U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WEATHER BUREAU
IN COOPERATION WITH Greenwood Chamber of Commerce
CLIMATOGRAPHY OF THE UNITED STATES NO. 20 — ~~33~~ 38

CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

STATION GREENWOOD, S.C.

LATITUDE 34 11N
LONGITUDE 82 09W
ELEV. (GROUND) 671 feet MSL

MEANS AND EXTREMES FOR PERIOD 1925-1954

Month	Temperature (°F)							**	Precipitation Totals (Inches)								Mean number of days					
	Means			Extremes								Snow, Sleet, Hail						Temperatures				
																		Max.		Min.		
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Year	Record lowest	Year	Mean degree days	Mean	Greatest daily	Year	Mean	Maximum monthly	Year	Greatest daily	Year	Precip. .10 inch or more	90° and above	32° and above	32° and below	0° and below	
(a)	30	30	30	30	30	30		30	30	30		30	30		30		30	30	30	30	30	(a)
Jan	55.3	34.6	45.0	82	1949	4	1940	623	4.29	3.05	1943	0.6	7.8	1940	7.0	1936	7	0	*	14	0	Jan
Feb	57.8	35.2	46.5	81	1930	7	1936	518	4.15	2.55	1929	0.2	3.0	1934	3.0	1934	7	0	*	11	0	Feb
Mar	63.8	40.8	52.3	87	1935+	14	1943	424	4.95	3.92	1952	0.1	1.0	1931+	1.0	1932+	8	0	0	6	0	Mar
Apr	73.3	49.4	61.4	91	1925+	27	1940+	138	3.67	3.39	1936	0	0				6	*	0	1	0	Apr
May	82.2	58.1	70.2	102	1941	37	1944	18	3.55	4.02	1943	T	T	1950	T	1950	6	5	0	0	0	May
June	89.9	66.5	78.2	105	1954	48	1929	0	3.58	3.49	1945	0					7	17	0	00	0	June
July	90.9	69.4	80.2	108	1926	53	1933	0	4.54	3.65	1943	0					8	20	0	0	0	July
Aug	89.6	68.2	78.9	107	1954	51	1930	0	4.65	7.42	1940	T	T	1952	T	1952	7	17	0	0	0	Aug
Sept	85.3	63.4	74.4	104	1954	41	1942	8	3.60	5.61	1929	0					5	10	0	0	0	Sept
Oct	75.7	51.3	63.5	100	1954	29	1952	107	2.74	5.60	1929	0					4	1	0	*	0	Oct
Nov	63.2	40.3	51.8	85	1943	13	1950	396	2.71	2.12	1948	0					5	0	0	7	0	Nov
Dec	54.4	34.1	44.3	80	1933	8	1925	642	4.26	2.85	1943	0.1	2.0	1935+	2.0	1935+	8	0	*	14	0	Dec
Year	73.4	50.9	62.2	108	July 1926	4	Jan. 1940	2874	46.69	7.42	Aug 1940	1.0	7.8	Feb 1940	7.0	Jan. 1936	78	70	*	53	0	Year

(a) Average length of record, years.

+ Also on later dates, months or years.

T Trace, an amount too small to measure.

* Less than one half.

** Base 65° computed from average monthly temperature rather than the actual degree-day averages

CLIMATE OF GREENWOOD SOUTH CAROLINA:

The City of Greenwood is located in western South Carolina near the middle of the Piedmont Plateau. The Atlantic Ocean is approximately 140 miles to the southeast, while northwestward the general topography rises gently to the edge of the mountains about 70 miles distant. The immediate terrain is rolling, being drained by the Saluda river and its tributaries to the north and by the tributaries of the Savannah river to the south. The general downslope effect, accompanying northwesterly winds, probably helps to somewhat moderate the winter, while there is sufficient elevation in the immediate area to dampen the more extreme of the summer temperatures. The slight upslope effect that accompanies southerly winds tends to increase the annual precipitation.

