

MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW AUGUST 2020

August 2020 was a cool to cold windy month with light falls of rain.

The rainfall total of 44.2 millimetres was just 4 mm below the average. The rain confined itself to the middle two weeks of the month with mostly light falls with the exception of 16.2 mm which fell in the evening of the 14th.

Temperatures were mostly close to normal with no notable extremes.

There were two major cold weather events on the 9th-10th, and the 21st-24th. Hail and light snow fell on the 22nd - see below.

Winds were mostly westerlies and were stronger than normal for this time of year.

Despite the windy conditions the frost pattern was normal with 18 frosts, eight of them were severe.

Noteworthy events:

20th - Very windy conditions across western New South Wales on the 19th caused a dust haze to develop over the Northern Tablelands in the morning of the 20th with the visibility in Armidale falling below 8 kilometres at 7am. The dust cleared later in the morning.

22nd - Very cold and windy conditions following a severe cold front which passed through north-east New South Wales in the early hours produced showers of rain, snow and hail on the Northern Tablelands. After a maximum of 8.5C at 10.05am, the temperature in Armidale dropped to 2.4C at 3.30pm during showers of small hail and snow which partially whitened the ground. The hail and snow fell from 3.15 to 3.35pm. There were heavier snowfalls on higher parts of the region, mostly in the area south of Walcha. Very little snow fell in the Guyra/Black Mountain area, with slightly heavier falls at Ben Lomond.

AUGUST 2020 STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 44.2 mm (47.6 mm)

Rain days: 11 (9)

2020 rainfall total Jan to Aug: 637.6 mm (490.7 mm)

Average maximum temp: 14.5 deg (14.4 deg)

Average minimum temp: 0.2 deg (-0.3 deg)

Highest maximum temp: 19.7 deg on 31st

Lowest maximum temp: 8.3 deg on 9th

Highest minimum temp: 9.5 deg on 15th

Lowest minimum temp: -8.7 deg on 6th

Fine sunny days: 17 (19)

Ideal weather days: 5 (4)

Days with thunderstorms: 0 (1)

Days with frosts: 18 (20) light: 4, moderate: 6, severe: 8

Days with fogs: 1 (2)

Wind direction at airport at 3pm & number of days: W: 19, NW: 5, S: 4, SW: 2, E: 1

Average daily pan evaporation: 2.1 mm (2.1 mm)

Armidale weather on-line: www.weatherarmidale.com