

METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE



AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

APRIL 1983

The Weather of April

A cold northwesterly airflow with wintry showers of hail or sleet, and some snow in northern areas, occurred on the 1st and 2nd. With backing winds to the northwest or west, troughs drifted inland and showers developed everywhere from the 4th to 8th. Some of the showers were thundery. A ridge of high pressure on the 9th gave a bright, dry day. Slight to sharp ground frost occurred on most nights. A depression south of Ireland on the 10th caused strong northeast winds and widespread rain over the country. Rain was heavy and prolonged in southern and eastern regions.

An anticyclone developed over Ireland on the 11th and dominated conditions up to the 15th, giving bright and clear spells with ground frost at night. As the anticyclone declined towards Europe a short spell of rain occurred which in turn was succeeded by a weak ridge.

A semi-stationary low pressure area dominated for the rest of the month. Because of varying pressure patterns—depressions were initially steered clear of Ireland—the spell to the 21st remained cold. Some thundery showers occurred. A depression affected the country on the 22nd causing widespread rain, thundery in places and strong northeast winds, which later moderated and became variable in direction on the 23rd. Subsequently low pressure centres remained close to the south of Ireland and an easterly airflow was maintained over the country. Associated thundery troughs moved northeastwards over the country affecting all regions, the thundery activity being particularly severe in the period from 27th to 29th.

Monthly Amounts of Precipitation were above normal everywhere except in the west and north and well above normal in the east and parts of the southeast. Values varied from 166% of normal at Dunsany, Co. Meath to 79% of normal at Glenties. Rain was widespread and heavy on the 10th, 22nd and 25th, and localised heavy falls occurred on the 24th and 30th.

Mean Monthly Air Temperature was well below normal everywhere. Values varied from 2.4°C below normal at Galway to 1.7°C below at Malin Head and Dublin Airport. Soil temperatures (100mm) also varied from 2.4°C below normal at Shannon Airport to 0.7°C below at Malin Head. The cold spell has already set in since March 21st and crop growth had suffered a sharp setback accordingly. Air frost occurred in many places on 10 to 12 days, i.e. over twice the average number, and ground frost occurred on all nights except the 10th, 23rd, 26th, 29th and 30th. Ground frost was frequently severe in many places up to the 20th or 21st. Accumulated degree days (threshold 4.4°C) was only some 60 to 70% of average.

Mean Duration of Bright Sunshine was below normal except in coastal areas of the northwest, the south and southwest, and well below in the west-midlands. Values varied from 118% of normal at Malin Head to 73% at Birr.

Gales were absent during the month but strong winds with gale gusts were widespread on the 4th, 10th and 22nd, and to a lesser extent on the 2nd/3rd, 5th to 7th in the south and southwest, and 25th/26th.

Summary It was the coldest April since 1922 at a number of stations.

The data contained in this Bulletin are provisional. Some of the material in Table 1 will be published in its final form later in the Monthly Weather Report; final values of Solar Radiation at stations in Table 2 will be published in the Annual Summary of Solar Radiation.