The prevailing climate is temperate, showing a strong continental character (Cfa by Köppen). During the cooler part of the year, the day to day weather is controlled largely by the west to east march of pressure systems across the continent. During the warm season, the invasions of continental type air becomes less frequent with maritime tropical air persisting over the area for extended periods. There are no past wind records for the city of Greenwood, although the area should follow the pattern of Greenville's winds in a general way. The prevailing wind at Greenville is northeast averaging 7.9 miles per hour. The nearest humidity record of any length is also the record of Greenville. The average lpm values from this point vary from a maximum of 60% in the winter to a minimum of 51% in the fall. Nighttime and early morning humidities are generally between 70% to 80% while during the early evenings they average in the 60's.

The summers are typically warm. There are on the average 4 days with a maximum of 100 degrees or over during the summer. In fact, during the past 30 years about twenty per cent of the summers failed to record a reading of 100F or over. Summer is the rainest season of the year, by a narrow margin, recording 28% of the annual rainfall.

The fall season on the average is the sunniest and most pleasant time of the year. Being a transition between extremes, this season partakes of the summer weather early in September passing through an "Indian Summer" period to the prewinter cold spells which begin to be felt with regularity towards the last of November. During late summer and throughout the fall, it is not unusual for a tropical storm to either invade the area or to come close enough to cause heavy rains. Since hurricanes lose force rapidily when cut off from their source of warm moist air, the storms have usually lost their destructive winds by the time they have reached the Piedmont. During the past 30 years Greenwood has received squally weather and heavy rains in connection with the passage of a tropical storm about six times. No destructive winds in connection with tropical storms have been recorded in this area. The rainfall during this season is 19% of the annual total.

The winter season at Greenwood is not, as a rule, severe. Cold outbreaks of air do occur from time to time, broken by longer periods of above freezing temperatures. There are on the average about 53 days with a minimum temperature of 32°F or below. The typical winter should have about 6 days with a low temperature of 20 or below and 1 or 2 days during the season with 15°F or below. Snowfall sometimes occurs during the winter although a number of winters do not have any. Days with a maximum of 32°F or below have occurred less than 1 time per year for the period of record. Winter rainfall represents about 27% of the annual total.

Spring is marked by its rapid changes, with the weather varying from an occasional outbreak of cold air in March to warm and pleasant most of the time in May. This is the season with the greatest tornado frequency. During the period 1925-1954 the records show one destructive storm in Greenwood county. This tornado occurred in 1944 and apparently did not cause major damage in Greenwood. Twenty-six per cent of the annual rainfall occurs in the spring.

Greenwood has, on the average, a growing season, or continuous period with no temperatures as low as 32°F, of 235.9 days. The average date of the last Spring minimum of 32°F or less is March 22, although freezing has occurred as late as the 21st of April. The first fall minimum of 32°F or less occurs, on the average, on November 13th, although it has occurred as early as October 11th.

The nearest recording raingauge is located at Laurens. These values should be roughly comparable to what one might expect at Greenwood.

The maximum values recorded for the period 1941-1950 are:

