The Pennsylvania Observer

Experimental Long Range Outlook for Pennsylvania: April – May 2011
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The basis of this analog prediction scheme uses the notable temperature and precipitation anomaly from the last 30 days (or so) and in a “fuzzy” way – that is setting all anomalies to +/- 0.5 standard deviations from the long-term mean – and matches these patterns to the climate division anomalies from 1895- present. The best matched years are selected (using a dozen or less) and these are used to produce the composite anomalies for the next two months and the years are used to create a composite daily anomaly for three regions of Pennsylvania.
Much below normal temperatures were felt throughout the upper Midwest during the month of March. On the contrast, above average temperatures were recorded in western Texas.
Much of the western interior of the nation experienced a dearth in precipitation, with the greatest deficits occurring in Texas and southern New Mexico. Above average precipitation was measured along the West Coast as well as the spine of the Appalachians.

The following years were matched:
Below are the composite departures for those years for April and May.

Composite Standardized Temperature Anomalies
Versus 1895–2000 Longterm Average
Composite Standardized Precipitation Anomalies
Versus 1895–2000 Longterm Average
Eastern Pennsylvania Temperature Forecast
April-May 2011

Mean Temperature Departure from Normal (deg F)

Date


Legend:
- Forecast
- 5-Day Mean Forecast
- Verification
- 5-Day Mean Verification
- Normal