TABLE 1

APRIL 1983

STATION	PERIOD	RAINFALL (mm)				TEMPERATURE (°C)														BRIGHT SUNSHINE		WIND				
		AMOUNT	% OF AVERAGE	RAIN DAYS	WET DAYS	AIR							GROUND			SOIL (10cm)		MEAN DAILY (HRS.)	% OF AVERAGE	MEAN SPEED (ms ⁻¹)	DAYS WITH GALE GUSTS	P.E. (PENMAN) (mm)				
						MEAN MAX.	MEAN MIN.	MEAN DAILY	DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE	LOWEST MIN.	DATE	DAYS WITH AIR FROST	DEGREE DAYS ABOVE 4.4°C	% OF AVERAGE	DEGREE DAYS ABOVE 10.0°C	% OF AVERAGE	LOWEST "GRASS-MIN"						DATE	DAYS WITH GROUND FROST	MEAN DAILY	DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE
Carlow (Oak Park) Co. Carlow	1-10	17.6	-	8	8	8.6	0.9	4.7	-	-1.6	9	3	13	-	1	-	-6.0	9	8	-	-	4.12	-	4.1	-	-
	11-20	12.8	-	4	2	11.0	0.7	5.9	-	-2.7	18	3	24	-	3	-	-7.8	18	9	-	-	5.25	-	3.1	-	-
	21-END	42.3	-	8	8	11.8	3.7	7.8	-	-0.4	24	1	37	-	5	-	-5.7	24	6	-	-	N/A	-	2.9	-	-
	MONTH	72.7	145	20	18	10.5	1.8	6.1	-	-2.7	18	7	74	-	8	-	-7.8	18	23	-	-	N/A	-	3.4	-	N/A
Shannon Airport Co. Clare	1-10	18.0	-	8	6	9.5	2.5	6.0	-	0.5	2	0	21	-	1	-	-4.2	2	7	6.6	-	4.60	-	4.9	2	-
	11-20	5.2	-	3	2	10.7	2.3	6.5	-	-1.3	18	3	27	-	2	-	-5.5	20	7	7.5	-	5.14	-	3.8	0	-
	21-END	32.9	-	9	8	12.3	4.3	8.3	-	0.1	21	0	41	-	6	-	-3.9	21	2	8.6	-	2.44	-	3.9	1	-
	MONTH	56.1	98	20	16	10.8	3.0	6.9	-2.2	-1.3	18	3	89	62	9	-	-5.5	20	16	7.6	-2.1	4.06	79	4.2	3	51
Fermoy (Coolnakilla) Co. Cork	1-10	18.3	-	10	7	8.2	0.2	4.2	-	-0.9	2	3	11	-	0	-	-5.2	7	10	-	-	4.20	-	5.5	-	-
	11-20	2.9	-	3	2	9.7	0.4	5.1	-	-2.2	17	6	18	-	1	-	-8.3	17	9	-	-	5.25	-	3.1	-	-
	21-END	57.6	-	9	9	10.2	2.8	6.5	-	-1.2	21	1	25	-	2	-	-6.7	21	7	-	-	2.96	-	4.5	-	-
	MONTH	78.8	-	22	18	9.4	1.1	5.2	-	-2.2	17	10	54	-	3	-	-8.3	17	26	-	-	4.14	-	4.4	-	42
Fermoy (Moore Park) Co. Cork	1-10	28.3	-	8	6	9.3	0.7	5.0	-	-4.0	9	2	16	-	1	-	-7.5	9	9	-	-	3.66	-	N/A	-	-
	11-20	4.0	-	4	2	11.0	-0.3	5.4	-	-4.1	20	6	23	-	3	-	-8.7	20	9	-	-	4.85	-	N/A	-	-
	21-END	54.5	-	8	7	11.7	3.0	7.4	-	-3.0	21	1	34	-	5	-	-7.2	21	8	-	-	3.44	-	N/A	-	-
	MONTH	86.8	142	20	15	10.7	1.1	5.9	-	-4.1	20	9	74	-	8	-	-8.7	20	26	-	-	3.98	-	N/A	-	N/A
Mallow Co. Cork	1-10	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	3.52	-	-	-	-
	11-20	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	4.28	-	-	-	-
	21-END	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	1.79	-	-	-	-
	MONTH	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	3.20	-	-	-	-
Roches Point Co. Cork	1-10	19.1	-	8	4	9.2	2.8	6.0	-	1.1	8	0	20	-	0	-	-2.1	8	5	6.8	-	4.64	-	5.4	5	-
	11-20	1.5	-	3	0	10.1	3.1	6.6	-	1.0	18	0	26	-	1	-	-2.5	18	5	8.4	-	7.22	-	3.5	0	-
	21-END	54.5	-	7	7	10.9	5.9	8.4	-	1.8	21	0	40	-	3	-	-1.4	21	1	9.8	-	5.91	-	4.8	2	-
	MONTH	75.1	132	18	11	10.1	3.9	7.0	-2.0	1.0	18	0	86	65	4	-	-2.5	18	11	8.3	-1.6	5.92	110	4.6	7	59
Glencolumbkille Co. Donegal	1-10	21.7	-	8	6	8.7	1.7	5.2	-	-0.2	8	1	15	-	0	-	-4.5	8	9	-	-	5.56	-	2.7	-	-
	11-20	29.9	-	7	5	9.5	3.3	6.4	-	0.3	20	0	24	-	0	-	-3.2	20	4	-	-	5.65	-	3.4	-	-
	21-END	29.0	-	5	5	11.7	4.1	7.9	-	0.5	21	0	37	-	5	-	-3.5	21	4	-	-	5.94	-	3.0	-	-
	MONTH	80.6	-	20	16	10.0	3.0	6.5	-	-0.2	8	1	77	-	6	-	-4.5	8	17	-	-	5.72	-	3.0	-	54

