

Figure 7: Record Daily Snowfall Copyright © 2003 The Weather Underground, Inc.

The average high temperature during the summer months is near 75° F with an average low in the mid-50°s (Figure 8). During the winter months the average daily temperatures range from the single digits to the mid-20°s. The median length of the growing season is 145 days, using a base temperature of 32°F, with the median date of the last spring frost occurring on May 12th. The annual average incident of solar radiation on horizontal surfaces is 1130 Btu/sq.ft./day. The greatest solar radiation occurs during the months of June and July (Figure 9).

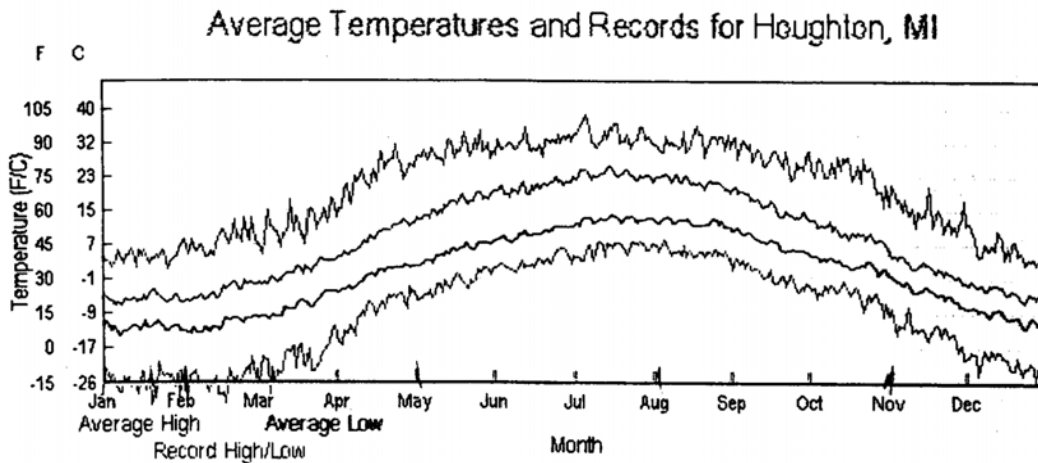


Figure 8: Average Temperature and Records Copyright © 2003 The Weather Underground, Inc.

Climate Date

Information on local climate conditions was obtained from the National Weather Service station in the Houghton County Airport, The Weather Underground Inc. and the Renewable Resources Data Center. The area receives an annual precipitation of 34.01 inches. The highest precipitation occurs in January with an average of 3.81 inches (Figure 5). The record daily precipitation occurred in August with over 3 inches within 24-hours (Figure 6). A significant proportion of the annual precipitation falls in the form of snow, as can be seen in by examining the record daily snowfall for the area (Figure 7).

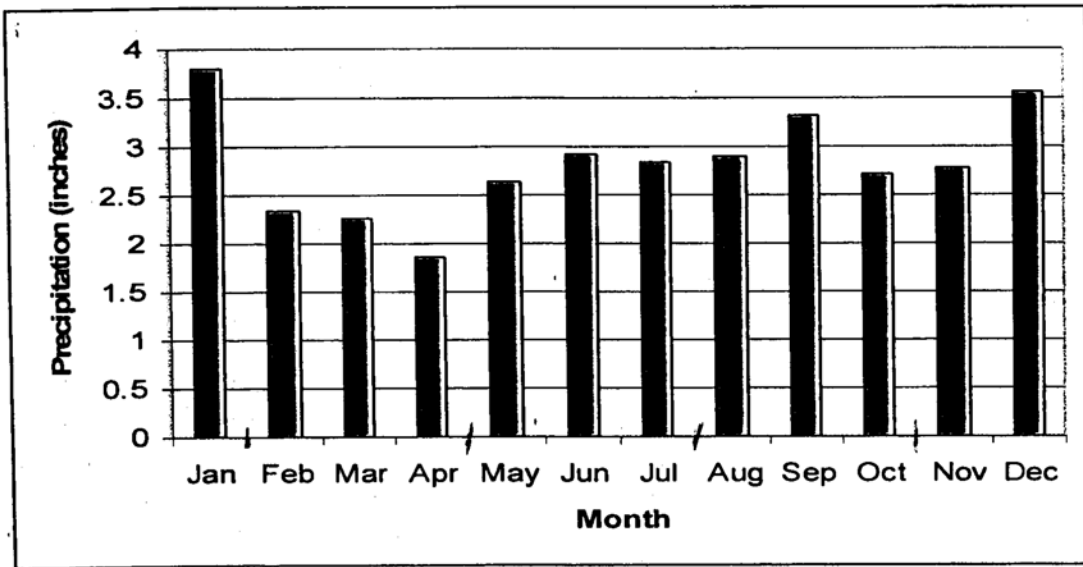


Figure 5: Mean Monthly Precipitation for Houghton County Airport (NOAA)

