

## MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARY, April, 2004

### 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	84	16	52	32	48	30	39	0	26	T	0.0
2	80	14	52	32	51	32	41.5	0	23.5	0.00	0.0
3	82	14	52	32	55	34	44.5	0	20.5	0.00	0.0
4	79	13	53	32	56	30	43	0	22	0.00	0.0
5	80	15	54	32	51	30	40.5	0	24.5	0.00	0.0
6	83	12	54	33	56	30	43	0	22	0.00	0.0
7	79	8	56	33	72	42	57	0	8	T	0.0
8	83	12	56	34	67	41	54	0	11	0.00	0.0
9	77	18	57	35	52	35	43.5	0	21.5	0.00	0.0
10	92	17	57	35	58	39	48.5	0	16.5	0.00	0.0
11	90	18	58	36	55	29	42	0	23	0.00	0.0
12	82	18	59	37	46	28	37	0	28	0.00	0.0
13	82	18	59	38	43	26	34.5	0	30.5	0.00	0.0
14	80	20	60	39	52	26	39	0	26	0.00	0.0
15	82	17	61	39	71	38	54.5	0	10.5	0.00	0.0
16	87	16	62	40	73	44	58.5	0	6.5	0.00	0.0
17	87	22	63	41	85	55	70	5	0	0.02	0.0
18	87	21	63	41	81	56	68.5	3.5	0	0.00	0.0
19	90	22	63	41	85	60	72.5	7.5	0	0.00	0.0
20	84	22	63	41	68	43	55.5	0	9.5	0.00	0.0
21	90	22	63	41	62	44	53	0	12	1.23	0.0
22	91	20	63	40	58	42	50	0	15	0.00	0.0
23	91	22	64	40	56	38	47	0	18	0.00	0.0
24	84	17	64	41	65	39	52	0	13	0.00	0.0
25	85	21	65	42	57	40	48.5	0	16.5	0.49	0.0
26	92	25	65	42	58	42	50	0	15	T	0.0
27	91	22	65	42	58	33	45.5	0	19.5	0.00	0.0
28	88	25	65	42	53	34	43.5	0	21.5	0.00	0.0
29	89	25	64	42	82	47	64.5	0	0.5	0.00	0.0
30	92	29	65	42	77	56	66.5	1.5	0	0.14	0.0

\* New Record

#### Temperature

1896-1995 AVG. HI: 59.6(F)  
 1896-1995 AVG. LOW: 37.7(F)  
 1896-1995 AVG. TEMP: 48.9(F)  
 April 2004 AVG. HI: 61.7(F)  
 April 2004 AVG. LO: 38.8(F)  
 April 2004 AVG. TEMP: 50.2(F)

#### Precipitation

April TOTAL: 1.88in  
 April AVG: 3.46in.  
 SNOW: 0.0in.  
 AVG SNOW: 1.2in.  
 YEAR TO DATE: 7.54in.  
 YEAR TO DATE AVG: 8.53in

#### Degree Days

COOLING: 4/04: 17.5  
 1/04-Now: 17.5  
 HEATING: 4/04: 460.5  
 7/03-Now: 6317.0

#### Discussion

Daily temperatures varied greatly during April recording on the high side an 85° on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, and low end a 26° on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. The average temperature for April was 50.2 °F, a little more than one degree above average. There were three periods during the month when temperatures were more than 10° above average and two periods when temperatures averaged 10° below average. This "up and down" type of temperature pattern is expected in these spring months when the atmosphere is transitioning from winter to summer.

As for precipitation, we finished below average, receiving 1.88 inches. This monthly value falls in the driest 25% of all Aprils in the DeKalb/Sycamore region. This marked the ninth month since April 2003 that has experienced below average precipitation in Dekalb. The largest one day total was 1.23 inches which fell on 21<sup>st</sup>, however only 4 days during April registered 0.01" or more of precipitation. On certain days, the combination of surface dryness, the start of regional farming activities, and high winds contributed to reduced visibility in the region. On April 20<sup>th</sup> several tornadoes struck northern Illinois causing 8 deaths in the LaSalle County community of Utica. This event should remind all of us that we live in a region where deadly tornadoes can occur. Always be prepared!

Derek Giardino and Heather McDonald, Weather Director/Cooperative Observer, 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