

MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARY, MAY 2011

NIU WEATHER SERVICE: DE KALB, ILL.

Day	Record HI	Record LO	Average HI	Average LO	Obs. HI	Obs. LO	Obs. Avg.	CDD	HDD	GDD	Precip (in.)	Snowfall (in.)
1	89	27	64	43	71	45	58	0	7	8	0.00	0.0
2	90	27	65	44	56	44	50	0	15	0	0.00	0.0
3	89	28	65	44	58	36	47	0	18	0	0.00	0.0
4	90	26	66	43	49	32	40.5	0	24.5	0	T	0.0
5	92	27	68	45	60	35	47.5	0	17.5	0	0.00	0.0
6	94	28	70	46	62	41	51.5	0	13.5	1.5	0.00	0.0
7	89	24	71	47	67	44	55.5	0	9.5	5.5	0.03	0.0
8	89	28	68	47	62	43	52.5	0	12.5	2.5	0.00	0.0
9	95	25	72	49	71	46	58.5	0	6.5	8.5	0.00	0.0
10	90	25	72	48	73	55	64	0	1	14	0.00	0.0
11	91*	24	72	48	91*	63	77	12	0	27	0.00	0.0
12	92**	29	70	47	92**	64	78	13	0	28	0.14	0.0
13	88***	29	68	47	88***	62	75	10	0	25	0.00	0.0
14	90	28	68	46	80	49	64.5	0	0.5	14.5	1.01	0.0
15	90	31	69	47	52	46	49	0	16	0	0.08	0.0
16	91	29	69	47	51	35	43	0	22	0	0.00	0.0
17	92	33	73	48	59	36	47.5	0	17.5	0	0.00	0.0
18	94	31	72	49	63	39	51	0	14	1	T	0.0
19	95	30	71	50	56	48	52	0	13	2	0.02	0.0
20	95	32	73	50	74	52	63	0	2	13	0.00	0.0
21	94	31	72	49	78	56	67	2	0	17	T	0.0
22	93	35	73	49	78	61	69.5	4.5	0	19.5	0.02	0.0
23	93	30	73	51	87	60	73.5	8.5	0	23.5	0.46	0.0
24	94	33	73	50	77	60	68.5	3.5	0	18.5	0.00	0.0
25	92	28	71	50	69	48	58.5	0	6.5	8.5	0.20	0.0
26	97	31	70	50	73	45	59	0	6	9	1.55	0.0
27	97	30	72	51	59	40	49.5	0	15.5	0	0.01	0.0
28	95	33	72	51	66	42	54	0	11	4	0.03	0.0
29	93	31	74	53	64	54	59	0	6	9	0.03	0.0
30	94	35	76	54	70	58	64	0	1	14	1.96	0.0
31	107	35	78	56	88	67	77.5	12.5	0	27.5	0.00	0.0

*A NEW RECORD HIGH was recorded on the 11th; the previous record was 90, which was set in 1911 at the former Sycamore site.

**A NEW RECORD HIGH was recorded on the 12th; the previous record was 89, which was set in 1956 at the former Sycamore site and again in 1987 at DeKalb.

***The RECORD HIGH was TIED on the 13th; the temperature of 88 degrees was previously reached in 1940 at the former Sycamore site.

Temperature

1981-2010 AVG. HI: 71.3(F)
 1981-2010 AVG. LOW: 48.3(F)
 1981-2010 AVG. TEMP.: 59.4(F)
 May 2011 AVG. HI: 69.2(F)
 May 2011 AVG. LO: 48.6(F)
 May 2011 AVG. TEMP.: 58.9(F)

Precipitation

May 2011 TOTAL: 5.54 in.
 May AVG.: 4.55 in.
 May 2011 SNOW: 0
 May SNOW AVG: 0
 2011 liquid-eq. YEAR TO DATE: 15.66 in.
 liquid-eq. YEAR TO DATE AVG.: 13.09 in.
 2010-11 Seasonal SNOW TO DATE: 48.2 in.
 Seasonal SNOW TO DATE AVG.: 35.8 in.

Degree Days

COOLING: 5/11: 66
 1/11-Now: 66
 HEATING: 5/11: 256
 7/10-Now: 7077.5
 GROWING: 5/11: 301
 1/11-Now: 349

Discussion

May 2011 featured temperatures that were slightly below historical (30-year, 1981-2010) averages. The mean temperature for the month was 58.9 degrees, some 0.5 degrees below the historical average of 59.4 degrees. Daytime temperatures, like those in April, tended to hold more below historical averages than nighttime temperatures as evidenced by a high-temperature negative anomaly of 2.1 degrees compared to a low-temperature positive anomaly of 0.2 degrees. This disparity is again attributed to frequent cloudiness. Temperatures at the beginning of the month were considerably below historical averages before a transition to the hottest weather of the year so far between the 11th and 13th, when record high temperatures were achieved or tied three days in a row. Rather cool temperatures were again realized at around mid-month before becoming changeable for the remainder of the month.

Total precipitation for the month, all rain, was 5.54 in., some 122 percent of the historical average of 4.55 in. Much of the rainfall was recorded on four days: the 14th, 23rd, 26th, and 30th. Since 1 January, liquid-equivalent precipitation has totaled 15.66 in., some 120 percent of the historical average of 13.09 in. The 28 May NOAA Climate Prediction Center Crop Moisture Index (http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/regional_monitoring/cmi.gif) indicated "wet" conditions across northern and central Illinois.

