



AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

MARCH 1973

The weather during March

The most notable feature of the weather during the month was the long dry spell which extended in most places from 6th to 23rd. During this period, most parts experienced an absolute drought, which is defined as a spell of at least 15 consecutive days on each of which less than 0.2 millimetres of precipitation occurs. The preparation of seed beds was greatly facilitated by the drying out of the soil during this spell and in the southern half of the country, particularly, good progress was made with the sowing of cereal crops. During the last week of the month, some rain fell in most areas but rainfall amounts were generally small except for falls of 10 - 20 millimetres in some places in the western half of the country. Over the month as a whole, rainfall was below normal everywhere ranging from 23% of normal in the Dublin area to 72% of normal in the northwest.

Mean air and soil temperatures over the month were close to normal and amounts of bright sunshine were about 20% above normal everywhere except in parts of south Ulster. Air frost was recorded in most inland places on several nights between 7th and 22nd and again on 25th/26th which was the coldest night of the month nearly everywhere.

TABLE 1. (Continued)

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE, SUNSHINE AND WIND

MARCH 1973

STATION	PERIOD	RAINFALL				TEMPERATURE											BRIGHT SUNSHINE		WIND		
		Amount	Percentage of Average	No. of Rain Days	No. of Wet Days	AIR					GROUND			SOIL(10cm)			Mean Daily	Percentage of Average	Mean Speed	No. of Days with Gale Gusts	
						Mean Daily	Difference from Average	Lowest Minimum	Day	No. of Days with Air Frost	Degree Days Above 4.4°C	Degree Days Above 10.0°C	Lowest Grass Minimum	Day	No. of Days with Ground Frost	Mean Daily					Difference from Average
Malin Head Co. Donegal	1-10	19.4	-	7	5	6.6	-	+1.1	10	0	26	01	-1.3	10	3	5.6	-	4.44	-	17	6
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	6.0	-	-1.3	15	1	23	00	-4.2	15	4	6.3	-	3.92	-	8	0