NOTES ON THE TABLES IN JANUARY ISSUE

TABLE 1 (CONTINUED)

APRIL 1983

STATION	PERIOD	RAINFALL (mm)				TEMPERATURE (°C)														BRIGHT SUNSHINE		WIND		P.E. (PENMAN) (mm)			
		AMOUNT	% OF AVERAGE	RAIN DAYS	WET DAYS	AIR							GROUND			SOIL (10cm)		MEAN DAILY (HRS.)	% OF AVERAGE	MEAN SPEED (ms ⁻¹)	DAYS WITH GALE GUSTS						
						MEAN MAX.	MEAN MIN.	MEAN DAILY	DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE	LOWEST MIN.	DATE	DAYS WITH AIR FROST	DEGREE DAYS ABOVE 4.4°C	% OF AVERAGE	DEGREE DAYS ABOVE 10.0°C	% OF AVERAGE	LOWEST "GRASS-MIN"					DATE	DAYS WITH GROUND FROST		MEAN DAILY	DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE	
Glenties Co. Donegal	1-10	29.3	-	10	7	8.6	-1.2	3.7	-	-3.2	6	8	11	-	0	-	-6.6	6	10	-	-	4.71	-	-	-	-	-
	11-20	21.9	-	6	5	10.2	1.7	5.9	-	-3.4	20	3	24	-	1	-	-6.8	20	7	-	-	5.61	-	-	-	-	-
	21-END	16.5	-	5	5	12.6	1.2	6.9	-	-4.6	21	3	34	-	6	-	-8.4	21	8	-	-	5.26	-	-	-	-	-
	MONTH	67.7	79	21	17	10.5	0.6	5.5	-	-4.6	21	14	69	-	8	-	-8.4	21	25	-	-	5.19	-	-	-	-	-
Malin Head Co. Donegal	1-10	12.9	-	7	3	7.8	2.3	5.0	-	-0.8	6	1	13	-	0	-	-3.2	6	7	6.6	-	6.19	-	6.1	3	-	-
	11-20	15.5	-	6	5	9.1	3.7	6.4	-	-0.4	18	1	24	-	1	-	-3.6	19	4	8.0	-	6.19	-	8.3	3	-	-
	21-END	21.3	-	3	2	9.6	5.1	7.3	-	0.5	22	0	32	-	0	-	-4.0	22	2	9.8	-	5.73	-	6.7	4	-	-
	MONTH	49.7	83	16	10	8.8	3.7	6.3	-1.7	-0.8	6	2	69	64	1	-	-4.0	22	13	8.1	-0.7	6.04	118	7.0	10	61	-
Casement Aerodrome Co. Dublin	1-10	29.4	-	8	7	8.8	0.4	4.6	-	-2.9	3	3	14	-	1	-	-6.1	3	9	5.4	-	4.38	-	5.3	3	-	-
	11-20	2.5	-	3	1	10.7	0.8	5.7	-	-4.1	20	5	24	-	3	-	-8.0	18	8	6.7	-	6.35	-	4.9	0	-	-
	21-END	45.1	-	6	4	11.4	4.1	7.7	-	0.1	24	0	36	-	4	-	-4.5	24	3	8.8	-	3.44	-	4.0	1	-	-
