

MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW DECEMBER 2018

December 2018 was a dry and usually hot month.

The rainfall total of 67.6 millimetres was 31 mm less than the average with most of the rain falling around the middle of the month from thunderstorms.

The rain total for the year of 552.6 mm was a massive 231 mm less than the average causing it to be a drought year. See further details in the 2018 Armidale Yearly Weather Review.

Day temperatures were much warmer than normal with maximums of 30.0 degrees or higher on 14 days of the month compared to the long term average of just four days.

Overnight minimum temperatures however were mostly close to normal.

There were no notable extremes.

It was a very sunny month, particularly in the last ten days when temperatures mostly reached the thirties.

Thunderstorm activity was close to normal with storms on eight days which produced almost all the rain for the month. There was no hail observed with any of the thunderstorms.

Winds were mostly light to moderate easterlies which is normal for this time of year.

Noteworthy events:

2nd: Strong westerly winds blew dust into the region with visibility reduced by a dust haze to around 10 kms from 4pm. The dust cleared later in the evening.

DECEMBER 2018 STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 57.6 mm (88.9 mm)

Rain days: 8 (10)

2018 rainfall total: 552.6 mm (783.9 mm)

Average maximum temp: 28.1 deg (25.2 deg)

Average minimum temp: 11.1 deg (11.2 deg)

Highest maximum temp: 32.2 deg on 31st

Lowest maximum temp: 22.0 deg on 6th

Highest minimum temp: 17.9 deg on 19th

Lowest minimum temp: 5.6 deg on 1st

Fine sunny days: 20 (15)

Ideal weather days: 5 (1)

Days with thunderstorms: 8 (8)

Days with frosts: 0 (0.3)

Days with fogs: 0 (1)

Wind direction at airport at 3pm & number of days: E: 7, W: 6, S: 5, N: 3, SE: 3, W: 3, NE: 2, NW: 2

Average daily pan evaporation: 5.8 mm (5.1 mm)

Thunderstorm details:

12th: 5.20pm - thunder heard, no rain; 6.10-6.20pm - slight storm from west - 5.6 mm rain

13th: 3.50-6.00pm - slight and moderate storms from west - 9.4 mm rain

14th: 4.10-4.50pm - moderate storm from north - 2.0 mm rain

15th: 3.10-3.25pm - slight storm from north

8.30-8.50pm slight storm from north-west

10.00-11.50pm - intermittent thunder heard, no rain

16th: 12.25-12.55am - slight storm from north

11.40am-6.00pm - intermittent slight & moderate storms from north-west

19th: 7.40-9.00pm - thunder heard from the south, no rain

9.40-11.50pm - intermittent moderate & slight storms from south-west

20th: 8.30-9.30pm - thunder heard, no rain

21st: 4.05-4.30pm - thunder heard from the south, no rain

10.30-11.00pm - slight storm from west - 0.4 mm rain