	21-end	21.4	-	8	6	7.9	-	+1.0	26	0	42	04	-2.1	26	2	7.5	-	4.38	-	21	9
	Month	40.8	70	15	11	6.9	+0.3	-1.3	15	1	91	05	-4.2	15	9	6.5	-	4.25	121	15	15
Dublin Airport Co. Dublin	1-10	5.7	-	5	2	6.3	-	-0.8	10	1	25	00	-6.4	10	7	5.9	-	3.71	-	11	2
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	6.6	-	+0.6	11	0	25	02	-5.1	11	5	7.1	-	3.20	-	5	0
	21-end	5.4	-	3	2	8.1	-	-0.4	26	1	44	10	-3.8	21	5	8.0	-	6.08	-	13	2
	Month	11.1	23	8	4	7.0	+0.6	-0.8	10	2	94	12	-6.4	10	17	7.0	+0.8	4.39	124	9	4
Kinsealy Co. Dublin	1-10	5.5	-	4	2	6.3	-	-2.2	10	3	27	01	-7.6	10	7	-	-	3.14	-	4	-
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	6.1	-	-1.9	11	2	23	02	-6.4	20	7	-	-	2.81	-	3	-
	21-end	7.3	-	3	3	7.5	-	-0.8	21	3	40	05	-7.2	22	7	-	-	5.95	-	10	-
	Month	12.8	-	7	5	6.7	-	-2.2	10	8	90	08	-7.6	10	21	-	-	4.03	-	5	-
Galway (Univ. Coll.) Co. Galway	1-10	14.1	-	5	4	6.9	-	-0.2	10	1	28	01	-	-	-	-	-	4.74	-	-	-
	11-20	0.4	-	1	0	6.4	-	-0.8	12	3	28	03	NA	NA	-	-	-	4.46	-	NA	-
	21-end	16.9	-	7	4	8.3	-	+1.1	26	0	44	04	-	-	-	-	-	4.11	-	-	-
	Month	31.4	-	13	8	7.2	-	-0.8	12	4	100	08	-	-	-	-	-	4.43	-	-	-
Killarney (Muckross Hse) Co. Kerry	1-10	27.7	-	4	4	7.3	-	-1.1	07	1	31	01	-6.0	07	5	-	-	3.85	-	-	-
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	6.4	-	-2.0	17	2	28	03	-8.0	17	7	-	-	3.19	-	-	-
	21-end	27.8	-	6	4	8.0	-	+0.2	26	0	42	05	-4.2	21	3	-	-	4.81	-	-	-
	Month	55.5	-	10	8	7.2	-	-2.0	17	3	101	09	-8.0	17	15	-	-	3.98	-	-	-
Cahirciveen (Valentia Obsy.) Co. Kerry	1-10	38.6	-	4	4	8.0	-	0.0	07	1	38	03	-1.4	07	2	7.8	-	4.20	-	12	6
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	7.0	-	-2.0	17	2	33	05	-5.1	17	7	6.9	-	3.46	-	6	0
	21-end	23.9	-	8	6	8.4	-	+2.1	29	0	45	05	-1.0	29	2	8.7	-	3.75	-	14	6
	Month	62.5	61	12	10	7.8	-0.5	-2.0	17	3	116	13	-5.1	17	11	7.8	-0.2	3.80	108	11	12
Tralee (Caherweesheen) Co. Kerry	1-10	29.4	-	5	3	7.1	-	-1.2	07	1	33	03	-6.6	07	6	-	-	4.31	-	-	-
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	5.9	-	-3.3	17	4	29	05	-8.1	17	8	-	-	3.48	-	-	-
	21-end	25.5	-	5	4	8.4	-	+0.4	21	0	48	08	-3.7	21	4	-	-	5.16	-	-	-
	Month	54.9	-	10	7	7.2	-	-3.3	17	5	110	16	-8.1	17	18	-	-	4.35	-	-	-

