

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO Weather Station Monthly Summary Report

Month: August
Year: 2011
Report created by:
Wendy Ryan



Temperature:

Mean T_{\max} was 89.8 which is 5.8 degrees above the normal for the month. This ranks as the warmest in the 123 year record (1889-2011). Second place is 1995 with an average maximum temperature of 88.4 degrees F.

Mean T_{\min} was 58.8 which is 2.5 degrees above the normal for the month. This ranks as the 3rd warmest in the 123 year record (1889-2011). The most recent August this warm or warmer was 2007 with 59.0 degrees F.

Mean T_{mean} was 74.3 which is 4.1 degrees above the normal for the month. This ranks as the warmest in the 123 year record (1889-2011). Second place is 1983 with an average monthly temperature of 73.7 degrees F.

Summer 2011 (June, July, and August) mean temperature was 72.2 which is 2.6 degrees above the average for the season. This ranks as the 4th warmest in the 123 year record (1889-2011). The last summer this warm or warmer was 2007 with 72.4 degrees F. The top 8 warmest summers on record all occurred since 2000 (see table below).

Year	Summer Mean Temperature (JJA)
2006	72.8
2002	72.6
2007	72.4
2011	72.2
2001	71.6
2010	71.3
2000	71.1
2003	71.0

The maximum daily temperature was 98 and occurred on 23 August 2011.
The minimum daily temperature was 53 and occurred on 18 August 2011.

Misc. Temperature (record status, days above/below thresholds):

Highest Maximum Temperature:

23 Aug 11: Daily maximum of 98 breaks the record of 94 set in 1919 and 1938.

25 Aug 11: Daily maximum of 94 ties the record set in 1897.

28 Aug 11: Daily maximum of 95 ties the record set in 1899.

31 Aug 11: Daily maximum of 97 breaks the record of 95 set in 1960.

Highest Minimum Temperature:

2 Aug 11: Daily minimum of 67 ties the record set in 1951.

26 Aug 11: Daily minimum of 62 ties the record set in 1961.

28 Aug 11: Daily minimum of 65 breaks the record of 61 set in 1929, 2002 and 2010.

29 Aug 11: Daily minimum of 62 ties the record set in 1971.

In 2011, there have been 56 **consecutive** days greater than or equal to 80 degrees. This is the longest streak on record and is currently tied with 2007. One more day (which is likely) will be the longest streak of days greater than or equal to 80 degrees F.

In 2011, there were 9 **consecutive** days greater than or equal to 90 degrees, which occurred from 7/19-7/25. The longest streak of 90+ degree days is 14 set in 1987.

In 2011, there have been 39 days greater than or equal to 90 degrees (maximum is 45 days set in 1960) and 85 days greater than or equal to 80 degrees (maximum is 108 days set in 2006).

Precipitation and Snowfall*:

Total monthly precipitation was only 0.16” and was 1.43” below the normal for the month (10% of normal). This ranks as the 5th driest in the 123 year record (1889-2011) tied with 1900. The last August this dry or drier was 1974 with 0.12”

Water year 2011 precipitation is 14.22” which is 0.52” below normal (96% of normal). This ranks as the 51st wettest water year in the 122 year record.

Summer 2011 precipitation was 4.64” which is 0.83” below the normal (85% of normal). This ranks as the 57th wettest summer on in the 123 year record (1889-2011).

Misc. Precipitation (predominant type, record status, etc.):

Wind:

In August 2011 there were 12 days with maximum wind gusts ≥ 20 mph and 0 days ≥ 30 mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 28 mph from 230° at 18:20 MST on 31 August 2011.

Evaporation:

August 2011 Class A pan evaporation was 6.98” which is 0.50” above the normal** for the month (108% of normal).

** Normal evaporation is average monthly evaporation calculated for Class A pan only (1974-2008). Prior to 1974 a sunken pan was used.

Accumulated Water Loss Comparison 2011

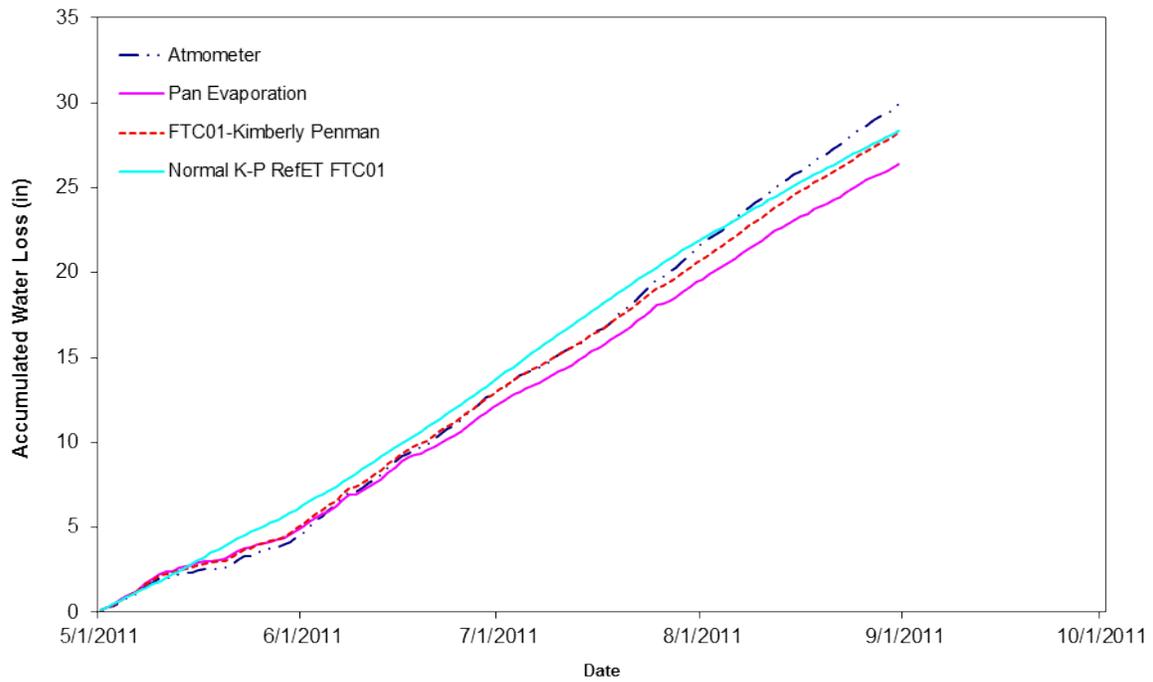


Figure: Water loss comparison of Fort Collins Weather Station instruments (atmometer and class A pan) and nearby FTC01 CoAgMet (ccc.atmos.colostate.edu/~coagmet) station. The light blue line represents the historical daily normal evaporation from the CoAgMet station.