

MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW JULY 2011

July 2011 was a dry, cold and frosty month.

Despite many cloudy days, all falls of rain were light with the total of just 13.6 mm making it the driest July since 2007. The highest daily fall was 5.2 mm in the afternoon of the 17th.

Temperatures were overall slightly below the long term average with no notable extremes.

The frost pattern was close to normal with frosts on 21 mornings.

Winds were stronger than normal and were predominantly westerlies. The windiest days were from the 5th to the 7th, and the 19th.

Noteworthy events:

19th July - An upper level pool of cold air moved over northern New South Wales from the south bringing gusty winds, low temperatures, small hail and snow. There were several light showers of soft hail from noon, and there was a light shower of snow in South Armidale at around 2pm. The maximum temperature was just 7.2C at the city weather station, and 6.0C at the airport. Wind chill temperatures were below zero most of the day. Light to moderate snow fell in nearby areas including Walcha, Ebor and Guyra.

5th July - A deep low pressure system near Tasmania and an associated trough moving through New South Wales produced strong westerly winds throughout the Northern Tablelands. Winds gusting over 50 km per hour occurred throughout the day with a maximum gust at the airport of 70 km per hour at 1.02pm.

JULY STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets):

Rainfall: 13.6 mm (48.3 mm)

Rain days: 7 (9)

2011 rainfall total Jan to Jul: 485.8 mm (448.0 mm)

Average maximum temp: 12.1 deg (12.4 deg)

Average minimum temp: -0.6 deg (-0.3 deg)

Highest maximum temp: 15.4 deg on the 12th & 30th

Lowest maximum temp: 7.2 deg on the 19th

Highest minimum temp: 5.3 deg on the 21st

Lowest minimum temp: -7.7 deg on the 12th

Fine sunny days: 13 (15)

Ideal weather days: 3 (4)

Days with thunderstorms: 0 (0.2)

Days with frosts: 21 (19) light: 5, moderate: 4, severe: 12

Days with fogs: 2 (3)

Wind direction at 3pm & number of days: W: 13, SW: 8, S: 4, SE: 4, E: 1, NE: 1

Average daily evaporation: 1.2 mm (1.4 mm)