See January issue of Bulletin for explanatory notes on the tables.

TABLE 1. (Continued)

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE, SUNSHINE AND WIND

MARCH 1973

STATION	PERIOD	RAINFALL				TEMPERATURE										BRIGHT SUNSHINE		WIND			
		Amount	Percentage of Average	No. of Rain Days	No. of Wet Days	AIR					GROUND			SOIL (10cm)		Mean Daily	Percentage of Average	Mean Speed	No. of Days with Gale Gusts		
						Mean Daily	Difference from Average	Lowest Minimum	Day	No. of Days with Air Frost	Degree Days Above 4.4°C	Degree Days Above 10.0°C	Lowest Grass Minimum	Day	No. of Days with Ground Frost					Mean Daily	Difference from Average
mm	%	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	Hr	%	Kt					
Lullymore Co. Kildare	1-10	10.1	-	4	4	4.8	-	-4.5	10	5	17	01	-11.4	10	7	-	-	3.33	-	9	-
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	4.7	-	-3.6	11	6	16	02	-9.3	11	7	-	-	2.51	-	5	-
	21-end	11.1	-	5	4	6.5	-	-6.6	26	2	34	05	-10.7	26	7	-	-	4.92	-	12	-
	Month	21.2	-	9	8	5.4	-	-6.6	26	13	67	08	-11.4	10	21	-	-	3.63	-	9	-
Kilkenny Co. Kilkenny	1-10	12.7	-	5	3	6.0	-	-3.0	07	3	25	01	-5.5	07	5	5.9	-	3.39	-	6	0
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	5.4	-	-4.2	12	5	22	03	-6.5	12	7	6.3	-	4.15	-	3	0
	21-end	10.7	-	5	4	7.0	-	-2.8	26	2	36	05	-4.8	26	5	7.5	-	4.69	-	9	1
	Month	23.4	37	10	7	6.2	-0.4	-4.2	12	10	83	09	-6.5	12	17	6.6	+0.3	4.10	125	6	1
Mooncoin (Silverspring) Co. Kilkenny	1-10	6.8	-	5	4	6.4	-	-3.2	07	4	29	01	-8.0	07	6	-	-	2.71	-	-	-
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	5.7	-	-3.6	12	4	24	04	-8.5	20	9	-	-	3.86	-	-	-
	21-end	12.1	-	6	4	7.3	-	-1.9	26	2	38	04	-6.8	26	7	-	-	5.64	-	-	-
	Month	18.9	-	11	8	6.5	-	-3.6	12	10	91	09	-8.5	20	22	-	-	4.12	-	-	-
Ballinamore Co. Leitrim	1-10	14.0	-	7	4	5.8	-	-1.8	09	2	22	01	-7.6	09	7	-	-	4.30	-	6	-
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	5.3	-	-4.0	12	4	21	02	-7.5	11	9	-	-	2.41	-	3	-
	21-end	26.5	-	8	6	7.1	-	-2.2	21	2	35	04	-7.3	21	5	-	-	3.83	-	9	-
	Month	40.5	-	15	10	6.1	-	-4.0	12	8	78	07	-7.6	09	21	-	-	3.52	-	6	-
Ardee (Boharnamoe) Co. Louth	1-10		-				-									-	-		-	-	-
	11-20	NA	-			NA	-	NA			NA		NA			-	-		-	-	-
	21-end		-				-									-	-		-	-	-
	Month		-				-									-	-		-	-	-
Ballinrobe (Creagh) Co. Mayo	1-10	18.3	-	6	4	5.9	-	-2.2	10	3	23	01	-7.1	10	6	-	-	3.67	-	4	-
	11-20	0.1	-	0	0	5.6	-	-3.1	11	6	23	03	-7.2	11	6	-	-	3.59	-	2	-
	21-end	39.3	-	8	6	7.2	-	-0.6	21	2	34	03	-5.6	21	2	-	-	3.40	-	8	-
	Month	57.7	-	14	10	6.3	-	-3.1	11	11	80	07	-7.2	11	14	-	-	3.55	-	5	-
Belmullet Co. Mayo	1-10	15.3	-	6	5	7.0	-	+0.3	10	0	30	01	-1.6	10	1	6.6	-	5.21	-	13	4
	11-20	0.4	-	1	0	6.5	-	-0.6	15	2	28	03	-2.5	15	6	6.9	-	4.76	-	4	0
	21-end	36.7	-	8	8	8.0	-	+1.1	26	0	41	02	-0.9	26	1	7.9	-	2.94	-	19	9
	Month	52.4	72	15	13	7.2	-0.1	-0.6	15	2	99	06	-2.5	15	8	7.2	+0.2	4.26	126	12	13

