U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WEATHER BUREAU
IN COOPERATION WITH THE WISCONSIN CROP REPORTING SERVICE
CLIMATOGRAPHY OF THE UNITED STATES NO. 20-47

LATITUDE 42°41'N
LONGITUDE 90°07'W
ELEV. (GROUND) 820 Feet

CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

MEANS AND EXTREMES FOR PERIOD - 1931-59

STATION: DARLINGTON, WISCONSIN

Month	Temperature (°F) Means: Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Extremes: Record highest	Year	Record lowest	Year	** Mean degree days	Precipitation Totals (Inches): Mean	Greatest daily	Year	Snow, Sleet: Mean	Maximum monthly	Year	Greatest daily	Year	Mean number of days: Precip. .10 inch or more	Temperatures Max.: 90° and above	32° and below	Min.: 32° and below	0° and below	Month
(a)	30	30	30	30		30		30	30	30		30	30		30		30	30	30	30	30	
Jan.	29.5	9.8	19.7	58	1944	-41	1951	1400	1.30	1.29	1950	9.6	22.8	1947	11.0	1940	4	0	17	30	8	Jan.
Feb.	33.1	13.8	23.5	60	1932	-36	1959	1160	1.04	2.00	1948	6.4	20.0	1936	9.0	1950	3	0	12	27	6	Feb.
Mar.	43.6	23.1	33.4	79	1943+	-14	1943	980	1.94	2.14	1943	7.7	24.0	1932	9.0	1959	5	0	5	25	1	Mar.
Apr.	59.4	34.8	47.1	90	1930	12	1954	540	2.98	2.42	1950	0.7	5.0	1936	3.5	1938	6	*	*	13	0	Apr.
May	70.1	45.9	58.0	104	1934	21	1935	260	3.63	2.52	1933	0.1	4.0	1935	4.0	1935	7	1	0	2	0	May
June	79.1	56.3	67.7	104	1934	32	1945	80	4.88	3.05	1947	0	0		0		8	3	0	*	0	June
July	84.4	60.0	72.2	107	1936	41	1947	20	3.86	3.58	1951	0	0		0		6	6	0	0	0	July
Aug.	82.3	58.0	70.2	101	1936	33	1934	30	4.26	4.92	1942	0	0		0		6	5	0	0	0	Aug.
Sept.	74.4	49.6	62.0	98	1939	21	1949	160	3.44	2.92	1941	T	T	1942	T	1942	6	2	0	2	0	Sept.
Oct.	63.7	38.3	51.0	89	1953	9	1952	440	2.43	2.63	1943	0.1	2.0	1959	2.0	1959	5	0	*	10	0	Oct.
Nov.	45.9	26.2	36.1	79	1933	-20	1947	870	2.18	1.77	1952	2.1	10.5	1959	5.0	1959	5	0	4	22	1	Nov.
Dec.	33.0	15.4	24.2	64	1951	-33	1950	1270	1.38	1.31	1942	7.8	20.0	1951	8.0	1959	4	0	14	29	5	Dec.
Year	53.2	35.9	47.1	107	July 1936	-41	Jan. 1951	7210	33.32	4.92	Aug. 1942	34.5	24.0	Mar. 1932	11.0	Jan. 1940	65	17	52	160	21	Year

(a) Average length of record, years.

T Trace, an amount too small to measure.

** Base 65°F. -H. C. S. Thom, Monthly Weather Review, January 1954.

+ Also on earlier dates, months, or years.

* Less than one half.

CLIMATE OF DARLINGTON, WISCONSIN

Darlington, county seat of Lafayette County, is located on the west branch of the Pecatonica River in southwestern Wisconsin. The area is hilly with considerable woodland in the valleys. Originally, the county was covered with grass prairies, and white oak, black oak, and hickory. The soils are yellowish or grayish brown loams and brown to black prairie loams. This summary is representative of Darlington and approximates Lafayette County. Since the station is located in a valley, minor adjustments should be made to temperatures for slope and hilltop locations. Valleys tend to increase the daily and annual temperature ranges by lowering the minima, while slopes tend to moderate temperature extremes.

The climate of Darlington is classified continental and has four definite seasons. Winters are relatively long, cold, and snowy; summers are fully developed with periods that are hot and humid. Spring and fall are sometimes short and mixtures of both summer and winter. Changes in weather can be expected every few days from late fall through early spring. The area is under the influence of cyclonic and anti-cyclonic storms that move from west to east during all seasons of the year.

