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Your Winter Outlook 2011-2012 From Accuweather.com

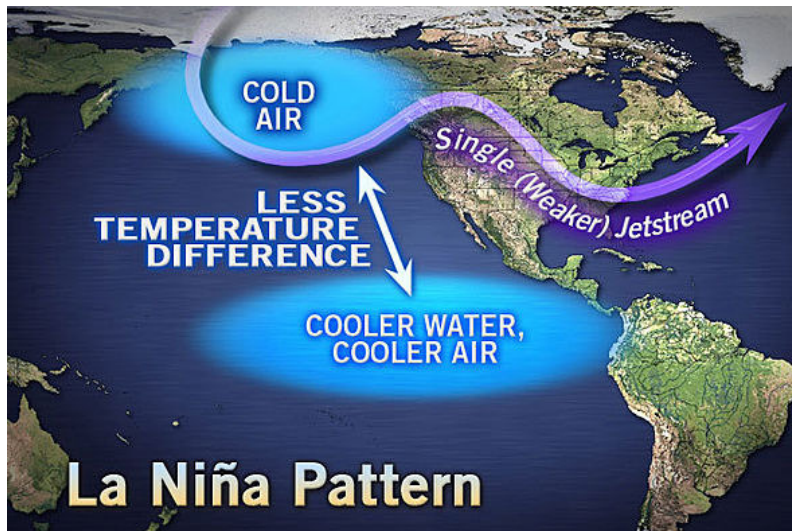
You may be wishing for those 95+ days after looking at this forecast plus spring might be delayed compared to other years. To paraphrase *The Temptations*: ♦Get Ready because here it comes♦.



The AccuWeather.com Long-Range Forecasting Team is predicting another brutally cold and snowy winter for a large part of the country, thanks in large part to La Niña... yet again.

La Niña, a phenomenon that occurs when sea surface temperatures across the equatorial central and eastern Pacific are below normal, is what made last year's winter so awful for the Midwest and Northeast. Monster blizzards virtually shut down the cities of New York and Chicago. Last winter was one of New York City's snowiest on record.

La Niñas often produce a [volatile weather pattern for the Midwest and Northeast during winter](#) due to the influence they have on the [jet stream](#). The graphic below shows the position the jet stream typically takes over the U.S. during La Niña.



This graphic illustrates the common position the jet stream takes over the United States during La Niña.

The way the jet stream is expected to be positioned during this winter's La Niña will tend to drive storms through the Midwest and Great Lakes. Last year, the jet stream steered storms farther east along the Northeast coast, hammering the Interstate 95 corridor.

Therefore, instead of New York City enduring the worst of winter this year, [it will likely be Chicago](#).

"The brunt of the winter season, especially when dealing with cold, will be over the north-central U.S.," stated Paul Pastelok, expert long-range meteorologist and leader of the AccuWeather.com Long-Range Forecasting Team.

Chicago, which endured a monster blizzard last winter, could be one of the hardest-hit cities in terms of both snow and cold in the winter ahead.

AccuWeather.com Long-Range Meteorologist Josh Nagelberg even went so far as to say, "People in Chicago are going to want to move after this winter."

Brutal Winter Ahead for the Midwest, Great Lakes

Hands down, AccuWeather.com's long-range experts agree that the Midwest and Great Lakes region will be dealt the worst of winter this year.

Bitterly cold blasts of arctic air are expected to invade the northern Plains, Midwest and Great Lakes December through January, while snowfall averages above normal. "A couple of heavy hitters are possible [during this time]," Pastelok said in relation to the snow.

In terms of both snow and cold, this winter is expected to be the worst in Chicago. However, for the worst of winter's cold alone, the AccuWeather.com Long-Range Forecasting Team points to Minneapolis.

The team also highlights Buffalo, N.Y., Indianapolis and Omaha, Neb., as cities that will have to deal with a hefty amount of snow.



Snowfall is predicted to be above normal from Minnesota and Iowa into Michigan, Ohio and parts of West Virginia and Kentucky. Above-normal snowfall is also likely in areas farther east into Pennsylvania and New York due to a lake-effect snow season.

This buildup of snow cover across the Midwest and Great Lakes could act to prolong the colder-than-normal weather beyond February and into early spring



NEW VIDEO: White Speck on Pumpkins

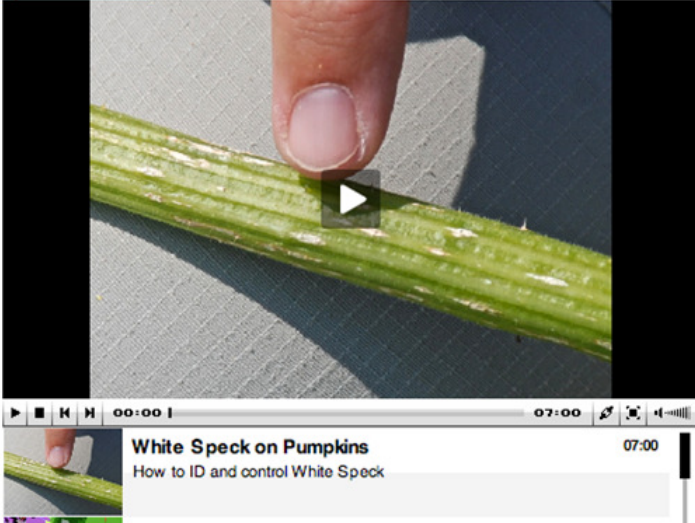
Did you suddenly lose pumpkin foliage this summer and the cause was not powdery mildew or downy mildew? Did you have white spots all over your leaves, petioles and vines. Were your vines bleached white? Did your pumpkin fruit and handles have a white, rough, crusty surface. Chances are you had White Speck (aka Plectosporium blight or Microdochium blight). This soil born fungus returned to attack pumpkins this summer even on land that never had pumpkins before. Probably, the hot, humid and wet summer weather favored its development. Watch Jim Jasinski show you how to identify this disease. Jim will also present management strategies for control. Go to the VegNet home page and watch the first video in Bob's Video Vegetable Notes: <http://vegnet.osu.edu>

★ Bob's Video Vegetable Notes

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Use the scroll bar on the right of the player list to see all the videos available!

For high speed internet connections ONLY. Do not use dial up connections.



VegNet on iTunes U

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and your there!

Access and play our video podcasts on most mobile devices or from your computer. The new White Speck on Pumpkins video is also there (@6.5 min). We hope to have more video and audio podcasts available in the future with such topics as insect or other pest updates and since you can subscribe to the feed you will always be up to date. Check it out.



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