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TABLE 1. (Continued)

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE, SUNSHINE AND WIND

MARCH 1973

STATION	PERIOD	RAINFALL				TEMPERATURE											BRIGHT SUNSHINE		WIND		
		Amount	Percentage of Average	No. of Rain Days	No. of Wet Days	AIR						GROUND			SOIL (10cm)		Mean Daily	Percentage of Average	Mean Speed	No. of Days with Gale Gusts	
						Mean Daily	Difference from Average	Lowest Minimum	Day	No. of Days with Air Frost	Degree Days Above 4.4°C	Degree Days Above 10.0°C	Lowest Grass Minimum	Day	No. of Days with Ground Frost	Mean Daily					Difference from Average
mm	%			°C	°C	°C				°C		°C	°C	Hr	%	Kt					
Claremorris Co. Mayo	1-10	13.8	-	6	4	5.5	-	-2.3	10	2	20	01	-4.9	05	7	5.3	-	4.44	-	9	2
	11-20	0.2	-	1	0	5.7	-	-1.9	12	4	23	02	-4.5	14	6	6.0	-	4.07	-	3	0
	21-end	36.0	-	8	7	7.1	-	-0.5	26	1	34	03	-2.8	26	2	6.8	-	2.82	-	12	7
	Month	50.0	68	15	11	6.2	-0.3	-2.3	10	7	77	06	-4.9	05	15	6.0	-0.1	3.75	115	8	9
Glenamoy Co. Mayo	1-10	22.4	-	6	4	6.6	-	0.0	10	1	27	01	-1.8	10	3	-	-	4.81	-	12	-
	11-20	0.6	-	2	0	6.0	-	-2.0	14	3	25	03	-4.5	14	7	-	-	4.57	-	5	-
	21-end	50.4	-	8	8	7.6	-	-1.6	26	1	38	04	-3.2	26	2	-	-	2.82	-	16	-
	Month	73.4	-	16	12	6.8	-	-2.0	14	5	90	08	-4.5	14	12	-	-	4.03	-	11	-
Dunsany (Grange) Co. Meath	1-10	10.9	-	5	4	5.2	-	-5.2	10	4	20	01	-9.5	10	7	-	-	3.25	-	-	-
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	5.4	-	-3.5	11	4	20	02	-7.5	11	6	-	-	3.37	-	NA	-
	21-end	11.9	-	6	4	6.8	-	-3.0	26	1	33	04	-9.8	26	8	-	-	5.03	-	-	-
	Month	22.8	-	11	8	5.8	-	-5.2	10	9	73	07	-9.8	26	21	-	-	3.92	-	-	-
Clones Co. Monaghan	1-10	17.8	-	7	6	5.5	-	-0.2	07	1	19	00	-5.7	09	6	5.1	-	3.66	-	8	3
	11-20	0.1	-	0	0	5.3	-	-1.5	12	4	19	01	-5.2	14	4	6.0	-	1.69	-	4	0
	21-end	23.0	-	7	5	7.0	-	-1.1	26	2	34	04	-6.0	26	5	6.9	-	3.98	-	12	6
	Month	40.9	68	14	11	6.0	0.0	-1.5	12	7	72	05	-6.0	26	15	6.0	+0.2	3.14	99	8	9
Birr Co. Offaly	1-10	12.4	-	5	5	6.1	-	-0.8	07	2	24	01	-4.8	07	6	6.1	-	4.04	-	7	1
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	5.6	-	-2.2	14	4	24	03	-7.1	14	8	6.4	-	3.97	-	2	0
	21-end	10.7	-	5	4	7.4	-	-1.4	26	1	38	05	-6.3	26	5	7.8	-	4.70	-	10	2
	Month	23.1	45	10	9	6.5	-0.2	-2.2	14	7	86	09	-7.1	14	19	6.8	+0.3	4.25	120	6	3
Thurles Co. Tipperary	1-10	17.4	-	4	3	NA	-	-1.4	07	2	NA	NA	-6.2	07	6	-	-	3.15	-	-	-
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	NA	-	-4.8	12	4	NA	NA	-7.7	12	8	-	-	3.71	-	-	-
	21-end	8.3	-	7	5	7.1	-	-1.8	21	3	37	06	-6.8	21	5	-	-	4.85	-	-	-
	Month	25.7	40	11	8	NA	-	-4.8	12	9	NA	NA	-7.7	12	19	-	-	3.93	-	-	-
Dungarvan (Ballygagin) Co. Waterford	1-10	10.1	-	5	5	6.9	-	-2.0	07	2	31	01	-6.2	07	5	-	-	3.40	-	6	-
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	6.2	-	-1.0	20	2	24	02	-4.8	16	6	-	-	3.45	-	3	-
	21-end	12.2	-	6	3	7.5	-	-1.5	26	1	39	04	-4.0	26	7	-	-	NA	-	8	-
	Month	22.3	-	11	8	6.9	-	-2.0	07	5	94	07	-6.2	07	18	-	-	NA	-	6	-

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TABLE 1. (Continued)

