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Feb 21, 2011

Study: Climate change linked to longer pollen season

03:49 PM



By [Wendy Koch](#), USA TODAY

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Is your hayfever getting worse each year? Researchers report a link Monday between global warming and a lengthening in North America's ragweed pollen season that may be affecting millions of allergy sufferers.

The ragweed season is now up 27 days longer than in 1995 in the northernmost areas, because the first frost comes later in the fall and thus extends the frost-free period, according to a study by 20 researchers -- mostly U.S.-based -- published in the latest journal of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

"We knew already that springtime was coming 10 to 14 days earlier than it did 20 years ago. But this new work measures the length of the ragweed pollen season in the US for the first time, and finds it's getting longer as temperatures rise," writes [study co-author Kim Knowlton](#), a scientist at the [Natural Resources Defense Council](#) and a professor at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health.

"The effect is greater the farther north one goes," she says. "If these warming trends continue (as they're projected to) under a changing climate, the health of people with severe allergies or asthma could really suffer."



▶ CAPTION

By Todd Sumlin, AP

At least 10% of the U.S. population is sensitive in the summer and fall to ragweed, which along with tree and grass pollen can cause hayfever and asthma, and many of those people can expect more uncomfortable days, the report says.

The researchers analyzed U.S. and Canadian data on ragweed and daily temperatures at 10 different latitudes. They found that in eight of the areas, and in all seven of those north of 40 degrees latitude, the number of days in the ragweed pollen season increased between 1995 and 2009. In all but one case (Oklahoma City), the further north, the longer the season.

For example, the area studied that was furthest south -- Georgetown, Texas -- the season was actually four days shorter and in Rogers, Ark., it was three days shorter. Yet in Oklahoma City, Okla, it was one day longer. Further north, in Papillion, Neb., it was 11 days longer; in Madison, Wis., it was 12 days; in LaCrosse, Wisc, 13 days; in Minneapolis, Mn., and Fargo, N.D., 16 days. In Canada's Winnipeg, it was 25 days longer, and in Saskatoon, 27 days.

"There was a highly significant correlation between latitude and increase in the length (days) of the ragweed pollen season over the period from 1995 to 2009," concluded the [report, whose lead authors include Lewis Ziska of the U.S. Department of Agriculture](#) and Christine Rogers of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Knowlton advises allergy sufferers like herself to check local pollen conditions before heading outside, and after spending time outdoors, to change clothing and wash hair as well as bedding to minimize contact with pollen.

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CTF (0 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 2/22/2011 9:09:43 PM

Yet another reason why we need to move faster toward stemming the tide of global climate change.

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mememine (7 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 2/22/2011 5:55:12 PM

We were wrong. Let's move on.

Climate Change was for gullible fools and we former believers now clearly see that "crisis", "catastrophic", "sever" and "unstoppable warming" were a climate cowards death threat. It was an embarrassing era of environMENTAL environmentalism and I wish I could take back the times I implied to our younger minds that "they" will die on a dying planet from CO2. If any of you stay behind believers and your faded "worst-case-scenario profiting" scientists had any stones at all, you would call climate change what it was supposed to be, death. Not unpleasant weather. How is a little crisis possible anyways? History is not going to be kind to our Disco Doomsday Science and modern day witch burning and even Obama himself bailed on the "crisis" in his state of the union speech. Add to that, the Republican majority just voted to pull all American IPCC funding and there is wide spread talk now of arrests coming. Failed calls for crisis always back fire and now Obama and the press have a new enemy, those who led us to war against climate variation. A wave of former believer rage has arrived and I dare anyone to say unstoppable warming is absolutely true. It's no different from any old freak standing by the side of the road holding a sign with THE END IS NEAR, SAVE THE PLANET scribbled on it.

Journalists and News Editors that covered the climate change mistake for the last two and a half decades of needless panic, have done to science and journalism, what abusive priests did for the Catholic Church. You lazy copy and paste clowns will sooner or later be charged with treason for leading your country to a false war of climate variation and for condemning our children to a death by CO2.

Meanwhile, the UN had allowed carbon trading to trump 3rd world fresh water relief, starvation rescue and 3rd world education for just over a quarter of a century of climate control instead of needed population control. Call the courthouse.

Pollution is real, death by CO2 was not.

