

Be Prepared for the 2022 Hurricane Season

Meadow's Weather Analysis: March 2022 Report

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Rainfall & Temperature Data:

Rainfall: 1.24 inches (YTD: 2.48 in.)

23 yr. March rainfall average: 2.31 in.

Average high temperature: 84.6 F (normal: 78.4 F)

Above normal high-temperature days: 26

Record high-temperature days: 8

Weather Summary: May is the time of year when we Floridians begin an annual 'ritual'. We've been in hibernation since last year's hurricane season ended (Dec.1st. 2021), a time when we generally give the weather little attention. But now, as we focus on the upcoming 2022 tropical cyclone season, it is time once again to show the weather some real respect – let's **be prepared** and become ever-vigilant for the next seven months.

One reason to sharpen our focus this year is a very concerning temperature trend that's been observed during the past two-plus years. This trend, represented in graph # 1, reveals that during a twenty-seven-month period the average monthly temperature in the Meadows has exceeded the normal high temperature in all but two months – December 2020 and November 2021. This is unprecedented! The reason this should concern us is the knowledge that prolonged above normal atmospheric (and sea) temperatures can lead to a variety of nasty and sometimes devastating weather-related events. Detailed information about this phenomenon can be found at this digital link:
smashwords.com/books/view/1102757.

A second reason to pay special attention involves statistics. Historical records reveal that 40 percent of all hurricanes that develop in the Atlantic (Ocean) basin make landfall in Florida! However, since 2005, there has been little activity. Only two hurricanes, Irma in 2017 and Michael in 2018, and one tropical storm, Eta in November 2020, made an impact. Statistically, the law of average suggests that we are long overdue!

A new NOAA forecast for the 2022 hurricane season should be available for the June Meadoword column.

Temperature Analysis: March was a very warm month! The average high temperature (84.6 F) was 6.2 degrees above normal and near the record level (85.4 F) established in March 2020.

Other temperature statistics include 26 above normal high temperature days and 8 record high temperature-days.

Rainfall Analysis: March is the fourth consecutive month in which rainfall was well-below normal (36% of normal). Prolonged rainfall deficits combined with the high temperatures described previously are the perfect ingredients for wildfires. As of this writing there have been more than a thousand wildfires across Florida since January 1st. At this rate, the total number this year will more than double the total (2,000 +) that occurred in 2021!

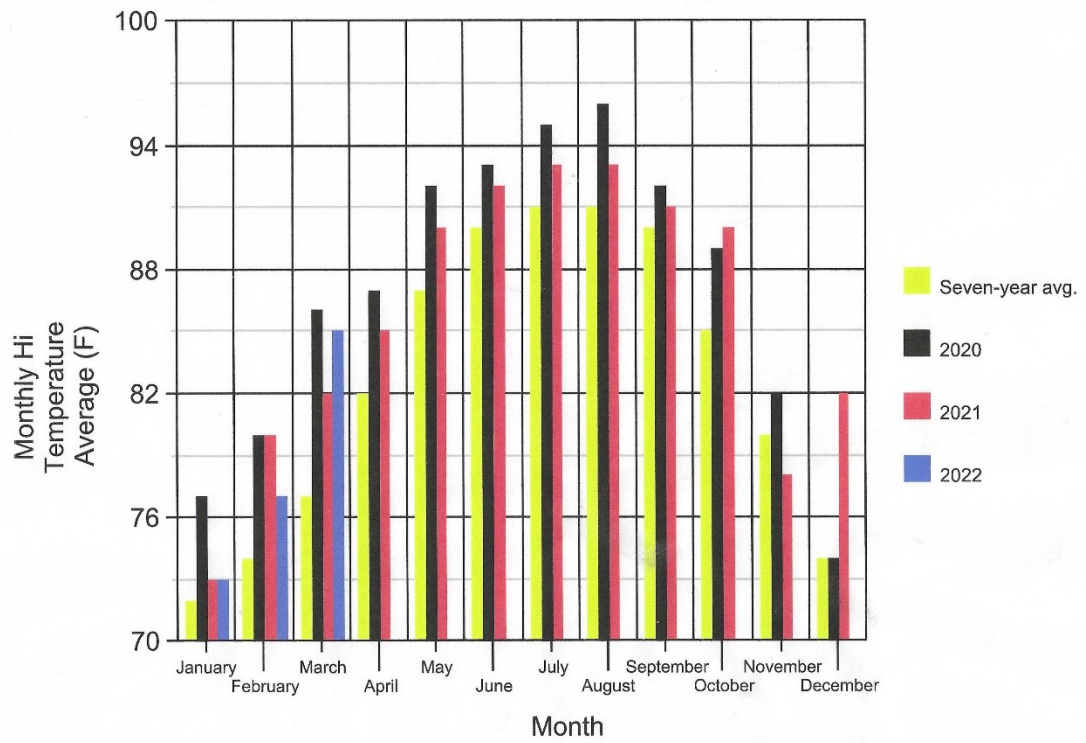
Monthly rainfall and temperature data are presented in graph # 2

[Editorial note: There was an important 'typo' in the March Meadoword weather column. In the second paragraph, and the sentence that begins with "Because our community is approximately two feet above sea level -----", the word 'two' is incorrect. It should be 'twenty-five'.]

Send comments and questions about this month's report to: roywys@gmail.com.

Graph # 1

Meadow's Monthly High Temperature Averages



MCA Weather Data

Graph # 2

Meadows Rainfall and High Temperatures

March 2022

