

WINTER WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW

June-July-August 2017

Winter 2017 was cool to cold, dry, sunny and frosty.

June was cloudy and wet, but July and August were sunny and dry.

June recorded 87.6 mm, July 16.0 mm and August 12.8 mm. The total for the three months of 116.4 mm on 22 days was 35 mm lower than the average for the three months.

The cold winter weather started on 28th May and lasted, with the occasional mild days, for around 15 weeks until 10th September when warmer conditions arrived.

Temperatures were a little above normal in June, particular minimums due to numerous cloudy nights, but July and August both experienced day temperatures well above normal and overnight minimums well below normal.

Maximum temperatures reached 20.0 degrees or higher on 2 days, and were lower than 10.0 degrees on 3 days.

There were no snowfalls, but there were showers of small hail on 19th July - see below.

Prevailing winds were westerlies, and were light in June, and moderate in July and August.

There were 64 frosts with July being the frostiest month.

Noteworthy events:

28th/29 June - An upper level trough combined with a surface trough brought moderate falls of rain to north-eastern New South Wales. Armidale recorded 58.2 mm on the 28th and 29th with moderate flooding in Dumaresq Creek on the 29th and 30th.

10th July - A high pressure ridge over northern New South Wales resulted in unusually light winds. During the day Armidale Airport averaged a wind speed of 6.7 km per hour, while in the more sheltered Armidale valley the wind speed at the city weather station averaged just 1.3 km per hour throughout the day. This meant there was an almost complete lack of wind for a full day, a rare event on the Northern Tablelands.

19th July - In the first major cold weather event of the year very cold air swept over the Northern Tablelands in the wake of a front. Strong winds, low temperatures and light showers of rain and small hail occurred throughout the day. The maximum temperature at the city weather station was 8.5C, and at the Armidale airport 7.3C.

16th August - A cold front moving through New South Wales produced strong gusty north-westerly winds and unusually high 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).

WINTER 2017 STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 116.4 mm (151.4 mm)

Rain days: 22 (28)

Average maximum temp: 14.4 deg (13.3 deg)

Average minimum temp: -0.3 deg (0.1 deg)

Highest maximum temp: 22.6 deg on 16th Aug

Lowest maximum temp: 8.4 deg on 7th June

Highest minimum: 9.1 deg on 29th June

Lowest minimum temp: -7.3 deg on 22nd July

Fine sunny days: 54 (46)

Days with thunderstorms: 0 (1.5)

Days with frosts: 64 (55)

AVERAGE WINTER TEMPERATURES - ARMIDALE NSW 1981-2017