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YumYum (27 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 2/22/2011 11:25:22 AM

Everyone on earth now knows that "climate change" is just a euphemism for "global warming" -n a necessary change because we all know it isn't warmer in most places on the planet. But it is still the same bunk. The polar ice has come and gone many times in the history of this planet. Just 10,000 years ago (with humans on the planet) we were just beginning the end of the ice age. Life evolves and adapts. If humans are bad for the planet, trust me, the planet will get rid of them. And nothing else in the universe will care. But what hubris to assume that humans can actually destroy a planet. This planet has been through far worse.

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TGS10 (0 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 2/22/2011 9:00:21 AM

1. The longer pollen season results from climate change, not vice-versa.
2. Ragweed pollen is large and is not what causes most suffering.

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Praxis7 (0 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 2/22/2011 12:38:36 AM

USA TODAY (February 21, 2011) Are your hemorrhoids getting worse every year? Researchers funded with tax dollars from the EPA report a link between anthropogenic global warming (AGW) and increasingly larger hemorrhoids. Dr. Frederick J. Fudger said that his 'peer-reviewed' study proves beyond any doubt that hemorrhoids are up to a massive 3mm larger on average than they were just 100 years ago.

"As medical science and living conditions have improved markedly in the last 100 years, the only possible cause of these monstrous out-of-control hemorrhoids is global warming caused by human CO2 emissions." Dr. Fudger said. He went on to say, "Anyone who does not believe our 'peer-reviewed' findings is a pooh-pooh head".

Fudger went on to state that unless massive sums of money are taken from those who earn it and transferred to him, his team and other AGW supporting researchers and politicians (in that order), by 2035 hemorrhoids would, on average, become so large as to preclude wearing of normal clothing and use of normal furniture such as chairs, beds and Barcaloungers.

"Our children will pay the price for our excessive CO2 emissions. Many lives will be lost and suffering will increase as standards of living decline - especially in developing countries where people and governments can't afford to alter their clothes, furniture or doors to accomodate the massive growths. Our complex computer models - which you little people are too stupid to understand - show clearly that in less than 10 years 97.324538361 zillion people, forced by AGW created mutant hemorrhoids to stand for days on end will finally fall asleep striking their heads on hard objects and die. Or at least be somewhat injured. Civilization as we know it will decline rapidly and then end unless we can develop and distribute soft things to surround everyone with by 2035.", noted Dr. Fudger.

USA Today notes that President Obama promises that billions of new, great paying jobs will be "created or saved" in the "soft things" industry alone. But only if we are able to convince the knuckle-dragging, no-necked AGW-denialists to change their ways - or see to it that they sorta disappear or something...

When asked if he was sure about his findings, Dr. Fudger said, "Look dude, we're not making this up! Pinky-Swear! Just because I and my team will make boo-koo bucks if people fall for, uh I mean, accept our peer-reviewed findings and so do what we say, doesn't mean that AGW is a scam or unproven and unprovable, or anything like that... Did I mention that our research was peer reviewed? That's P-E-E-R R-E-V-U-E-D And that we are definitely not lying? I really, really mean it - we are not lying.... Look! Over there, GIANT MUTANT AGW HEMORROIDS! ..."

At that point in the interview, Dr. Fudger ran away. Film at eleven.

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[lonestar bob](#) (26 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 2/21/2011 8:38:40 PM

Funny how this corrupt media outlet finds a way to consistently post these global warming stories as a frontpage top headline, but the articles that refute or retract the findings are buried or never covered. We're on to you.

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[Joeboo](#) (50 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 2/21/2011 8:03:19 PM

This just in... EVERYTHING is linked to global warming. Hurry up!!! Immediately spend all of your money on retrofitting everything, everywhere. Why??? So Al Gore can make loads of money and.... Wait. What? Oh, Al just phoned in and said, "Shhhhhhhhh". Nevermind on the Al Gore making money thing. Just hurry up and retrofit immediately!

Reporter in the backgroud in a hushed voice - "Tell me again why Al Gore has such a massive carbon footprint if he's so concerned about global warming. Oh yeah, the money thing we're not supposed to talk about. Got it."

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[a09f6956812d12ad](#) (0 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 2/21/2011 8:01:14 PM

After the winte we've had, I would embrace an early spring! Global Warming is a crock!

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[MayTruthWin](#) (0 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 2/21/2011 7:59:35 PM
This is the first substantial "evidence" of the global warming hoax to date.

Hay fever stinks!

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[Dog](#) (746 friends, [send message](#)) wrote: 2/21/2011 7:55:17 PM
Wouldn't this provide a benefit to our growing season.....providing more food to the world....what to the warmers have against solving world hunger?

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