**Reading 4 SW;** Berks County, PA; Lat 40°19.0'N, Lon 75°59.3'W, Elev 320 ft MSL

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CoCoRaHS ID: PA-BR-2, Reading 3.5 SW Observation time: 2359 EST

**May 2006**

Daily details (monthly extremes in **bold):**

TEMPERATURES

DAY MAX MIN OBS PCPN SNOW DEPTH REMARKS

 1 73 **38** 52

 2 78 42 56

 3 76 46 54

 4 83 47 68

 5 79 58 58 0.03 Brief shower early morning

 6 76 51 51

 7 68 41 56

 8 67 52 55 Tr

 9 73 51 60

10 80 51 61

11 69 57 59 **0.67** Showers late afternoon on; some thunder late

12 73 51 54 Tr Rain ended long before dawn

13 72 51 57 0.10 Early evening shower; hvy TS several miles east

14 62 53 54 Tr

15 64 52 62 0.15 Light showers during morning

16 66 51 57 0.03 Light showers mid afternoon

17 70 54 59 0.02 Light shower early afternoon

18 73 50 52 0.06 Weak TS early (0.04) and late a£tn (0.02)

19 63 50 52 0.04 Light rain around 0700

20 69 52 52 Tr Few drops mid morning

21 69 44 52 Tr Occasional drops midday hours

22 **61** 46 **46**

23 70 43 49

24 74 41 63

25 77 46 59

26 80 56 65 0.25 light late aftn showers (0.03); late eve TS

27 82 61 64

28 87 56 67

29 **93** 61 73 Cb ENE early evening

30 **93** 67 **76**

31 90 **69** 72

SUM 2310 1598 1.35 0.0

Monthly statistics:

Average Monthly Temperature (Dep): 63.0 (+0.7)
Average Maximum Temperature (Dep): 74.5 (+0.6)
Average Minimum Temperature (Dep): 51.5 (+0.9)

Extreme Daily High Maximum Temp: 93 (+2) on 29th,30th

Extreme Daily High Minimum Temp: 69 on 31st

Extreme Daily Low Minimum Temp: 38 (+2) on 1st

Extreme Daily Low Maximum Temp: 61 on 22nd

Heating Degree Days (Season): 117 (4501)

Cooling Degree Days (Season): 66 (69)

• -- more --

Total Monthly Precipitation (Dep): 1.35 (-3.99)

Total Annual Pcpn through Month: 14.92 (-6.42)

Greatest Calendar Day Pcpn: 0.67 on 11th

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Pcpn: 0.67 on 11th-llth

Total Monthly Snowfall (Dep): 0.0 (-0.0)

Total Season Snowfall (Dep): 23.7 (-6.2)

Greatest Calendar Day Snowfall: 0.0 on
Greatest Floating 24-Hour Snowfl: 0.0 on

Maximum Depth of Snow/Ice: 0
Days with Hail:

Days with Thunder (Dep): 3 (-2)

Highest Wind Gust (MPH): 24 on 21't

Maximum Barometric Pressure: 30.33 on 1st

Minimum Barometric Pressure: 29.39 on 18th

Average 4-Inch Soil Temps trended upward from the upper 50s early to mid 70s
late and ranged from 53 on 2fld to 80 on 31st.

Highlights:

A few substantial rainfalls in the region during this May missed this station
and resulted in a very low precipitation total for May, second lowest only to
the 1.15 in May 2005 (last year). A complex upper level trough, which hung
around throughout the month's middle third, generated several slugs of heavy
rain. But they all weakened on arrival or just plain missed this location. One
remarkable opportunity passed by on Saturday the 13th when drenching
thunderstorms with heavy hail inundated some of Berks County's eastern
townships, approximately 15 miles east of this station, from midday into the
evening. Rainfalls of nearly 2" in an hour or less and up to 4.15 for the day
were reported, and small hail covered the ground over an inch deep on some
areas. Only a peripheral shower dampened this location with 0.10 during the
early evening. Monthly rainfall analyses indicated this neighborhood was in the
core of a low-rainfall anomaly this May. So this marked the fourth consecutive
May and five of the last six of below normal rainfall at Reading 4 SW. Over the
long term, May has been the wettest month of the year in this area. However,
the spate of abnormal May dryness of recent years could cause average May
precipitation to slip under the averages of June, July, and September unless the
trend reverses during the remaining years of this decade.

An end-of-month heat wave prevented this May from being a cool one on average,
and in fact, boosted the average temperature into the high-end normal range.
Outside of the heat wave, coolness was dominant but not at all extreme. The
heat wave did rival the end-of-May 1991 heat wave, but couldn't hold a candle to the heat that developed during late May 1987 or even around 20 May 1996.
Therefore, the station May high temperature records of 98 from 30 May 1987 and
97 from 20 May 1996 still stand.

Rankings this month:

Avg Temp 63.0 - tie with 1988 for ninth warmest of 22 Mays

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Precip 1.35 - second driest of 24 Mays

Snowfall 0.0 - no snow observed in May since a feeble flurry on 9 May 1977