	MONTH	77.0	154	17	12	10.3	1.7	6.0	-2.1	-4.1	20	8	74	67	7	-	-8.0	18	20	7.0	-	4.72	91	4.7	4	51	-
Dublin Airport Co. Dublin	1-10	23.6	-	8	6	8.5	1.1	4.8	-	-2.1	3	1	14	-	0	-	-5.2	3	7	6.2	-	4.61	-	4.6	1	-	-
	11-20	2.3	-	2	1	10.8	2.4	6.6	-	-0.8	18	2	27	-	3	-	-6.5	18	6	8.1	-	6.69	-	5.2	0	-	-
	21-END	41.2	-	7	5	10.8	5.3	8.0	-	3.2	24	0	37	-	2	-	-2.7	24	1	10.0	-	4.18	-	4.4	1	-	-
	MONTH	67.1	134	17	12	10.0	2.9	6.5	-1.7	-2.1	3	3	78	66	5	-	-6.5	18	14	8.1	-1.1	5.16	96	4.7	2	56	-
Kinsealy Co. Dublin	1-10	25.3	-	8	7	8.9	1.7	5.3	-	-2.2	3	1	17	-	1	-	-4.6	3	9	-	-	4.75	-	4.1	-	-	-
	11-20	1.6	-	2	1	11.0	2.3	6.6	-	-1.9	18	2	29	-	3	-	-7.2	18	8	-	-	6.78	-	3.6	-	-	-
	21-END	43.6	-	7	7	10.5	4.2	7.3	-	-0.5	24	1	32	-	1	-	-6.0	24	3	-	-	4.26	-	5.8	-	-	-
	MONTH	70.5	147	17	15	10.1	2.7	6.4	-	-2.2	3	4	78	-	5	-	-7.2	18	20	-	-	5.26	-	4.5	-	51	-
Galway Co. Galway	1-10	24.1	-	9	7	9.5	1.9	5.7	-	-0.2	9	1	19	-	0	-	-4.2	8	6	7.2	-	4.97	-	4.6	3	-	-
	11-20	10.9	-	4	4	10.5	2.8	6.7	-	-1.6	20	2	29	-	2	-	-4.6	20	5	8.6	-	6.53	-	4.7	0	-	-
	21-END	33.9	-	9	7	12.2	3.6	7.9	-	-0.7	21	1	38	-	6	-	-3.8	21	2	9.4	-	3.24	-	4.3	1	-	-
	MONTH	68.9	111	22	18	10.7	2.8	6.7	-2.4	-1.6	20	4	86	-	8	-	-4.6	20	13	8.4	-	4.91	95	4.5	4	53	-
Killarney (Muckross House) Co. Kerry	1-10	37.6	-	10	8	9.2	2.4	5.8	-	-1.5	9	2	19	-	0	-	-6.0	9	6	-	-	2.79	-	-	-	-	-
	11-20	8.5	-	6	2	10.3	1.5	5.9	-	-2.1	20	4	24	-	1	-	-6.9	18	8	-	-	3.78	-	-	-	-	-
	21-END	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.8	N/A	-	-0.7	21	1	N/A	-	N/A	-	-5.4	21	5	-	-	2.16	-	-	-	-	-
	MONTH	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.5	N/A	-	-2.1	20	7	N/A	-	N/A	-	-6.9	18	19	-	-	2.91	-	-	-	-	-

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TABLE 1 (CONTINUED)

