MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW APRIL 2018

April 2018 was a dry and very warm month with light winds.

The rainfall total of just 26.8 millimetres was 18 mm below the average and was the sixth consecutive month with below average rain. Most of the rain fell in the second half of the month with the highest daily fall being 8.6 mm on the 20th.

Temperatures were unusually high, particularly in the first three weeks which were warm and sunny, with cloudy milder conditions arriving in the last week. Based on maximum temperatures it was the warmest April since 2005 with temperatures exceeding 25.0 degrees on ten days.

The first frosts of the year usually occur in April, but with the very mild overnight temperatures no frosts were recorded during the month.

Thunderstorm activity was a little higher than normal with storms on four days.

Prevailing winds were light south-easterlies.

APRIL 2018 STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 26.8 mm (45.1 mm)

Rain days: 11 (8)

2017 rainfall total Jan to Apr: 196.0 mm (300.0 mm)

Average maximum temp: 22.9 deg (20.0 deg) Average minimum temp: 8.2 deg (6.5 deg) Highest maximum temp: 28.0 deg on 1st Lowest maximum temp: 15.0 deg on 28th Highest minimum temp: 13.5 deg on 4th Lowest minimum temp: 4.0 deg on 29th

Fine sunny days: 16 (15) Ideal weather days: 6 (3) Days with thunderstorms: 4 (1)

Days with thunderstorms. 4

Days with frosts: 0 (5)

Days with fogs: 1 (5)

Wind direction at airport at 3pm & number of days: SE: 13, E: 6, W: 3, SW: 3, NW: 3, S: 2

Average daily pan evaporation: 3.1 mm (2.5 mm)

Thunderstorm details:

14th: 7.30-9.00pm - thunder heard, no rain

9.45-9.55pm - slight storm from north-west, 1.8 mm rain

19th: 4.00-5.00pm - thunder heard, no rain

20th: 1.30-2.00pm approx - thunder heard in south, no rain

26th: 6.10-6.30pm - thunder heard, no rain

7.30pm - slight storm from south-west, 2.2 mm rain