

SUMMER WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW 2019/2020

The summer of 2019/2020 was warmer than normal and much wetter than normal.

It was Armidale's wettest summer for 23 years, the rain total for the three months of December, January and February of 436.0 millimetres was 159 mm higher than the long term average (LTA). The drought of 2018/2019 continued into December which recorded 62.6 mm (LTA 88.7 mm), but then the rains arrived in January which recorded 202.0 mm (LTA 100.9 mm), and February was almost as wet with 171.4 mm (LTA 87.4 mm). There were three major rain events, one in January and two in February along with numerous light to moderate falls from thunderstorms, all contributing to the healthy total of 436.0 mm for the summer. The highest daily fall of 61.8 mm on 18th January was the highest daily fall since 24th November 2011 (87.6 mm).

Based on maximum temperatures it was Armidale's third hottest summer on record.

Day temperatures during December and January were well above the normal, while in February they were a little cooler than normal. The average maximum for December of 30.4 deg was the highest on record for the month of December, and the maximum of 37.8 deg on the 21st December was the hottest temperature recorded in Armidale since 15 January 1939. Maximums reached 30.0 deg or higher on 39 days (LTA 14 days).

Overnight temperatures were well above normal in all three months.

It was a partly cloudy summer with 36 sunny days (LTA 43 days), and thunderstorms on 22 days (LTA 20 days). No hail was observed with any of the storms.

Prevailing winds were westerlies in December and January, with easterlies in February.

SUMMER 2019/20 STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 436.0 mm (277.0 mm)

Average maximum temp: 28.3 deg (25.8 deg)

Average minimum temp: 14.1 deg (12.2 deg)

Highest maximum temp: 37.8 deg on 21st December

Lowest maximum temp: 16.6 deg on 4th February

Highest minimum: 21.0 deg on 3rd March

Lowest minimum temp: 3.8 deg on 3rd December

Days higher than 29.9C: 39 (14)

Fine sunny days: 36 (43)

Days with thunderstorms: 22 (20)

