SUMMARY of the August 2005 WEATHER ON THE MONTEREY PENINSULA

General: Very cool, very dry, very cloudy and very foggy characterize the month of August 2005 at the National Weather Service Climate Station, Monterey!

Temperature: It was not tomato-growing weather near the coast on the Monterey Peninsula in the August just past! The overall average of 59.5°F is 1.5°F below the 54-year average/normal. Along with August 1981, it’s the coolest August since 1973 with a 59.1°F average. The daytime temperatures contributed most to this negative anomaly. The average August 2005 daily maximum was 66.7°F, a full 2.5°F below normal. We have to look back to August 1970 to find a cooler average maximum, namely 66.1°F.

Two-thirds of the August 2005 days had below-normal maximums. Appreciable clearing of low clouds did not arrive until on/about 25 August. July 2005 came in with the same average maximum, but August is normally warmer than July, by an average of 1.3°F in the maximum-temperature department. Every 2005 month except March, has recorded below normal average maximums!

Nighttime NWSCS temperatures were less anomalous, but still below normal–52.3°F vs. 52.9°F normal. In the case of minimums all previous 2005 months have been above normal except April 2005 with a slight (0.1°F) below normal average.

A few daily records or near records to report: a 60°F maximum on 13 August is a new record (was 62°F in 1980, this date). And on 22 August, the 60°F maximum tied the cold record for the date (set in 1981 and 2002). On both 20 and 21 August the 60°F maximum was within 1°F of tieing the cold record. High for the month, 78°F, on the 30th; the low was 49°F on 11 August. The Carmel Valley station reported a very cool 40°F minimum on 7 August.

The (potentially) warmest month of the year (September) is upon us, however with no sign of positive temperature anomalies to publication time. Statistically, 25 September is the warmest day of the year with an average high of 75°F and an average low of 54°F.

Precipitation: August is considered a dry month, with 0.10" average rainfall. August 2005 produced 0.01", classified as very light. Along with August 2000, it’s the lowest for August since only a trace of rain in August 1985. The rain-year 2005/06 total stands at 0.04" at month’s end compared to 0.17" expectation (54-year average/normal). With no clear El Nino/La Nina signal for the upcoming wet season the rainfall outlook is indefinite for at least the early part of that season.

Wind: Seasonal winds for the most part. The high gust was 32 mph at the NWSCS, in connection with a “southerly surge” of low-cloud/fog during the afternoon of 31 August. For the most part, maximum gusts were in the low 20’s at Peninsula weather stations.

Fog: 24 fog days in August (21 is normal) contributed to a high two-month (July, August 2005) total of 52 fog days, matching 1998 but less than the 56 fog days in July/August 1996 or 58 days in 1994 for the same period. September sees a reduction in fog;17 is normal.

Temperature and Precipitation Outlook for the Central California Coast for period September thru November 2005: The National Weather Service outlook for the Central Coast area indicates above normal temperatures for the period, especially inland, with below normal rainfall in September and equal probabilities for below and above normal rainfall in October and November.
### Comparative Weather Data for Stations on/near the Monterey Peninsula & Salinas

**August 2005**

Following are comparative figures from eleven local observation sites:

1. National Weather Service Climate Station (NWSCS), (elevation 385') located in the western hilly section of Monterey;
2. National Weather Service Forecast Office (NWSFO) site (elevation 122'), located in the flat area of eastern Monterey, on the NPS Annex grounds adjacent to Airport;
3. Naval Postgraduate School Campus (NPS) site, Monterey; (elevation 45');
4. Ft. Ord (NPS) site (elevation 167') located just north of the Marina Municipal Airport (formerly Fritzschie Army Airfield). This is the site of the Naval Postgraduate School's wind profilers managed by Department of Meteorology;
5. Marina site, SE end of Marina located about 2-1/2 miles ESE of Monterey Bay (elevation 80');
6. Carmel Valley site near Carmel Village, vicinity of Ford Rd. and Lilac Lane (elevation 475');
7. Salinas site, vicinity of W. Blanco Rd. within 1/2 mile of S. Main St.;
8. Carmel, located on Rio Road near east end;
9. Seaside, vicinity of Paralta and Military Aves;
10. Pacific Grove site, vicinity of Sunset and Congress Streets;
11. Big Sur Ranger Station, Highway 1, Big Sur.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Avg. Max</th>
<th>Highest</th>
<th>Avg. Min</th>
<th>Lowest</th>
<th>This Month</th>
<th>01 Jul-31 Avg (rain year)</th>
<th>Normal</th>
<th>Peak Gust (dates)</th>
<th>Avg. Speed</th>
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<tr>
<td>NWSCS</td>
<td>66.7</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>52.3</td>
<td>48</td>
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<td>trace</td>
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<td>NPS</td>
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<td>77</td>
<td>55.2</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>trace</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>29 (24th)</td>
<td>3.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ft. Ord (NPS)</td>
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<td>0.01</td>
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<td>26 (23rd)</td>
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<td>Prev Day</td>
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**FOOTNOTES:** Observations for precipitation: a = 5 or 6 PM PST, b = midnight PST, c = 3 or 4 PM local, d = 6 to 8 AM. (NOTE: for d: 24-h rainfall measured 8 AM, first day of the month counts for previous month)

@ = 54-year average, # = 48-year average, + = 23-year average, & = 19-year average.

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**NWS Climate Station, Monterey, CA**  
**August 2005**

- **Temperature (degree F):**
  - Range: 45 to 80
  - Day 1 to Day 31

- **Precipitation (inches):**
  - Range: 0.00 to 3.00
  - Day 1 to Day 31

- **Total Precipitation:** 0.01
- **Average Temperature:** 52.3°F
- **Average Precipitation:** 66.7 inches