APRIL 1983

STATION	PERIOD	RAINFALL (mm)				TEMPERATURE (°C)														BRIGHT SUNSHINE		WIND		P.E. (PENMAN) (mm)		
		AMOUNT	% OF AVERAGE	RAIN DAYS	WET DAYS	AIR							GROUND			SOIL (10cm)				MEAN DAILY (HRS.)	% OF AVERAGE	MEAN SPEED (ms ⁻¹)	DAYS WITH GALE GUSTS			
						MEAN MAX.	MEAN MIN.	MEAN DAILY	DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE	LOWEST MIN.	DATE	DAYS WITH AIR FROST	DEGREE DAYS ABOVE 4.4°C	% OF AVERAGE	DEGREE DAYS ABOVE 10.0°C	% OF AVERAGE	LOWEST "GRASS-MIN"	DATE	DAYS WITH GROUND FROST						MEAN DAILY	DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE
Cahirciveen ^e (Valentia Obsy.) Co. Kerry	1-10	31.4	-	7	5	9.5	3.8	6.6	-	-0.6	9	1	25	-	1	-	-1.9	9	2	7.7	-	3.40	-	5.7	5	-
	11-20	11.1	-	5	3	10.7	2.1	6.4	-	-1.1	18	3	26	-	2	-	-2.9	12	4	8.6	-	5.91	-	4.6	0	-
	21-END	59.0	-	8	6	11.6	4.6	8.1	-	0.0	21	0	39	-	5	-	-2.4	21	1	9.1	-	3.93	-	5.3	3	-
	MONTH	101.5	119	20	14	10.6	3.5	7.1	-2.3	-1.1	18	4	90	63	8	-	-2.9	12	7	8.5	-1.8	4.41	85	5.1	8	52
Ardfert (Liscahane) Co. Kerry	1-10	26.6	-	5	5	9.3	2.5	5.9	-	-1.1	2	1	20	-	0	-	-4.2	9	5	-	-	3.88	-	-	-	-
	11-20	5.7	-	3	1	10.5	1.0	5.8	-	-3.0	19	4	24	-	1	-	-7.6	19	7	-	-	5.44	-	-	-	-
	21-END	57.3	-	8	6	12.1	2.4	7.2	-	-1.6	21	1	34	-	6	-	-5.4	21	8	-	-	3.62	-	-	-	-
	MONTH	89.6	-	16	12	10.7	1.9	6.3	-	-3.0	19	6	78	-	8	-	-7.6	19	20	-	-	4.31	-	-	-	-
Lullymore Co. Kildare	1-10	38.2	-	9	8	8.5	-0.1	4.2	-	-2.0	9	6	11	-	0	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	-	3.78	-	3.8	-	-
	11-20	1.8	-	5	0	10.6	0.2	5.4	-	-4.1	20	5	22	-	2	-	-9.0	20	9	-	-	6.13	-	3.1	-	-
	21-END	40.5	-	9	8	11.5	2.4	7.0	-	-0.8	24	2	31	-	4	-	-4.0	24	7	-	-	2.48	-	3.4	-	-
	MONTH	80.5	155	23	16	10.2	0.8	5.5	-	-4.1	20	13	64	-	6	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	-	4.13	-	3.4	-	40
Kilkenny ^e Co. Kilkenny	1-10	25.5	-	7	7	9.4	0.5	4.9	-	-2.5	9	3	16	-	1	-	-7.2	7	8	5.9	-	4.74	-	3.4	2	-
	11-20	0.6	-	2	0	11.4	0.6	6.0	-	-2.9	20	3	26	-	3	-	-8.4	18	10	7.6	-	6.49	-	2.6	0	-
	21-END	41.1	-	9	7	12.0	3.8	7.9	-	-1.0	24	1	37	-	5	-	-6.3	24	5	9.1	-	2.67	-	2.8	0	-
	MONTH	67.2	122	18	14	10.9	1.6	6.3	-2.2	-2.9	20	7	80	63	9	-	-8.4	18	23	7.5	-1.8	4.63	92	2.9	2	47
Mooncoin (Silverspring) Co. Kilkenny	1-10	24.5	-	7	6	9.1	0.4	4.8	-	-2.2	7	5	15	-	1	-	-8.1	9	8	-	-	5.26	-	-	-	-
	11-20	10.9	-	6	3	11.1	0.1	5.6	-	-3.4	18	5	23	-	3	-	-8.9	18	10	-	-	6.37	-	-	-	-
	21-END	59.7	-	8	8	11.9	3.0	7.5	-	-0.4	21	1	35	-	5	-	-6.2	21	7	-	-	4.25	-	-	-	-
	MONTH	95.1	153	21	17	10.7	1.2	6.0	-	-3.4	18	11	74	-	8	-	-8.9	18	25	-	-	5.29	-	-	-	-
Ballinamore Co. Leitrim	1-10	22.9	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	10	-	-	N/A	-	2.6	-	-
	11-20	9.0	-	6	4	10.5	1.5	6.0	-	-4.7	18	3	25	-	2	-	-10.3	20	6	-	-	5.30	-	2.8	-	-
	21-END	35.3	-	7	6	11.9	2.9	7.4	-	0.1	21	0	34	-	5	-	-6.1	21	7	-	-	2.32	-	2.2	-	-
	MONTH	67.2	103	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	23	-	-	N/A	-	2.6	-	N/A
Ardee (Boharnamoe) Co. Louth	1-10	16.0	-	6	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	-	-3.4	3	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	11-20	3.5	-	3	2	11.2	0.7	5.9	-	-4.1	18	5	27	-	3	-	-7.0	20	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	21-END	58.2	-	9	8	11.0	2.1	6.6	-	-3.5	21	1	29	-	3	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	MONTH	77.7	-	18	15	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