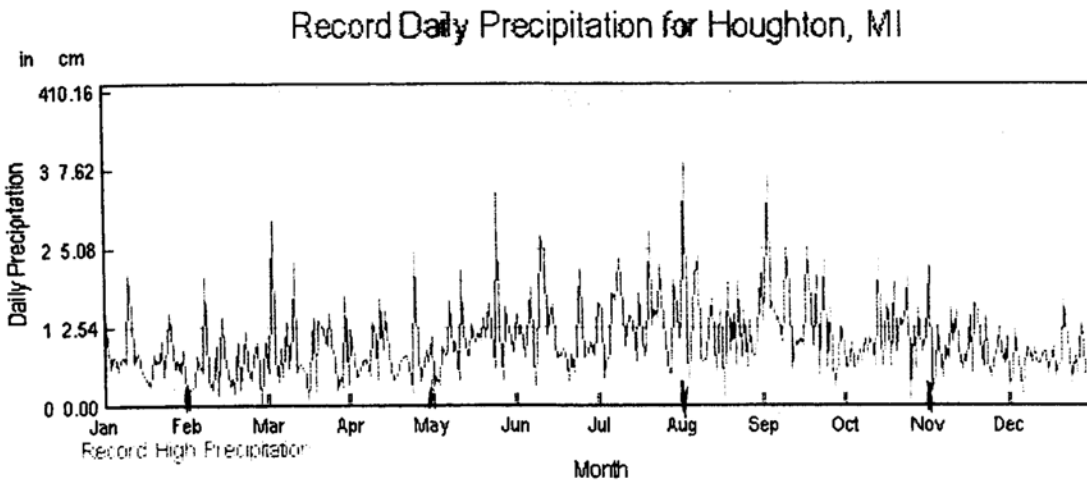


Figure 6: Record Daily Precipitation  Copyright © 2003 The Weather Underground, Inc.

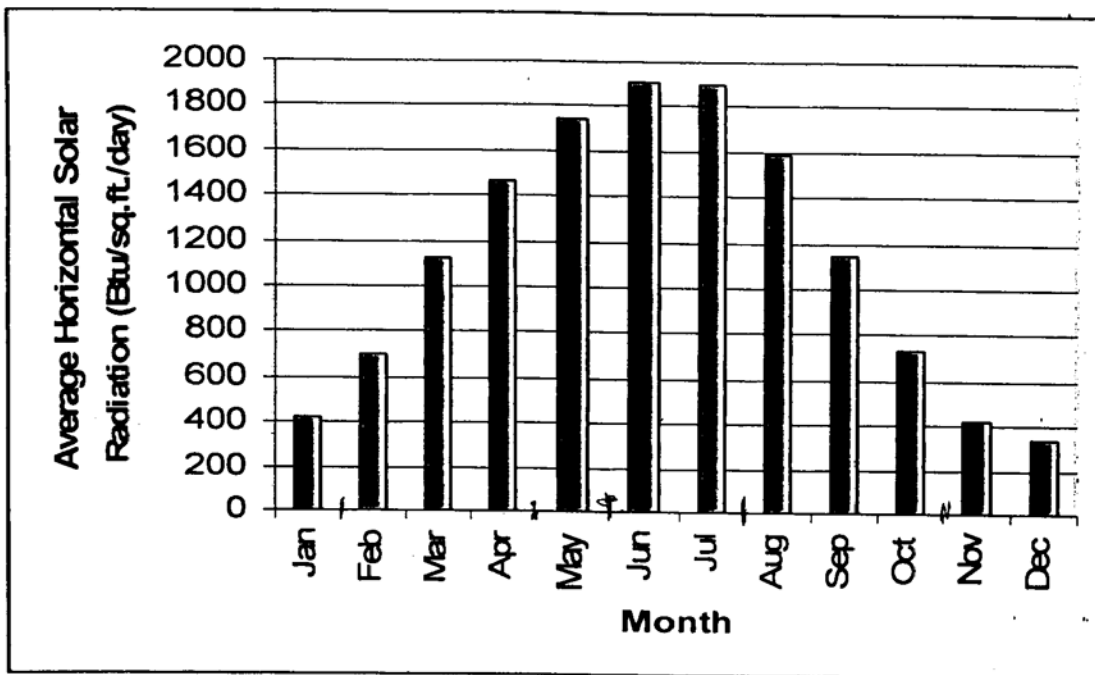


Figure 9: Average Incidence Solar Radiation on Horizontal Surfaces