	0.0
12	84	22	64	41	74	51	62.5	0	2.5	0.00	0.0
13	87	21	64	42	72	33	52.5	0	12.5	0.03	0.0
14	85	21	64	41	49	33	41	0	24	0.00	0.0
15	88	21	63	41	57	33	45	0	20	0.00	0.0
16	85	25	62	41	56	31	43.5	0	21.5	0.00	0.0
17	87	22	62	40	47	31	39	0	26	0.00	0.0
18	86	18	61	39	45	35	40	0	25	0.09	0.0
19	86	18	60	39	65	38	51.5	0	13.5	T	0.0
20	86	18	60	39	48	27	37.5	0	27.5	0.00	0.0
21	87	22	61	39	51	28	39.5	0	25.5	0.00	0.0
22	84	20	60	40	56	35	45.5	0	19.5	0.00	0.0
23	83	22	60	39	47	35	41	0	24	0.00	0.0
24	80	18	60	39	45	37	41	0	24	0.08	0.0
25	77	22	59	39	43	39	41	0	24	0.39	0.0
26	82	15	59	38	46	40	43	0	22	0.02	0.0
27	82	19	59	37	46	35	40.5	0	24.5	0.00	0.0
28	78	19	59	38	43	35	39	0	26	0.01	0.0
29	80	15	58	38	49	35	42	0	23	0.02	0.0
30	83	13	57	38	42	38	40	0	25	0.12	0.0
31	85	16	56	37	48	35	41.5	0	23.5	0.00	0.0

Temperature

1896-1995 AVG. HI: 62.9(F)
 1896-1995 AVG. LOW: 40.8(F)
 1896-1995 AVG. TEMP: 52.1(F)
 October 2002 AVG. HI: 58.2(F)
 October 2002 AVG. LO: 40.2(F)
 October 2002 AVG. TEMP: 49.2(F)

Precipitation

October TOTAL: 2.31in
 October AVG: 2.78in.
 SNOW: 0.0in.
 YEAR TO DATE: 29.47in.
 YEAR TO DATE AVG: 31.57in.

Degree Days

COOLING: 10/02: 16.0
 1/02-Now: 1026.5
 HEATING: 10/02: 507.0
 7/02-Now: 572.0

Discussion

October 2002 was definitely the transition month from Summer to Winter. The month started out very warm with 2 days in the 80's but ended very cool with 12 consecutive days below average. The final 12 days of the month had average highs over 12 degrees below normal, making many people say, "What happened to Fall?" October also turned out to be the first month since May 2002 that was below average in the temperature category. The departure from normal was 2.9°F, which makes October 2002 the 19th coldest October on record going back to 1896. Precipitation continued to be below average but only by 0.47 inches for the month. Two precipitation events that contributed nearly all of the precipitation total for the month were from October 2-5 when 1.55 inches fell and the second event from 24th through the 30th when 0.64 inches fell. The continued precipitation deficit in October brings the annual deficit to 2.10". The first freeze occurred on the 16th, ending the growing season in DeKalb which lasted 173 days in 2002.

If you listen to some experts, October 2002 was typical for an El Nino fall. This may then promise a milder and drier than average winter, but then again, we will leave that for the experts!

Walter Pekovitch, Michael Sandstrom, Weather Directors/Cooperative Observers, NIU

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

The Climate Summary is supported by the Department of Geography, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Department of Operations