May 10, 2011

Vol. 20, No. 12

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April temperatures rebound

after March's La Nina lows

Global Temperature Report: April 2011

Global climate trend since Nov. 16, 1978: +0.14 C per decade

April temperatures (preliminary)

Global composite temp.: +0.12 C (about 0.22 degrees Fahrenheit) above

30-year average for April.

Northern Hemisphere: +0.20 C (about 0.36 degrees Fahrenheit) above 30-year average for April.

Southern Hemisphere: +0.04 C (about 0.07 degrees Fahrenheit) above 30-year average for April.

Tropics: -0.23 C (about 0.41 degrees Fahrenheit) below 30-year average for April.

March temperatures (revised):

Global Composite: -0.10 C below 30-year average

Northern Hemisphere: -0.07 C below 30-year average

Southern Hemisphere: -0.13 C below 30-year average

Tropics: -0.34 C below 30-year average

(All temperature anomalies are based on a 30-year average (1981-2010) for the month reported.)

Notes on data released May 10, 2011:

Color maps of local temperature anomalies may soon be available on-line at:

<http://nsstc.uah.edu/climate/>

The processed temperature data is available on-line at:

vortex.nsstc.uah.edu/data/msu/t2lt/uahncdc.lt

As part of an ongoing joint project between UAHuntsville, NOAA and NASA, Dr. John Christy, a professor of atmospheric science and director of the Earth System Science Center (ESSC) at The University of Alabama in Huntsville, and Dr. Roy Spencer, a principal research scientist in the ESSC, use data gathered by advanced microwave sounding units on NOAA and NASA satellites to get accurate temperature readings for almost all regions of the Earth. This includes remote desert, ocean and rain forest areas where reliable climate data are not otherwise available.

The satellite-based instruments measure the temperature of the atmosphere from the surface up to an altitude of about eight kilometers above sea level. Once the monthly temperature data is collected and processed, it is placed in a "public" computer file for immediate access by atmospheric scientists in the U.S. and abroad.

Neither Christy nor Spencer receives any research support or funding from oil, coal or industrial companies or organizations, or from any private or special interest groups. All of their climate research funding comes from federal and state grants or contracts.