MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW JANUARY 2017

January 2017 was a dry and unusually hot summer month.

The rainfall total of 68.0 millimetres was 34 mm lower than the average with all the rain falling from thunderstorms.

With day temperatures averaging 29.1 deg it was the hottest summer month since December 1990 (29.3 deg), and the hottest January since 1952 (31.0 deg). Overnight minimums averaged 15.9 deg, the highest on record for any month. Temperatures reached or exceeded 30.0 deg on 13 days (average 6 days).

The unusually warm conditions were the result of numerous low pressure troughs developing over New South Wales drawing in hot air from central Australia. There was also a lack of any major rain systems which usually bring cooler temperatures.

There were thunderstorms on eight days, there was no hail, and prevailing winds were westerlies.

Noteworthy events:

14th & 25th - The minimums of 20.2 deg and 20.3 deg respectively were the highest overnight temperatures for any month since 23rd February 2004 when 20.3 deg was recorded.

JANUARY 2017 STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 68.0 mm (101.6 mm) Rain days: 10 (10) Average maximum temp: 29.1 deg (26.3 deg) Average minimum temp: 15.9 deg (12.7 deg) Highest maximum temp: 34.1 deg on the 14th Lowest maximum temp: 24.2 deg on the 3rd Highest minimum temp: 20.3 deg on the 25th Lowest minimum temp: 10.0 deg on the 8th Fine sunny days: 15 (15) Ideal weather days: 0 (1) Days with thunderstorms: 8 (6) Davs with frosts: 0 (0) Days with foqs: 0 (1) Wind direction at airport at 3pm & number of days: W: 14, E:7, NW: 2, SW: 2, S: 2, SE: 2, NE: 1, N: 1 Average daily pan evaporation: 5.4 mm (5.2 mm)

Thunderstorm details:

- 1st: 4.45-5.45pm slight from west, 7.45-8.00pm slight from west
- 2nd: 7.00am approx slight from west, 12.15-3.30pm slight & thunder
- 12th: 4.15-4.30am approx slight from west, 0.2 mm rain
- 6.20-10.15pm moderate, heavy, slight from west, 11.2 mm rain
- 14th: 3.30-5.30pm moderate & heavy from west, 3.0 mm rain
- 20th: 3.35-5.40pm moderate from SW, 18.2 mm rain, 10.00-10.15pm approx thunder
- 25th: 4.00-6.45pm slight from west, 7.15-9.00pm approx thunder in north
- 26th: 3.30-5.30pm approx slight from west, 8.6 mm rain
- 29th: 1.50-3.15pm thunder

January 2017 daily data