

The Weather of Autumn 2007

(September, October & November summary)

Warm and dry everywhere; sunshine totals near normal

Rainfall totals for the season were below normal everywhere, with only between a half and two thirds of the normal rainfall for the season at most stations. It was the driest autumn for more than 20 years generally and the driest at Birr since 1933. Each of the autumn months was drier than normal, with heavy falls confined to very few days each month. Most stations had only between 20 and 30 wetdays during the season (*days with 1mm or more rainfall*); this compares with the normal range for autumn of between 33 and 55 wetdays. The highest daily falls were measured in the period November 17th/18th.

Autumn mean air temperatures were between one and two degrees above normal. At stations in County Mayo it was the warmest autumn on record, but at most other stations it was not quite as warm as the autumn of 2006. Each of the autumn months was warmer than the 1961-1990 normal, particularly November, which had mean temperatures of over two degrees higher than normal in many places. There was no air frost during the season in coastal areas, but 3 or 4 air frosts were recorded at most inland stations, while ground temperatures fell well below freezing in most areas on November 23rd.

Sunshine totals for the season were close to normal generally but they were above normal in the south and southwest. September and October were sunny months but November was dull, particularly in the north. Almost all stations recorded their sunniest days of the season during the first week of September, with both Mullingar and Shannon Airport recording their highest ever daily values for autumn on September 7th.

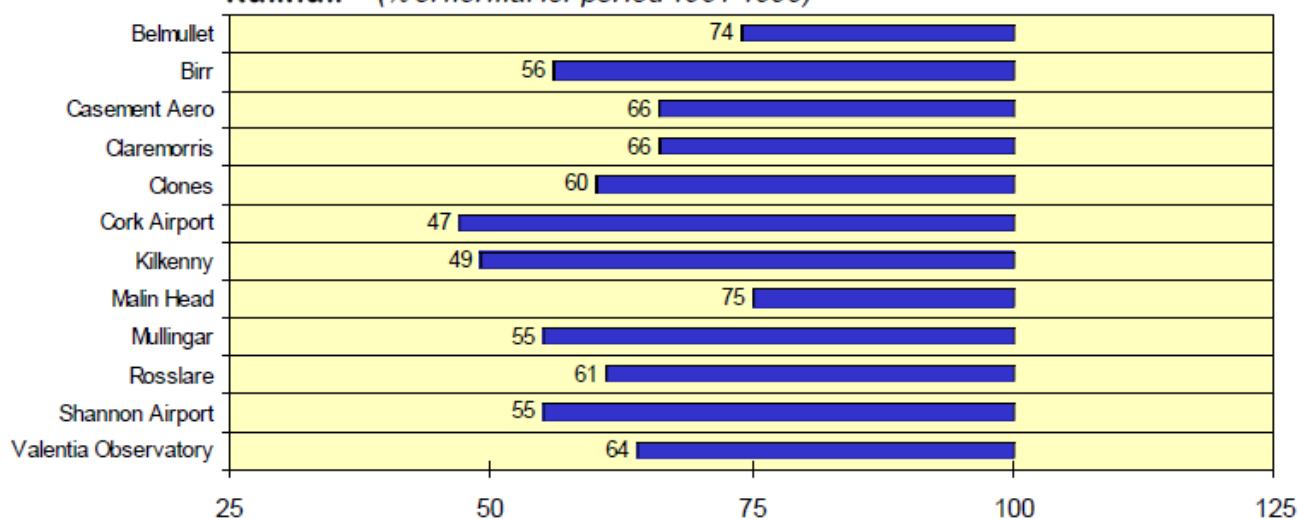
Mean windspeeds for the season of between 5 and 10 knots (*9 and 19 km/hr*) were below normal everywhere and were the lowest on record for autumn at several stations. No gale gust was measured at either Mullingar or Kilkenny, while the highest gust of the season, 54 knots (*100 km/hr*), was measured at Malin Head on November 19th.