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE, SUNSHINE AND WIND

MARCH 1973

STATION	PERIOD	RAINFALL				TEMPERATURE										BRIGHT SUNSHINE		WIND			
		Amount	Percentage of Average	No. of Rain Days	No. of Wet Days	AIR					GROUND			SOIL(10cm)		Mean Daily	Percentage of Average	Mean Speed	No. of Days with Gale Gusts		
						Mean Daily	Difference from Average	Lowest Minimum	Day	No. of Days with Air Frost	Degree Days Above 4.4°C	Degree Days Above 10.0°C	Lowest Grass Minimum	Day	No. of Days with Ground Frost					Mean Daily	Difference from Average
mm	%	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	Hr	%	Kt					
Mullingar Co. Westmeath	1-10	16.5	-	6	5	5.8	-	-1.3	10	2	23	02	-3.8	07	7	5.6	-	3.96	-	9	1
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	6.4	-	-2.3	11	2	26	03	-3.8	11	3	6.4	-	3.20	-	5	0
	21-end	12.2	-	6	4	7.0	-	-1.2	26	2	36	05	-4.9	26	4	7.0	-	4.47	-	12	5
	Month	28.7	48	12	9	6.5	-0.2	-2.3	11	6	85	10	-4.9	26	14	6.4	+0.5	3.90	111	8	6
Campile (Ballysop) Co. Wexford	1-10	8.3	-	4	3	6.7	-	+0.1	07	0	27	01	-7.1	07	6	-	-	2.88	-	-	-
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	6.2	-	-0.9	12	2	23	02	-4.4	12	9	-	-	4.33	-	-	-
	21-end	9.1	-	5	4	7.7	-	-0.4	26	1	39	04	-5.5	26	7	-	-	5.51	-	NA	-
	Month	17.4	-	9	7	6.9	-	-0.9	12	3	89	07	-7.1	07	22	-	-	4.28	-	-	-
Clonroche Co. Wexford	1-10	10.2	-	5	5	6.0	-	-2.5	07	4	24	01	-8.5	07	6	-	-	3.10	-	5	-
	11-20	0.2	-	0	0	5.5	-	-3.5	12	1	20	02	-7.0	12	9	-	-	4.06	-	3	-
	21-end	13.6	-	6	4	7.0	-	-1.5	26	2	35	03	-6.0	26	5	-	-	5.96	-	7	-
	Month	24.0	-	11	9	6.2	-	-3.5	12	7	79	06	-8.5	07	20	-	-	4.43	-	5	-
Johnstown Castle Co. Wexford	1-10	13.5	-	4	4	6.6	-	-0.2	07	1	27	00	-6.5	07	6	-	-	3.34	-	7	-
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	5.8	-	+1.5	14	0	19	01	-3.7	14	8	-	-	4.63	-	4	-
	21-end	13.6	-	6	4	7.4	-	-0.6	26	2	37	03	-6.1	26	8	-	-	6.20	-	10	-
	Month	27.1	35	10	8	6.6	-	-0.6	26	3	83	04	-6.5	07	22	-	-	4.77	-	7	-
Rosslare Co. Wexford	1-10	14.7	-	4	3	7.0	-	+1.9	07	0	28	00	-1.3	07	3	6.9	-	3.73	-	11	5
	11-20	0.0	-	0	0	7.0	-	+3.9	12	0	28	01	+0.4	20	0	7.2	-	4.20	-	9	0
	21-end	12.0	-	6	4	7.9	-	+1.6	26	0	41	03	-2.9	21	2	8.7	-	6.89	-	13	4
	Month	26.7	40	10	7	7.4	+0.3	+1.6	26	0	97	04	-2.9	21	5	7.6	+0.5	5.00	123	11	9

See January issue of Bulletin for explanatory notes on the tables.

TABLE 2.

SOLAR RADIATION (GLOBAL), POTENTIAL EVAPOTRANSPIRATION (P.E.) AND SOIL MOISTURE

MARCH 1973

STATION	PERIOD	SOLAR RADIATION	P. E.	SOIL MOISTURE		
		Amount	Amount	Deficit	Accumulated Deficit	Surplus
		Joule/cm ²	mm	mm	mm	mm
Carlow (Oak Park) Co. Carlow	1-10	-	6	0	0	2
	11-20	-	8	8	8	0
	21-end	-	26	18	26	0
	Month	-	40	-	-	-
Kinsealy Co. Dublin	1-10		19	14	16	0
	11-20		16	16	32	0
	21-end	NA	31	23	55	0
	Month		66	-	-	-
Cahirciveen ^e (Valentia Obsy.) Co. Kerry	1-10	8489	4	0	0	37
	11-20	9352	10	10	10	0
	21-end	12184	16	0	3	7
	Month	30025	30	-	-	-
Kilkenny ^e Co. Kilkenny	1-10	8579	-	-	-	-
	11-20	10364	-	-	-	-
	21-end	13889	-	-	-	-
	Month	32832	-	-	-	-
Ballinamore Co. Leitrim	1-10		0	0	0	16
	11-20	NA	6	6	6	0
	21-end		16	0	0	10
	Month		22	-	-	-
Glenamoy Co. Mayo	1-10		13	0	0	9
	11-20	NA	7	7	7	0
	21-end	10368	15	0	0	36
	Month	NA	35	-	-	-
Birr ^e Co. Offaly	1-10	8761	-	-	-	-
	11-20	9580	-	-	-	-
	21-end	13108	-	-	-	-
	Month	31449	-	-	-	-
Johnstown Castle Co. Wexford	1-10	-	0	0	0	13
	11-20	-	7	7	7	0
	21-end	-	10	0	4	3
	Month	-	17	-	-	-

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