

Annual Weather Review

Armidale NSW - 2017

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2017 was a warm cloudy year with slightly below average rainfall.

RAINFALL: The total of 765.2 mm was 19 mm lower than the long term average (LTA). Above average rain fell in February, March, June, and October, and below average in the remainder. March was the wettest month recording 200.6 millimetres, and September was the driest with just 8.2 mm. Conditions were particularly dry during late winter and early spring from with rainfall totalling just 37 mm from July to September. The highest daily fall during the year was 43.6 mm on 29th June.

TEMPERATURES: 2017 was Armidale's third warmest year on record (from 127 years of reliable temperature recordings commencing in 1891) with January, February, September and December having the highest deviations above the LTA for day temperatures. The hottest days were 11th and 12th February which recorded 37.0 degrees and 37.6 degrees respectively. These were the highest temperatures recorded since 15th January 1939 when 39.6 degrees was recorded at the post office. The coldest day was 17th June with a maximum of 8.4 degrees, and the coldest overnight minimum was -7.3 degrees on 22nd July. Overnight temperatures were mostly close to normal except in January, February and March which were much warmer than the LTA.

WINDS: Winds were moderate in January, August, September and October, and light in all other months. The year totalled 10 windy days* (annual average 19 days). Wind direction at 3pm: west: 136 days, east: 69 days, south-east: 41 days, south-west: 40 days, north-west: 38 days, south: 18 days, north: 11 days, north-east: 10 days, calm: 2 days.

EVAPORATION: Total pan evaporation for the year was 1,159.8 millimetres which was 29 mm lower than the LTA. Average daily evaporation for the year was 3.2 mm.

FROSTS: Total number of frosts was 98 which was equal to the LTA. August was the frostiest month recording 20 frosts. There were 24 light frosts, 47 moderate frosts and 27 severe frosts**. The first frost was on 29th April ending a frost-free period of 184 days over the summer of 2016-17. The last frost was on 10th November.

FOGS: There were fogs on 27 days which is four less than the annual average. The foggiest month was May with fogs on 8 days. There was one late evening fog with the remainder in the early mornings.

SNOW: There were no snowfalls. The annual average is 2.2 days of snow.

THUNDERSTORMS: It was a thundery year with storms on 47 days, ten more than the LTA. Thunderstorm activity was highest in January, February, November and December. There was one severe storm with large damaging hail on 6th November. See below.

HAIL: Hail fell on 2 days - 19th July (soft hail - hailstones less than 5 mm diameter), 6th November (hailstones up to 30 mm diameter). This storm caused damage to cars, roofs and gardens in North Armidale. The centre and southern parts of the city received smaller more sparse hailstones. The annual average is 3.3 hail days.

FLOODS: Minor or flash flooding occurred in Dumaresq Creek on 2nd & 19th January, 18th March, 9th & 12th October. Moderate flooding occurred on 21st, 30th & 31st March, 29th & 30th June. Minor brief flash flooding may have occurred on other dates not noted here.

LTA - Long Term Average * Windy day - average wind speed higher than 20 kms per hour: 9am to 6pm

** Intensity of frosts: light - minimum temp > 0.0C, moderate - minimum temp -3.9C to -0.1C, severe - minimum temperature < -3.9C.

Weather Statistics 2017 - Armidale NSW

Data recorded at East Armidale, elevation 987 metres, Bureau of Meteorology station no 56037

| | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | YEAR |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| RAINFALL mm | 68.0 | 100.8 | 200.6 | 22.0 | 35.0 | 87.6 | 16.0 | 12.8 | 8.2 | 103.6 | 45.6 | 65.0 | 765.2 |
| <i>Long Term Average mm</i> | <i>101.6</i> | <i>87.8</i> | <i>64.7</i> | <i>45.2</i> | <i>42.9</i> | <i>55.3</i> | <i>47.8</i> | <i>48.3</i> | <i>50.9</i> | <i>67.4</i> | <i>82.9</i> | <i>89.0</i> | <i>784.0</i> |
| RAIN DAYS | 10 | 9 | 19 | 6 | 7 | 15 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 16 | 11 | 10 | 115 |
| <i>Long Term Average days</i> | <i>10</i> | <i>10</i> | <i>10</i> | <i>8</i> | <i>8</i> | <i>10</i> | <i>9</i> | <i>9</i> | <i>8</i> | <i>9</i> | <i>9</i> | <i>10</i> | <i>110</i> |
| HIGHEST DAILY RAINFALL mm | 18.2 | 32.2 | 39.4 | 10.4 | 16.4 | 43.6 | 7.6 | 12.2 | 2.8 | 39.2 | 17.2 | 23.0 | 43.6 |
| Day | 21 | 3 | 22 | 26 | 28 | 29 | 16 | 4 | 4 | 9 | 17 | 25 | |
| AVERAGE DAILY MAX TEMP deg C | 29.1 | 29.2 | 23.4 | 18.8 | 16.9 | 13.7 | 14.0 | 15.6 | 20.2 | 21.2 | 21.8 | 27.4 | 20.9 |
| <i>Long Term Average deg C</i> | <i>26.3</i> | <i>25.4</i> | <i>23.5</i> | <i>20.1</i> | <i>16.4</i> | <i>13.1</i> | <i>12.5</i> | <i>14.2</i> | <i>17.7</i> | <i>20.7</i> | <i>23.0</i> | <i>25.1</i> | <i>19.8</i> |
| AVERAGE DAILY MIN TEMP deg C | 15.9 | 14.7 | 12.5 | 6.3 | 3.3 | 2.4 | -2.3 | -0.9 | 1.6 | 8.9 | 7.6 | 12.1 | 6.8 |
| <i>Long Term Average deg C</i> | <i>12.7</i> | <i>12.5</i> | <i>10.3</i> | <i>6.5</i> | <i>3.0</i> | <i>0.8</i> | <i>-0.2</i> | <i>-0.2</i> | <i>2.6</i> | <i>5.5</i> | <i>8.9</i> | <i>11.2</i> | <i>6.1</i> |
| AVERAGE GRASS MIN TEMP deg C | 12.0 | 9.6 | 8.2 | 2.4 | -0.9 | -1.4 | -6.7 | -6.3 | -4.2 | 4.7 | 2.4 | 7.2 | 2.3 |
| <i>Long Term Average deg C</i> | <i>9.7</i> | <i>9.8</i> | <i>7.1</i> | <i>3.0</i> | <i>-1.6</i> | <i>-3.0</i> | <i>-4.1</i> | <i>-4.3</i> | <i>-1.5</i> | <i>1.8</i> | <i>6.1</i> | <i>8.2</i> | <i>2.6</i> |
| HIGHEST MAXIMUM TEMP deg C | 34.1 | 37.6 | 29.4 | 21.7 | 19.6 | 17.6 | 19.7 | 22.6 | 28.5 | 28.2 | 26.5 | 33.8 | 37.6 |
| Day | 14 | 12 | 29 | 25 | 1 | 17 | 30 | 16 | 23 | 30 | 26 | 20 | |
| LOWEST MAXIMUM TEMP deg C | 24.2 | 20.1 | 16.6 | 11.2 | 11.5 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 11.2 | 10.2 | 13.5 | 16.4 | 22.0 | 8.4 |
| Day | 3 | 28 | 31 | 27 | 31 | 17 | 19 | 4 | 14 | 2 | 8 | 6 | |
| HIGHEST MINIMUM TEMP deg C | 20.3 | 19.6 | 17.2 | 12.9 | 10.7 | 9.1 | 5.0 | 7.5 | 12.5 | 15.4 | 15.7 | 18.5 | 20.3 |
| Day | 25 | 4 | 30 | 26 | 20 | 29 | 5 | 18 | 24 | 12 | 30 | 21 | |
| LOWEST MINIMUM TEMP deg C | 10.0 | 7.1 | 3.4 | -0.4 | -3.9 | -4.9 | -7.3 | -5.4 | -6.2 | 2.9 | 1.1 | 4.0 | -7.3 |
| Day | 8 | 20 | 11 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 22 | 20 | 2 | 24 | 1,2 | 6 | |
| LOWEST GRASS MIN TEMP deg C | 4.5 | 0.6 | -2.1 | -3.5 | -7.6 | -8.9 | -12.1 | -11.6 | -12.1 | -0.8 | -4.1 | -1.9 | -12.1 |
| Day | 8 | 20 | 11 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 29 | 29 | 2 | 22 | 1,2 | 6 | |
| FROSTS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 12 | 14 | 26 | 24 | 17 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 98 |
| <i>Long Term Average days</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>5</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>16</i> | <i>19</i> | <i>20</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>7</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>98</i> |
| FOGS days | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 27 |
| <i>Long Term Average days</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>5</i> | <i>5</i> | <i>4</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>31</i> |
| THUNDERSTORMS days | 8 | 8 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 9 | 48 |
| <i>Long Term Average days</i> | <i>6</i> | <i>5</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>4</i> | <i>6</i> | <i>8</i> | <i>37</i> |
| EVAPORATION (Class A Pan) mm | 167.0 | 157.2 | 87.8 | 63.6 | 42.2 | 28.4 | 46.4 | 79.8 | 118.2 | 101.0 | 113.8 | 154.4 | 1159.8 |
| <i>Long Term Average mm</i> | <i>160.3</i> | <i>126.3</i> | <i>114.4</i> | <i>76.2</i> | <i>50.9</i> | <i>36.7</i> | <i>42.0</i> | <i>64.9</i> | <i>94.8</i> | <i>128.9</i> | <i>136.1</i> | <i>158.5</i> | <i>1189.0</i> |
| AVGE. DAILY EVAPORATION mm | 5.4 | 5.6 | 2.8 | 2.1 | 1.4 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 2.6 | 3.9 | 3.3 | 3.8 | 5.0 | 3.2 |
| AVERAGE DAILY WIND RUN km | 142.3 | 118.5 | 77.2 | 87.5 | 66.6 | 84.5 | 119.6 | 139.9 | 155.0 | 135.4 | 112.7 | 114.0 | 112.8 |
| <i>Long Term Average km</i> | <i>152.8</i> | <i>146.5</i> | <i>140.3</i> | <i>125.0</i> | <i>123.9</i> | <i>146.5</i> | <i>153.4</i> | <i>163.7</i> | <i>170.9</i> | <i>158.5</i> | <i>153.3</i> | <i>154.3</i> | <i>149.1</i> |
| PREVAILING 3PM WIND DIRECTION | W | E | E | E | W | W | W | W | W | W | E | W | - |
| FINE SUNNY DAYS ^ | 15 | 13 | 7 | 8 | 15 | 9 | 20 | 25 | 21 | 7 | 8 | 11 | 159 |
| <i>Long Term Average days</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>16</i> | <i>16</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>13</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>18</i> | <i>19</i> | <i>18</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>186</i> |
| MAXIMUM TEMP > 29.9 deg. days | 13 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 36 |
| MAXIMUM TEMP < 10.0 deg. days | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| MINIMUM TEMP < 5.0 deg. days | 0 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 20 | 18 | 30 | 27 | 22 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 143 |

^ Fine Sunny Day - a dry sunny day generally free from excessive cloud