Extreme values

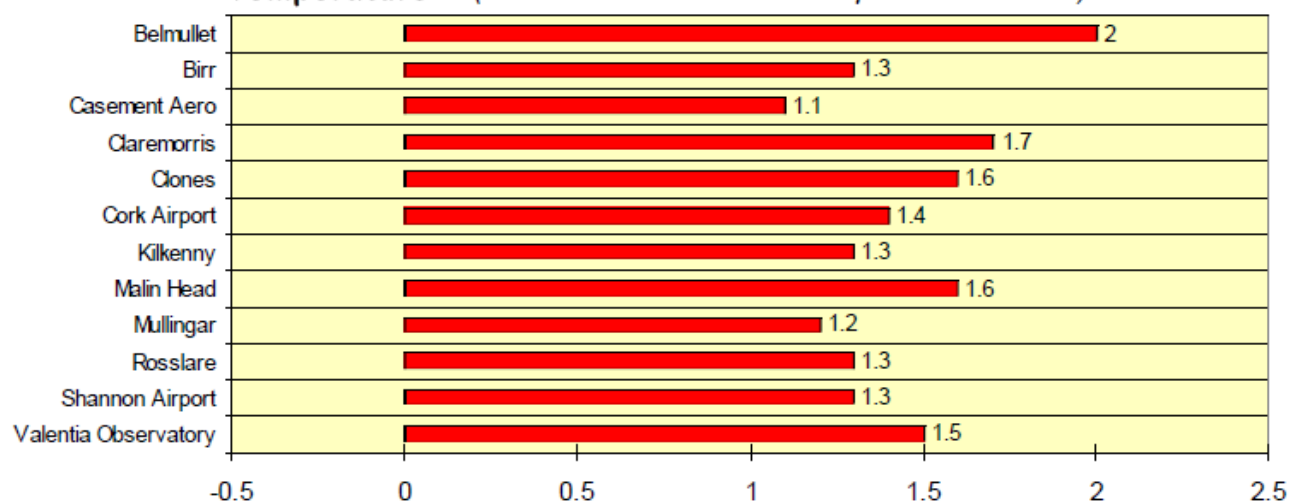
Rainfall	Highest seasonal total: 280mm at Knock Airport (<i>its driest autumn since records began there in 1996</i>)
	Lowest seasonal total: 109mm at Dublin Airport (<i>its driest autumn since 1985</i>)
	Highest daily rainfall: 30.8mm at Valentia Observatory on November 17th
Temperature	Highest mean seasonal temperature: 12.8°C at Valentia Observatory
	Lowest mean seasonal temperature: 10.4°C at Knock Airport (<i>its warmest autumn since records began there in 1996</i>)
	Highest temperature: 23.5°C at Kilkenny on September 6th
	Lowest air temperature: -4.0°C at Kilkenny on November 23rd
Sunshine	Lowest grass minimum temperature: -8.7°C at Birr on November 23rd
	Highest seasonal total: 349 hours at Rosslare
	Lowest seasonal total: 218 hours at Malin Head
	Highest daily sunshine: 12.2 hours at both Shannon Airport and Mullingar on September 7th (<i>their highest daily values for autumn since records began in 1945 and 1950 respectively</i>)

Autumn 2007 Percentage / Difference from 1961-90 monthly normals

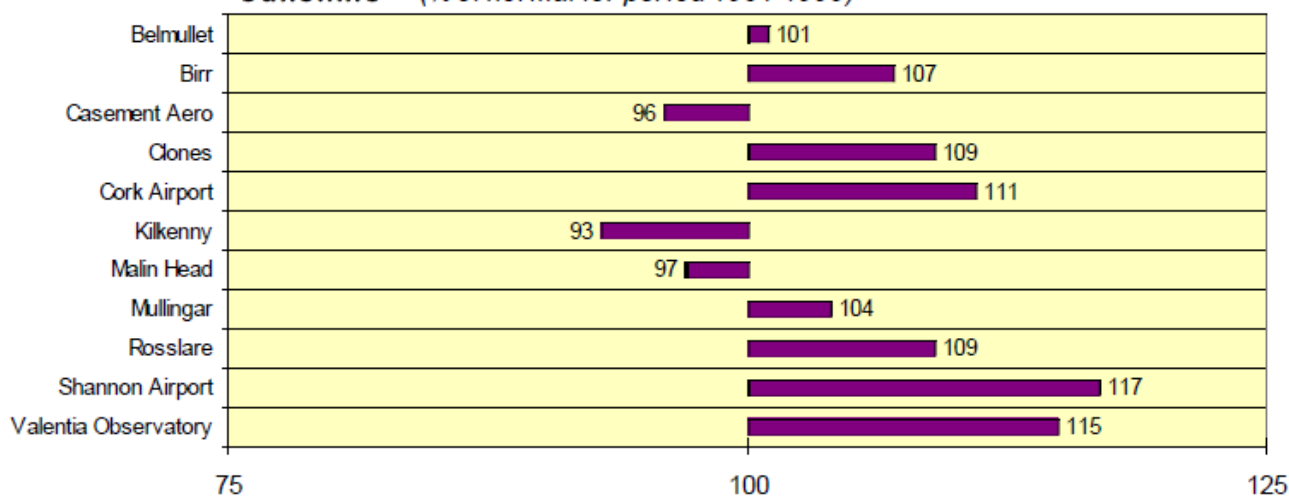
Rainfall (% of normal for period 1961-1990)



Temperature (°C difference from normal for period 1961-1990)



Sunshine (% of normal for period 1961-1990)



Issued by the Climatology and Observations Division of Met Éireann on 3rd December 2007
This report is based on preliminary data from the synoptic weather stations operated by Met Éireann

A detailed summary is available in the *Monthly Weather Bulletin*

For more information, contact Met Éireann at 01-8064200 or e-mail: climate.enquiries@met.ie website: www.met.ie/climate