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Cotton Insights Newsletter

A service provided by Windstar, Inc. affiliated gins.

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The Numbers for May 2022

May is generally a challenging month, and the roller coaster weather in May, 2022 has certainly been worth noting. Lingering drought continues over much of our service region, but local rainfall has been beneficial for some. Overall, the moisture situation is improved for some, and certainly has complicated dryland crop management plans for many. The temperatures during the third week of May crashed and resulted in poor growing conditions, especially for the recently planted irrigated cotton, and many fields planted just prior to the lower temperatures are having stand establishment challenges.

To see the distribution of recent rainfall provided by the West Texas Mesonet, click on the link below: <https://rain.ttu.edu/tech/1-output/weather.html> and then select Precipitation from the menu on the left hand side.

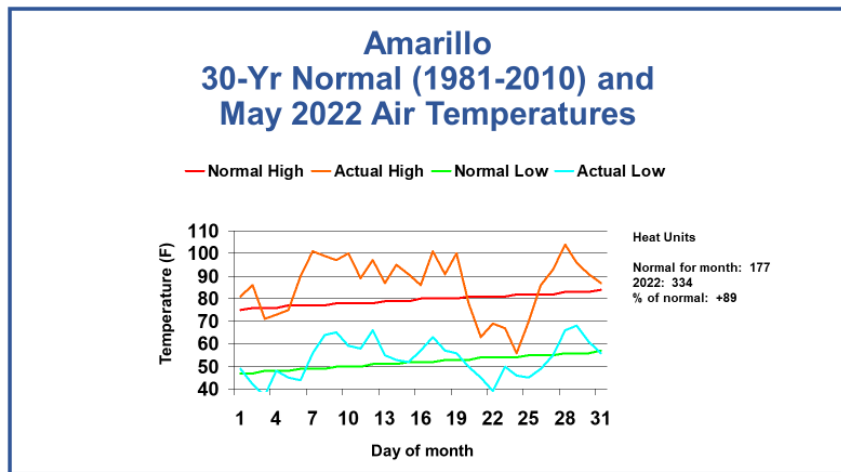
To see the distribution of rainfall for the past 30 days provided by the Oklahoma Mesonet, click on the link below:

https://www.mesonet.org/index.php/weather/map/30_day_rainfall_accumulation/rainfall

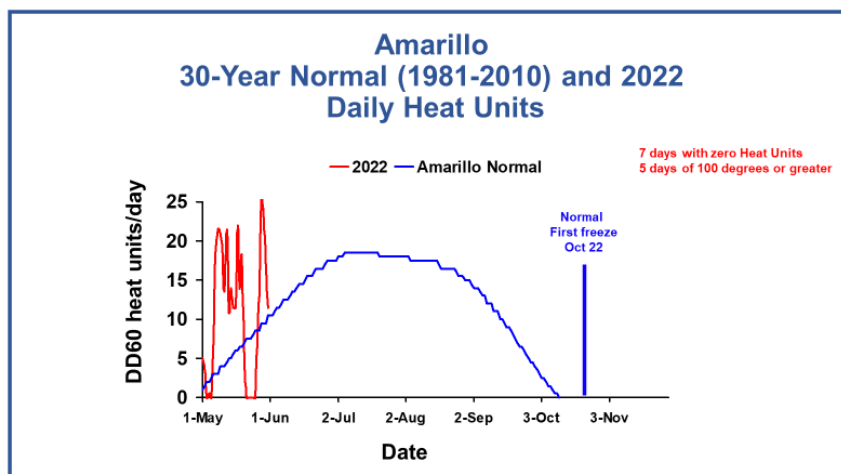
For Amarillo, the month of May ended with 334 cotton heat units (DD60s), which is about 89 percent higher than the 30-year normal (177). But as seen in the graphs below, May was really characterized with “boom and bust cycles” with respect to temperatures. There were 7 days with zero cotton heat units, and on the flip side, there were 5 days of 100 degrees or greater. Incessant high winds were also noted for the month, which posed significant road blocks for producers with respect to crop management. NOAA provides highly vetted daily total solar radiation numbers, but unfortunately the only site in the Texas panhandle region is located near Muleshoe. The May values appeared to be somewhat higher than the 18-year average for many days of the month, but some days were apparently impacted by cloud cover associated with the cold fronts moving through the area.