NOTES ON THE TABLES IN JANUARY ISSUE

TABLE 1 (CONTINUED)

APRIL

1983

STATION	PERIOD	RAINFALL (mm)				TEMPERATURE (°C)														BRIGHT SUNSHINE		WIND		P.E. (PENMAN) (mm)		
		AMOUNT	% OF AVERAGE	RAIN DAYS	WET DAYS	AIR							GROUND			SOIL (10cm)				MEAN DAILY (HRS.)	% OF AVERAGE	MEAN SPEED (ms ⁻¹)	DAYS WITH GALE GUSTS			
						MEAN MAX.	MEAN MIN.	MEAN DAILY	DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE	LOWEST MIN.	DATE	DAYS WITH AIR FROST	DEGREE DAYS ABOVE 4.4°C	% OF AVERAGE	DEGREE DAYS ABOVE 10.0°C	% OF AVERAGE	LOWEST "GRASS-MIN"	DATE	DAYS WITH GROUND FROST						MEAN DAILY	DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE
Ballinrobe (Creagh) Co. Mayo	1-10	27.6	-	10	8	9.8	-0.5	4.6	-	-2.9	9	6	16	-	1	-	-7.5	7	10	-	-	4.86	-	2.8	-	-
	11-20	7.8	-	5	4	10.8	0.4	5.6	-	-5.4	18	5	24	-	3	-	-8.5	20	7	-	-	6.03	-	2.7	-	-
	21-END	26.5	-	8	4	11.9	1.8	6.9	-	-2.8	21	1	31	-	5	-	-8.0	21	6	-	-	3.01	-	3.5	-	-
	MONTH	61.9	87	23	16	10.8	0.6	5.7	-	-5.4	18	12	71	-	9	-	-8.5	20	23	-	-	4.63	-	3.0	-	37
Belmullet Co. Mayo	1-10	16.4	-	8	6	9.3	2.2	5.8	-	0.0	7	0	19	-	0	-	-3.8	7	5	7.6	-	5.24	-	4.8	3	-
	11-20	16.1	-	7	5	10.1	3.2	6.6	-	-1.7	20	2	28	-	1	-	-4.8	20	4	8.7	-	5.93	-	6.1	2	-
	21-END	22.3	-	4	4	11.6	3.9	7.7	-	-0.3	21	1	36	-	4	-	-3.8	21	2	9.7	-	5.43	-	5.3	2	-
	MONTH	54.8	86	19	15	10.3	3.1	6.7	-2.0	-1.7	20	3	83	66	6	-	-4.8	20	11	8.7	-0.9	5.53	102	5.4	7	56
Claremorris Co. Mayo	1-10	17.2	-	8	6	9.4	0.4	4.9	-	-2.4	9	4	16	-	0	-	-7.5	9	8	6.1	-	4.15	-	4.9	4	-
	11-20	11.0	-	6	5	10.7	1.1	5.9	-	-3.4	20	3	25	-	3	-	-8.7	18	6	7.7	-	5.68	-	4.9	1	-
	21-END	27.8	-	6	5	11.5	3.1	7.3	-	-1.1	21	1	33	-	5	-	-6.0	21	3	8.3	-	2.71	-	4.8	2	-
