

‘Spicing up Fall’ might get ‘Dicey’!

Meadow’s Weather/Hurricane Season Analysis: August 2021 Report

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Rainfall & Temperature Data:

Rainfall: 11.39 inches (YTD: 36.87 in.)

23 yr. August rainfall average: 10.55 in.

Average high temperature: 93.0 F (normal: 92.0 F)

Above normal high-temperature days: 16

Record high-temperature days: 3

Weather Analysis: August is the first month this year in which both temperature and rainfall was somewhat normal.

It appears that the heat dome we’ve been under since January 1st may be dissipating. Above-normal monthly temperature spreads began the year at +6 F for the first three months, then declined to +5F in April, May, and June, +3 F in July, and finally +1 F in August. However, that near-normal August temperature was certainly deceptive. I’m sure many residents thought that it was a warmer month because we felt the ‘heat’. This is explained by the daily presence of dew point and wet-bulb temperatures near maxed-out levels – 77 F each with heat indices in the very dangerous 103 F to 124 F range! Summarizing the other important temperature statistics: Maximum day-time temperatures exceeded normal on 16 days, and there were three record high-temperature days.

Historically, August is the wettest month. And, true to form, it seemed to rain every day. Not quite, but the rain did fall on 23 days – the average for August is 16. With one month remaining in the rainy season, projections indicate a near-normal year for rain.

Monthly temperature and rainfall data are presented in the graph.

Hurricane Season Analysis: Depending upon Mother Nature, spicing up Fall might take on a dicey, more dangerous tone in the weeks ahead because September 1st represents the start of a two-month period when historically, tropical cyclone activity increases significantly in southwest Florida.

Prior to the start of hurricane season, NOAA predicted 13 to 20 named storms. Then, just recently, they upped the range to 15-21.

As of September 1st, eleven named storms formed – Bill, Claudette, Danny, Elsa, Fred, Grace, Henri, Julian, Kate, and Larry. At this rate, the number of named storms should equal, if not exceed last year’s record number!

Both our atmosphere and the bodies of water surrounding Florida – the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico – continue to be super-energized via pro-longed high temperatures. The potential for tropical cyclone development is elevated, consequently, everyone needs to remain vigilant for the next two months.

Send comments and questions about this month’s report to:

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