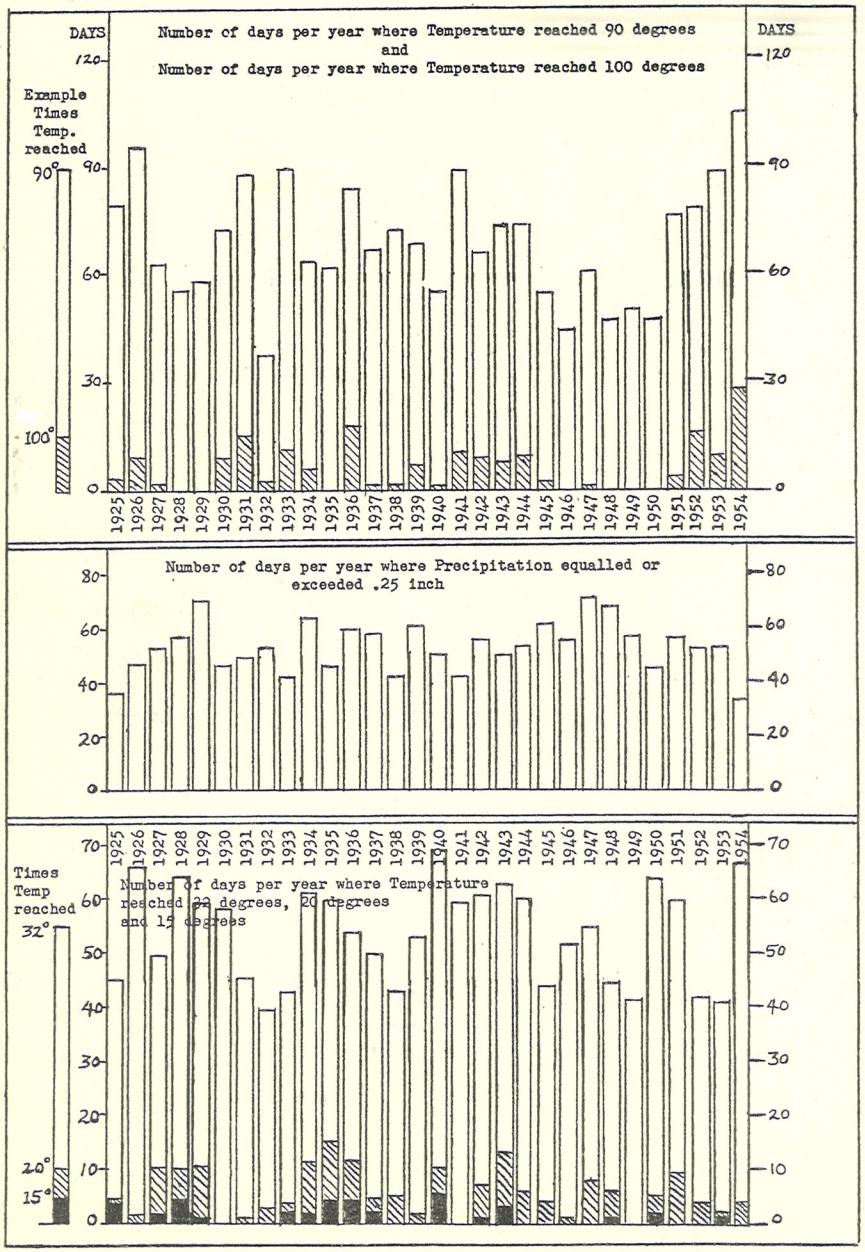
Duration	1 hour	2 hour	3 hour	6 hour	12 hour
Amount	1.80	3.16	4.63	4.47	4.81
Dates	3-15-42	5-2-46	5-2-46	5-2-46	5-2-46

Nathan Kronberg, State Climatologist
John C. Purvis, Climatologist
Weather Bureau Airport Station
Columbia, South Carolina

STATION HISTORY:

Regular weather observations were begun in the Greenwood area May, 1893 with the appointment of Mr. F. H. Heidt as observer. The first station was located at 34 10'N and 82 9W in the town of Greenwood. Records were interrupted from November 1893 to May of 1894 but continued from this location until September of 1896 with Mr. F. W. Heidt serving from May 1894 to Sept. 1894 and Mr. Samuel Perrin from October 1894 to Sept. 1896. The observation point was moved to Calhoun Avenue, latitude 34 11'N, longitude 82 09W' with the appointment of Mr. M. M. Calhoun in 1896. In 1914 the instruments were moved to Highland Park, the coordinates and the observer remaining the same. Mrs. Irene M. Calhoun followed as observer for the period 1943-1948 from the same location. The observations were moved to Lites Street April 1948 continuing through April 1949 with Mrs. Sadie E. Torrence serving as obser. The present observer, Mr. Thomas E. Taylor, began observations May 1949. The current observation point is on E. Cambridge Street with the instruments exposed over sod.

CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY: Greenwood, South Carolina 1925-1954



Total Precipitation (Inches)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1925	9.54	2.12	2.16	1.47	1.21	0.96	1.23	1.06	1.58	3.03	3.42	2.41	30.19
1926	5.59	3.89	5.17	2.43	0.23	2.06	5.85	4.44	0.95	1.37	3.27	5.15	40.40
1927	1.10	5.03	3.86	1.34	2.90	6.61	6.49	4.44	1.09	1.53	1.52	8.61	44.52
1928	1.91	3.96	3.59	6.20	6.68	4.10	4.42	14.68	4.74	2.11	0.56	1.30	54.25
1929	4.38	9.22	10.75	5.91	7.01	5.49	4.25	1.03	14.31	12.69	3.34	4.15	82.53
1930	3.20	1.07	2.55	1.23	3.52	3.64	5.10	0.95	6.07	1.02	5.16	3.40	36.91
1931	3.08	2.35	3.35	3.24	4.28	3.09	4.35	4.71	0.50	0.63	0.74	7.33	37.65
1932	6.60	4.61	2.95	2.83	2.11	6.48	2.44	5.81	1.90	6.67	5.69	7.12	55.21
1933	2.74	5.58	2.57	1.61	2.43	1.80	3.85	1.88	4.06	1.69	0.52	1.90	30.63
1934	2.56	4.15	4.44	3.34	4.02	6.71	6.58	3.49	3.02	4.57	1.46	3.64	47.98
1935	2.66	3.18	2.76	5.99	1.32	1.14	7.75	5.98	4.65	1.02	3.11	1.79	41.35
1936	10.35	6.99	6.83	10.34	0.12	2.80	6.26	5.20	2.46	7.70	2.55	6.84	68.44
1937	6.84	4.35	2.31	7.92	3.13	3.34	3.97	4.94	3.46	6.19	1.61	2.75	50.81
1938	1.66	1.24	3.29	6.03	2.63	1.87	8.86	2.39	0.91	0.53	2.50	3.92	35.83
1939	3.93	8.55	5.95	2.67	3.74	0.86	3.71	9.38	2.09	0.59	1.01	3.65	46.13
1940	4.58	4.43	3.71	1.65	3.83	5.74	4.86	13.38	0.19	1.60	6.44	3.41	53.82
1941	1.90	1.93	6.49	0.98	0.30	6.80	7.20	1.98	0.65	1.02	1.84	6.53	36.62
1942	2.66	3.79	8.44	1.02	7.45	1.84	3.83	5.10	3.65	4.64	2.08	4.55	49.05
1943	6.93	3.20	5.54	3.43	7.58	5.77	7.49	2.15	4.66	0.41	2.07	3.56	52.79
1944	3.27	6.91	10.01	6.42	2.39	0.73	3.85	4.63	1.74	2.19	1.90	1.46	45.50
1945	3.16	6.04	2.97	4.86	2.78	5.78	5.13	1.55	7.85	1.09	1.32	8.37	50.90
1946	3.47	3.81	5.29	4.66	4.19	1.85	3.38	4.83	3.07	5.25	2.31	1.64	43.75
1947	8.63	1.52	5.45	3.35	3.27	5.77	2.78	4.22	3.15	4.42	7.68	3.92	54.16
1948	4.52	6.21	7.51	4.11	6.16	3.51	3.94	3.08	4.04	2.05	10.28	4.59	60.00
1949	3.32	5.54	2.44	5.73	3.27	3.64	2.80	9.37	3.66	2.18	0.89	2.46	45.30
1950	3.40	1.94	5.02	0.71	4.64	1.87	5.73	4.87	4.86	3.09	0.46	3.75	40.34
1951	2.26	2.34	5.77	4.24	0.33	6.38	3.27	1.32	6.59	1.16	2.60	5.33	41.59
1952	5.72	3.86	9.63	3.02	5.73	1.71	2.12	8.43	3.21	1.19	1.37	3.57	49.56
1953	4.62	5.41	3.92	1.42	7.25	2.50	3.48	0.95	7.90	0.34	0.44	8.04	46.27
1954	4.29	1.34	3.92	2.04	2.24	2.60	1.26	3.34	1.03	0.52	3.25	2.52	28.35