Temperatures not only vary considerable from season to season, but also from year to year. The number of days with 90 degrees or higher has varied from 49 in 1934 to 0 for the 2-year period 1950-51. The number of days with 0 degrees or below has varied from 37 in 1936 to 3 in 1931.

Precipitation is usually adequate for the agriculture economy of the county. About 60 per cent of the annual normal falls in the five months May through September. The likelihood of 1 inch or more of rain in a 7-day period during the summer is greatest during the first part of June when the chance is more than 4 in 10 years. The likelihood of a dry 7-day period, trace or less, during the summer is greatest the last part of August when the chance is 4 in 10 years. Intensities of about 1.45 inches in 1 hour, 2.55 inches in 6 hours, and 3.10 inches in 24 hours can be expected once in 2 years. The number of days in a year with 0.01 inch or more of precipitation has been between 100 and 124 in 2 of 3 years and has averaged 112 days.

In recent years, snowfall has ranged from 14 inches for the winter 1933-34, to 65 inches for 1958-59. The average date of the first 1 inch or greater snowfall is November 25. The chance of this fall by November 1 is 1 in 10 years, by December 19, is 9 in 10 years.

Thunderstorms have occurred on an average of 43 days a year with extreme years of 25 and 60 days. Hail has fallen on an average of 3 days a year with occurrences of individual years ranging from 0 to 7 days. Some summer thunderstorms have been violent with heavy rain, strong winds, and large hail which lodged small grain and corn. Since 1916, there have been 7 tornadoes confirmed in the county.

Wind, sunshine, and relative humidity records are not available but the following data from Madison should approximate conditions in Darlington.

Prevailing winds are westerly in winter and southerly in summer. March, April, and November are the windiest months with averages of 12 miles per hour. July and August are the least windy with averages of 9 miles per hour. The wind speed per hour has averaged less than 4 miles about 10 per cent of the time, 4 to 12 miles about 50 per cent, 13 to 31 miles about 40 per cent, and greater than 31 miles per hour less than 1 per cent of the time. The highest speeds are usually from the west or southwest.

Possible sunshine has averaged about 40 per cent for November and December, 60 per cent or greater for May through October, and 50 to 60 per cent for the remaining months.

Relative humidity has approximated:

Threshold	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Less than 50%	5%	20%	15%	20%
50% to 79%	55%	50%	45%	50%
Greater than 79%	40%	30%	40%	30%

The freeze data given below are representative of the valleys. Seasons, number of days between threshold temperatures, have averaged about a week earlier in spring and a week later in fall on hilltops. The average date of the last 32-degree freeze in the spring is May 12, and the first in the fall is September 29. The growing season, defined as the number of days between the last 32-degree freeze in the spring and the first in the fall, averages 140 days. The following table gives the likelihood of critical temperatures occurring:

AFTER DATE IN SPRING

Temperature	20%	40%	60%	80%
32° or below	May 22	May 15	May 9	May 3
28° or below	May 13	May 5	Apr. 29	Apr. 22
24° or below	Apr. 29	Apr. 21	Apr. 15	Apr. 7
20° or below	Apr. 15	Apr. 8	Apr. 1	Mar. 24
16° or below	Apr. 4	Mar. 27	Mar. 21	Mar. 14

BEFORE DATE IN FALL

32° or below	Sept. 19	Sept. 26	Oct. 2	Oct. 8
28° or below	Sept. 28	Oct. 6	Oct. 12	Oct. 20
24° or below	Oct. 9	Oct. 16	Oct. 23	Oct. 31
20° or below	Oct. 21	Oct. 29	Nov. 4	Nov. 12
16° or below	Oct. 31	Nov. 8	Nov. 15	Nov. 23

Marvin W. Burley
Weather Bureau State Climatologist
Weather Bureau Office
Madison, Wisconsin