	MONTH	56.0	85	20	16	10.5	1.5	6.0	-2.1	-3.4	20	8	74	63	7	-	-8.7	18	17	7.3	-1.4	4.18	87	4.9	7	46
Glenamoy Co. Mayo	1-10	32.3	-	10	7	9.3	0.7	5.0	-	-1.6	9	5	16	-	0	-	-3.4	9	9	-	-	4.34	-	3.4	-	-
	11-20	14.1	-	7	4	10.2	2.3	6.2	-	-3.6	18	3	26	-	2	-	-5.4	18	4	-	-	5.63	-	4.0	-	-
	21-END	23.4	-	4	3	11.7	2.2	6.9	-	-3.1	21	2	32	-	5	-	-5.3	21	6	-	-	4.73	-	3.6	-	-
	MONTH	69.8	85	21	14	10.4	1.7	6.0	-	-3.6	18	10	74	-	6	-	-5.4	18	19	-	-	4.90	-	3.7	-	44
Dunsany (Grange) Co. Meath	1-10	45.1	-	10	7	8.4	-0.5	4.0	-	-2.7	3	7	11	-	0	-	-8.9	9	10	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-
	11-20	1.9	-	5	0	10.3	-0.2	5.1	-	-4.7	18	5	21	-	2	-	-11.0	20	9	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-
	21-END	42.8	-	9	8	10.6	4.0	7.3	-	1.1	27	0	32	-	2	-	-3.0	27	3	-	-	2.99	-	-	-	-
	MONTH	89.8	166	24	15	9.8	1.1	5.4	-	-4.7	18	12	63	-	5	-	-11.0	20	22	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-
Clones Co. Monaghan	1-10	21.3	-	6	5	8.8	0.2	4.5	-	-1.6	3	3	13	-	0	-	-8.9	7	9	5.9	-	4.07	-	2.3	2	-
	11-20	5.9	-	4	1	10.4	1.2	5.8	-	-3.5	18	3	24	-	2	-	-9.3	18	6	7.4	-	6.11	-	2.9	1	-
	21-END	20.8	-	5	4	11.5	3.4	7.4	-	0.2	21	0	34	-	5	-	-5.1	21	4	8.7	-	3.32	-	2.2	0	-
	MONTH	48.0	87	15	10	10.2	1.6	5.9	-2.0	-3.5	18	6	71	63	7	-	-9.3	18	19	7.3	-1.3	4.50	99	2.5	3	43
Birr Co. Offaly	1-10	27.0	-	10	9	9.2	0.6	4.9	-	-0.9	9	4	15	-	1	-	-7.5	9	9	6.3	-	3.99	-	2.8	1	-
	11-20	5.1	-	4	2	10.9	0.6	5.8	-	-3.6	20	5	24	-	3	-	-8.6	20	7	7.9	-	5.42	-	2.3	0	-
	21-END	33.6	-	8	6	12.0	3.9	7.9	-	0.5	21	0	38	-	5	-	-4.5	24	4	9.2	-	1.69	-	2.5	1	-
	MONTH	65.7	115	22	17	10.7	1.7	6.2	-2.2	-3.6	20	9	77	62	8	-	-8.6	20	20	7.8	-1.6	3.70	73	2.5	2	40