Average Temperature (°F)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1925	43.2	51.2	54.6	65.6	66.7	79.3	81.2	78.4	80.8	61.1	48.7	42.4	62.8
1926	41.5	46.1	45.1	58.3	70.8	77.6	81.2	80.8	78.2	65.2	48.2	46.2	61.6
1927	43.5	53.6	53.8	62.8	70.9	74.8	78.4	76.2	75.6	66.0	56.4	44.0	63.0
1928	42.4	43.6	51.4	58.5	67.6	75.5	79.6	79.4	71.4	65.8	51.5	44.9	60.9
1929	45.3	46.6	57.7	63.3	68.6	76.0	78.5	78.6	72.0	79.8	53.6	43.0	61.9
1930	45.0	50.0	48.4	62.8	69.0	75.7	81.2	77.8	76.7	60.3	48.6	39.9	61.3
1931	42.7	47.4	46.5	58.3	67.6	79.2	82.8	77.9	77.8	65.2	57.6	50.7	62.8
1932	52.6	51.1	48.0	60.0	68.0	76.8	81.6	77.8	72.9	60.4	47.8	46.8	62.0
1933	49.4	45.6	51.8	60.2	74.7	79.4	79.2	79.2	78.0	63.8	51.8	50.6	63.6
1934	45.0	38.8	49.8	62.2	69.4	79.3	81.7	80.0	75.8	62.7	54.4	43.8	61.9
1935	43.8	42.8	56.5	60.2	69.6	77.8	80.2	79.8	73 3	64.1	54.8	36.1	61.6
1936	38.4	42.0	55.6	59.0	73.2	78.8	82.2	80.4	76.4	65.4	51.3	45.8	62.4
1937	52.6	45.1	50.5	60.0	71.4	80.0	80.6	79.2	71.0	59.8	48.7	42.4	61.8
1938	43.0	50.6	57.7	61.1	71.5	76.2	78.4	81.2	74.8	63.6	55.3	43.5	63.1
1939	45.6	49.2	55.7	61.2	69.5	81.2	80.4	78.0	75.6	66.6	50.4	45.4	63.2
1940	32.2	43.6	50.8	60.4	68.4	77.9	78.8	78.2	72.8	64.5	52.4	46.8	60.6
1941	43.6	41.1	47.4	62.8	73.2	77.8	80.4	80.6	77.0	71.2	53.5	48.0	63.0
1942	44.0	40.8	53.0	64.0	70.2	79.4	82.2	78.3	73.6	63.4	53.6	42.6	62.1
1943	45.6	47.0	50.0	59.8	70.6	81.0	78.6	80.1	69.2	59.6	50.0	44.1	61.3
1944	42.6	48.8	50.6	59.6	72.0	79.8	77.6	76.0	74.2	62.0	50.4	40.0	61.1
1945	42.6	47.4	61.4	65.0	66.8	78.0	80.2	77.6	75.8	62.6	53.4	38.5	62.4
1946	44.2	47.4	58.7	63.4	68.5	77.2	78.6	77.2	71.3	62.3	56.8	48.6	62.8
1947	46.8	39.2	44.6	64.0	70.6	76.4	76.8	79.4	75.8	66.2	50.4	45.2	61.3
1948	39.4	46.7	57.2	65.8	70.3	78.0	80.4	77.0	71.2	58.8	55.9	47.8	62.4
1949	53.0	51.0	53.5	59.2	70.2	77.0	81.0	78.0	70.8	66.4	50.8	45.2	63.0
1950	53.2	48.8	48.2	58.3	72.6	78.2	77.5	77.7	71.0	64.8	48.8	40.9	61.7
1951	44.6	46.4	52.5	59.4	69.0	78.6	80.5	81.5	74.7	64.9	47.7	46.4	62.2
1952	50.1	47.4	52.2	60.1	71.7	82.7	81.9	78.3	71.7	58.9	52.8	43.7	62.6
1953	47.3	47.4	53.8	61.0	74.9	78.9	80.5	80.7	72.5	64.8	53.0	44.0	63.2
1954	45.2	49.5	52.6	65.2	65.7	78.2	82.5	83.1	77.6	66.3	48.3	41.8	63.0