DARLINGTON, WISCONSIN

Average Temperature (°F)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1930	10.3	31.2	34.4	48.8	58.4	66.3	73.4	71.4	63.0	47.6	37.7	24.2	47.2
1931	25.7	32.4	32.7	48.1	54.4	71.6	78.2	71.8	69.2	55.2	44.2	33.6	51.4
1932	26.6	29.7	26.4	47.0	60.0	70.0	74.6	71.4	60.4	48.8	32.4	22.9	47.5
1933	31.2	20.5	34.2	46.0	59.5	75.4	73.0	69.0	67.0	48.2	36.0	24.8	48.7
1934	27.8	21.4	32.0	47.6	66.0	76.0	75.8	68.4	59.6	52.6	40.2	18.6	48.8
1935	17.7	24.6	37.0	44.9	52.2	62.8	75.8	69.8	61.0	48.2	32.8	20.0	45.6
1936	9.7	5.0	36.8	41.1	62.4	64.4	77.2	73.8	64.2	47.6	33.0	27.3	45.2
1937	17.5	22.4	33.0	47.4	59.7	67.3	73.1	75.2	63.0	48.6	33.2	20.9	46.8
1938	17.8	32.2	43.3	49.8	58.2	66.2	71.8	70.6	63.2	56.1	36.0	20.4	48.8
1939	26.3	20.8	34.6	43.9	62.2	69.0	71.1	69.1	66.8	54.6	38.5	30.0	48.9
1940	9.6	24.2	29.0	45.6	57.0	70.6	74.8	70.2	63.4	53.9	33.0	28.1	46.6
1941	23.6	20.9	27.0	50.8	62.0	68.2	71.8	69.3	62.8	49.9	40.8	31.0	48.2
1942	19.0	22.6	38.2	52.1	55.9	67.2	70.9	68.5	58.4	50.5	38.7	18.0	46.7
1943	16.0	23.2	30.0	45.6	54.0	69.6	71.8	70.2	56.4	47.6	31.4	26.0	45.2
1944	27.4	24.6	29.8	43.8	61.9	69.2	68.8	69.2	62.3	50.8	41.0	18.8	47.3
1945	14.8	23.0	46.0	48.2	52.5	61.8	67.8	68.6	59.4	48.0	35.8	17.9	45.3
1946	23.3	25.8	43.7	49.5	55.0	65.8	70.8	66.0	60.6	54.7	38.0	29.5	48.6
1947	24.4	16.2	30.0	44.6	52.4	63.4	68.4	76.7	63.8	60.2	30.8	25.9	46.4
1948	14.4	20.5	33.2	52.6	55.2	65.0	72.1	70.5	64.3	47.9	39.5	24.8	46.7
1949	20.2	21.5	33.2	46.3	59.1	69.8	74.1	70.3	56.2	53.5	38.4	25.7	47.4
1950	22.3	21.6	29.1	40.9	59.1	65.9	67.6	65.3	60.5	54.3	30.8	15.1	44.4
1951	14.7	20.6	30.3	45.0	61.1	63.9	69.1	66.6	57.4	50.9	28.3	20.2	44.0
1952	20.2	29.4	30.3	48.3	56.1	69.5	73.3	67.4	60.8	43.5	38.0	26.9	47.0
1953	24.1	27.1	35.1	43.4	58.3	69.6	71.5	69.7	61.7	55.2	40.5	27.2	48.6
1954	20.1	35.1	32.2	51.1	52.9	70.9	72.5	68.5	64.4	50.7	37.6	25.3	48.5
1955	20.3	21.2	32.5	54.0	60.9	64.0	76.7	73.7	64.0	51.9	33.0	18.7	47.6
1956	21.0	23.0	32.6	44.6	58.6	70.3	70.0	69.7	59.6	56.2	37.0	26.5	47.4
1957	13.4	29.3	34.2	48.5	56.3	67.4	73.2	69.4	59.5	47.4	36.4	29.1	47.0
1958	20.1	16.1	33.4	47.6	58.2	62.7	68.6	70.3	62.6	53.8	39.2	17.1	45.8
1959	11.4	17.4	31.2	46.8	63.1	68.1	69.5	74.2	64.0	47.7	28.7	32.1	46.2

