

## **WINTER WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW**

### **June-July-August 2023**

Winter 2023 was very dry with unusually high day temperatures and a higher than normal number of frosty nights.

Numerous strong high pressure systems drifting across the centre of New South Wales kept rain-bearing systems to the southern and central parts of the state while the northern parts remained mostly dry. June recorded 26.0 mm, July 15.4 mm, and August 8.8 mm. The total for the three months of 50.2 mm was 100 mm lower than the average making it the driest winter since the drought year of 2019 which totalled 25.0 mm.

The cold winter weather started on 7th May and lasted, with occasional mild days, for around 15 weeks until 20th August when warmer weather arrived.

Based on day temperatures it was the warmest winter on record (from 133 years of records) with maximums reaching 18.0C or higher on 23 days. Maximums were lower than 10.0C on just one day, average 12 days. Overnight minimums were close to normal.

It was unusual that there were no severe cold outbreaks. There were four minor cold outbreaks: 14th June, 29th-30th June, 3rd July, 5th-7th July. There were no falls of hail or snow.

Due to a large number of calm clear nights there were 67 frosts, 12 more than the average, with severe frosts (-4.0C or lower) on 20 days.

Prevailing winds were westerlies in all three months, and were strongest in June.

#### ***Noteworthy events:***

**20th July** - The minimum of -9.2C was the lowest temperature for any month since 15th July 2018 when -10.1C was recorded. A high pressure system over New South Wales combined with very dry air resulted in many low minimum temperatures over the state. The minimum at Armidale airport was milder at -4.8C.

**30th July** - The maximum of 20.1C was the highest for the month of July since 20th July 2016 when 21.2C was recorded which was the highest on record for July at the present weather station site.

#### ***WINTER 2023 STATISTICS*** (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 50.2 mm (150.1 mm)

Rain days: 16 (28)

Average maximum temp: 15.7 deg (13.4 deg)

Average minimum temp: 0.0 deg (0.1 deg)

Highest maximum temp: 20.3 deg on 1st August

Lowest maximum temp: 9.6 deg on 29th June

Highest minimum: 10.7 deg on 18th August

Lowest minimum temp: -9.2 deg on 20th July

Number of days maximum temperature below 10.0 deg: 1 (12)

Fine sunny days: 47 (46)

Days with thunderstorms: 1 (1.5)

Days with frosts: 67 (55)

### AVERAGE WINTER TEMPERATURES - ARMIDALE NSW 1981-2023

