

MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW
AUGUST 2017

August 2017 was a cool, sunny and very dry month.

The rainfall total of just 12.8 millimetres was 35 mm below the average and followed on from a very dry July. Rain fell on only two days and by the end of the month it had been completely dry for 28 days.

As with July a high pressure ridge was prominent over the middle of Australia for most of the month which kept rain systems to the south and skies mostly clear resulting in warmer than normal days and cooler than normal nights.

There was one notable temperature extreme with a maximum of 22.6 degrees on the 16th. See below.

The many calm clear nights meant an increase in number and severity of frosts. The month totalled 24 frosts, seven of which were severe (minimum temp lower than -3.9 deg).

Winds were predominantly from the west and were mostly moderate, with strong gusty winds on the 7th, 16th and 18th.

Thanks to the mostly clear skies it was a very sunny month with 25 sunny days.

Noteworthy events:

16th - A cold front moving through New South Wales produced strong gusty north-westerly winds and unusually high pre-frontal temperatures for winter. Armidale airport recorded wind gusts in excess of 70 km per hour between 12 noon and 2.30pm, and the maximum temperature of 22.6C at 1.53pm was the warmest for the month of August since 23rd August 2012 (23.3C).

AUGUST 2017 STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 12.8 mm (48.3 mm)

Rain days: 2 (9)

2016 rainfall total Jan to Aug: 542.8 mm (493.6 mm)

Average maximum temp: 15.6 deg (14.2 deg)

Average minimum temp: -0.9 deg (-0.2 deg)

Highest maximum temp: 22.6 deg on the 16th

Lowest maximum temp: 11.2 deg on the 4th

Highest minimum temp: 7.5 deg on the 18th

Lowest minimum temp: -5.4 deg on the 20th

Fine sunny days: 25 (18)

Ideal weather days: 6 (4)

Days with thunderstorms: 0 (1)

Days with frosts: 24 (20)

Days with fogs: 1 (2)

Wind direction at airport at 3pm & number of days: W: 19, SW: 5, NW: 2, SE: 2, S: 2, N: 1

Average daily pan evaporation: 2.6 mm (2.1 mm)