Total Precipitation (Inches)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1930	1.12	1.05	1.00	4.84	4.87	5.72	1.50	0.88	2.31	2.57	1.01	0.85	27.72
1931	0.84	0.18	1.59	1.62	2.47	3.18	1.50	2.12	7.06	4.06	6.13	1.42	32.17
1932	1.40	0.41	2.56	1.26	3.05	5.23	2.03	2.77	0.66	3.62	1.07	1.79	25.85
1933	0.44	0.35	3.58	2.26	12.31	1.04	5.26	5.97	3.03	1.76	0.31	0.97	37.28
1934	0.57	0.41	1.47	1.23	0.90	2.84	6.60	4.30	6.63	1.91	8.39	1.00	36.25
1935	1.22	1.05	1.18	2.03	4.21	4.73	2.64	4.78	2.05	2.17	3.28	0.50	29.84
1936	1.27	1.07	0.34	0.72	0.94	3.38	2.34	7.44	4.33	3.63	0.75	2.03	28.24
1937	2.78	1.30	1.50	2.76	2.70	4.87	1.00	1.75	2.25	3.75	0.85	0.77	26.78
1938	1.68	1.55	3.00	2.49	3.96	6.48	6.94	7.89	9.75	0.93	2.20	0.74	47.61
1939	1.13	1.65	0.74	2.04	0.69	3.29	2.91	2.79	0.86	1.54	0.84	0.00	18.48
1940	1.06	0.80	0.50	2.05	3.05	4.30	6.29	7.15	0.16	1.41	2.30	1.85	30.92
1941	2.07	0.47	1.80	2.34	2.61	3.49	2.61	4.50	9.55	2.96	1.43	1.84	35.67
1942	1.13	0.48	0.79	0.81	3.93	5.36	4.42	7.14	5.81	2.18	3.49	2.39	37.93
1943	1.57	0.69	2.93	2.90	2.86	3.06	1.48	7.20	1.84	3.66	1.03	1.08	30.30
1944	1.41	1.68	2.58	3.71	4.15	7.34	3.18	4.39	3.81	0.82	3.14	1.18	37.39
1945	0.84	1.56	2.65	3.61	6.01	5.48	1.52	2.90	6.52	0.71	2.70	1.02	35.52
1946	2.26	0.32	3.50	0.93	2.50	4.83	1.84	3.47	6.41	1.96	2.48	1.17	31.67
1947	2.09	0.22	1.58	6.86	3.76	8.67	3.75	1.69	3.79	1.76	2.01	1.68	37.86
1948	0.61	2.59	3.47	3.56	6.40	3.48	5.43	3.04	2.32	1.87	2.56	1.78	37.11
1949	2.47	1.65	2.13	2.14	3.59	8.11	5.77	2.24	2.08	2.25	0.82	1.77	35.02
1950	2.65	1.28	2.48	4.33	3.31	9.17	5.57	1.79	1.63	0.81	0.54	1.73	35.29
1951	1.31	2.08	3.23	5.01	5.70	4.74	8.85	5.53	2.66	5.77	2.17	1.61	48.66
1952	2.03	0.40	3.75	1.92	2.84	4.89	3.82	7.35	0.75	0.01	3.87	1.92	33.55
1953	0.48	2.92	2.06	2.90	2.52	3.42	4.66	3.46	2.44	0.61	1.22	2.24	28.93
1954	0.38	0.54	1.24	6.20	3.09	8.82	4.08	3.36	2.28	4.12	0.39	1.56	36.06
1955	0.57	1.37	1.03	4.60	2.19	3.98	1.34	2.08	2.04	3.62	0.35	0.74	23.91
1956	0.60	0.86	0.89	3.98	3.43	1.56	4.57	5.28	2.65	0.54	3.10	1.10	28.56
1957	0.61	0.61	1.26	3.12	6.26	6.24	7.54	3.79	0.63	2.45	3.01	1.71	37.23
1958	0.54	T	0.34	3.24	0.89	4.06	2.48	3.17	2.99	3.91	1.98	0.53	24.13
1959	1.13	1.60	3.11	3.88	3.64	4.74	3.96	7.50	3.89	5.41	1.83	2.48	43.17

STATION HISTORY

A climatological station was established in Darlington on February 25, 1901 and was closed September 29, 1905. No information on the locations or exposures of instruments is available.

The station was reopened on the grounds of the court house on May 11, 1910, where observations were taken until May 31, 1938. Moves were made to: 113 Ravine Street at residence of observer June 1, 1938 and to 704 Washington Street at residence of observer February 19, 1941. The instruments were located over sod under standard regulations.

STATION HISTORY (Continued)

Observers at the Darlington station have been:

R. E. VanMatre .....February 6, 1901 to July 31, 1901
R. A. Murray .....August 1, 1901 to September 29, 1905
S. P. Nelson .....May 11, 1910 to March 30, 1919
J. W. Huntington.....April 1, 1919 to September 19, 1931
Mrs. Vina Paschel.....September 20, 1936 to December 31, 1936
Everett French .....January 1, 1937 to May 31, 1938
Walter E. Bell .....June 1, 1938 to February 19, 1941
Mrs. Ernest Ruf .....February 19, 1941 to present