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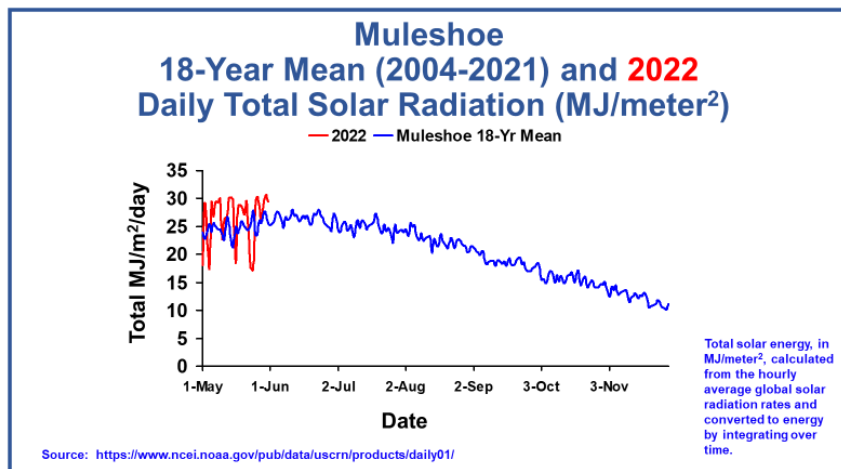
Amarillo May, 2022 vs. Normal Temperatures



Amarillo Daily DD60s for May, 2022



Muleshoe Daily Total Solar Radiation for May, 2022

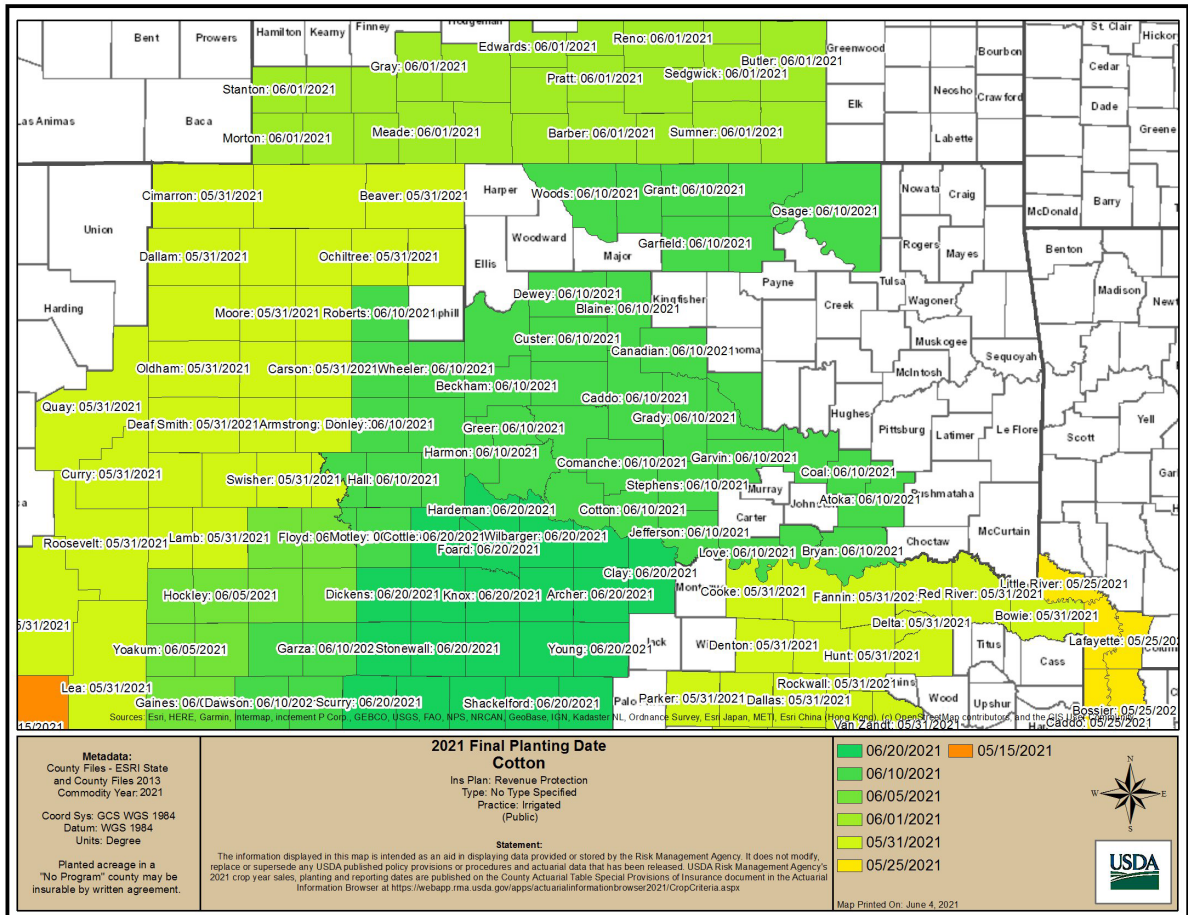


Cotton Final Planting Dates for Insurance Purposes

The May 31 final planting dates have passed, and this affects numerous counties in the Texas Panhandle as far south as Swisher. Maps of both irrigated and non-irrigated final planting dates by county are available from the USDA-Risk Management Agency. For convenience they have been provided below. These maps were built and obtained a year ago, so some counties may have been updated. The website below can be used to develop 2022 maps if desired:

<https://public-rma.fpac.usda.gov/apps/MapView/index.html>

Irrigated - 2021 Cotton Final Planting Dates for Insurance Purposes



Non-Irrigated 2021 Cotton Final Planting Dates for Insurance Purposes