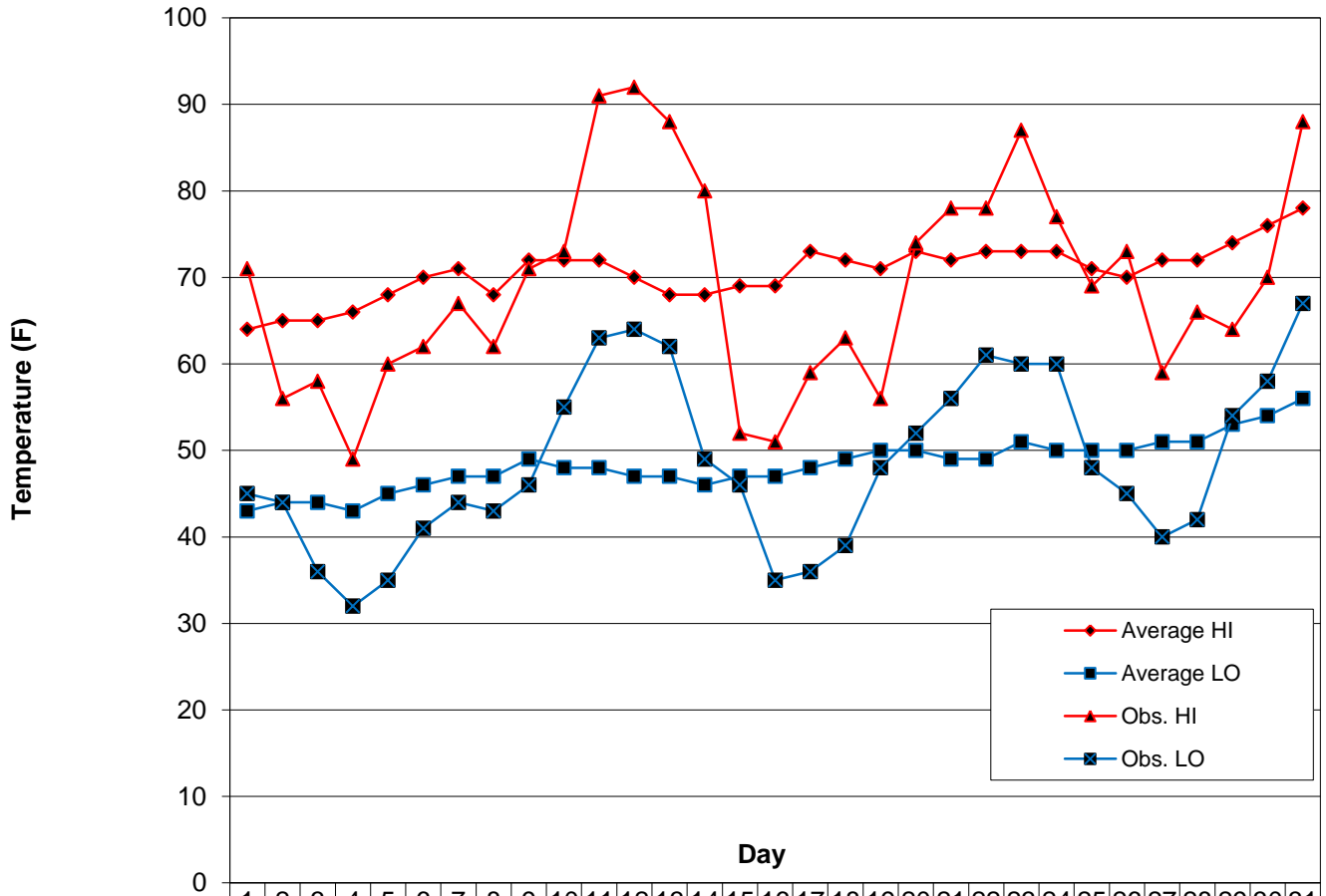
The mean temperature for Spring 2011 was 46.6 degrees, which was some 1.5 degrees below the historical average of 48.1 degrees and ranked (with 1992 and 2003) as 31st coolest on record since 1896. The total liquid-equivalent precipitation was 12.16 in., which was some 122 percent of the historical average total of 9.97 in. and ranked 23rd wettest on record since 1896.

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 This summary was prepared by Daniel J. Brouillette, 31 May 2011. Forecast information (updated once daily at approx. 7:30 am): (815) 753-1623.

Climate Website: <http://climate.niu.edu>

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May 2011 Daily Highs and Lows with 1981-2010 Average Highs and Lows
 Prepared by Daniel J. Brouillette, NIU Weather Director



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
◆ Average HI	64	65	65	66	68	70	71	68	72	72	72	70	68	68	69	69	73	72	71	73	72	73	73	73	71	70	72	72	74	76	78
■ Average LO	43	44	44	43	45	46	47	47	49	48	48	47	47	46	47	47	48	49	50	50	49	49	51	50	50	50	51	51	53	54	56
▲ Obs. HI	71	56	58	49	60	62	67	62	71	73	91	92	88	80	52	51	59	63	56	74	78	78	87	77	69	73	59	66	64	70	88
⊠ Obs. LO	45	44	36	32	35	41	44	43	46	55	63	64	62	49	46	35	36	39	48	52	56	61	60	60	48	45	40	42	54	58	67