

July 2014

The heart of summer turned rather cool and drier than normal for the majority of the state. In spite of a close call from Hurricane Arthur on the 4th of July, temperatures averaged below the long-term mean on about two-thirds of the days with monthly means between 0.5 and 2.5F below normal. Rainfall was above normal in long narrow stripes from the south-central mountains to the southern Poconos and across most of the region west of the Alleghenies. Once again, the driest region was on the northwest side of the Poconos and in the southern counties. Oddly, adjacent counties had both the highest rainfall (near 10") and the least rain (around 2"). There were no heat waves, but there were numerous outbreaks of severe thunderstorms during the first two-thirds of the month with three confirmed tornado touchdowns. Farmers managed well with little or no stress on the crops promising an abundant if not record harvest in some sections of Pennsylvania.