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TABLE 1 (CONTINUED)

APRIL 1983

STATION	PERIOD	RAINFALL (mm)				TEMPERATURE (°C)														BRIGHT SUNSHINE		WIND		P.E. (PENYMAN) (mm)										
		AMOUNT	% OF AVERAGE	RAIN DAYS	WET DAYS	AIR							GROUND			SOIL (10cm)				MEAN DAILY (HRS.)	% OF AVERAGE	MEAN SPEED (ms ⁻¹)	DAYS WITH GALE GUSTS											
						MEAN-MAX.	MEAN MIN.	MEAN DAILY	DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE	LOWEST MIN.	DATE	DAYS WITH AIR FROST	DEGREE DAYS ABOVE 4.4 C	% OF AVERAGE	DEGREE DAYS ABOVE 10.0 C	% OF AVERAGE	LOWEST *GRASS-MIN*	DATE	DAYS WITH GROUND FROST						MEAN DAILY	DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE								
																											MEAN DAILY	DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE	MEAN DAILY	DIFFERENCE FROM AVERAGE	MEAN DAILY	% OF AVERAGE	MEAN DAILY	% OF AVERAGE
Dundrum (Knockavilla) Co. Tipperary	1-10	32.6	-	9	6	9.0	0.7	4.8	-	-2.4	9	2	15	-	1	-	-6.5	9	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	11-20	4.1	-	4	2	10.8	-0.5	5.2	-	-4.4	18	6	21	-	2	-	-8.5	20	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	21-END	45.9	-	8	7	12.0	2.6	7.3	-	-1.5	21	2	34	-	5	-	-5.5	24	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	MONTH	82.6	-	21	15	10.6	1.0	5.8	-	-4.4	18	10	70	-	8	-	-8.5	20	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dungarvan (Ballygagin) Co. Waterford	1-10	22.9	-	7	7	9.7	0.4	5.0	-	-2.5	7	5	17	-	1	-	-3.2	7	6	-	-	4.49	-	2.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	11-20	4.3	-	5	2	11.5	0.6	6.1	-	-2.9	18	4	27	-	4	-	-3.5	18	6	-	-	6.03	-	1.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	21-END	57.3	-	9	8	11.9	3.7	7.8	-	-1.8	21	1	38	-	5	-	-2.9	21	2	-	-	5.09	-	2.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	MONTH	84.5	122	21	17	11.1	1.6	6.3	-	-2.9	18	10	82	-	10	-	-3.5	18	14	-	-	5.20	-	2.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49	
Mullingar Co. Westmeath	1-10	43.2	-	9	6	8.5	-0.0	4.2	-	-2.4	7	5	12	-	0	-	-5.3	9	9	5.3	-	4.03	-	3.6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	11-20	3.0	-	4	1	10.4	1.0	5.7	-	-3.9	20	3	24	-	2	-	-7.0	20	6	6.8	-	6.11	-	3.9	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	21-END	29.7	-	9	5	11.4	3.9	7.6	-	0.4	24	0	35	-	4	-	-3.3	24	3	8.5	-	2.54	-	3.6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	MONTH	75.9	120	22	12	10.1	1.6	5.8	-2.1	-3.9	20	8	70	60	6	-	-7.0	20	18	6.9	-1.9	4.23	84	3.7	2	45	-	-	-	-	-	-		
J.F.K. Park Co. Wexford	1-10	25.9	-	6	5	8.8	0.6	4.7	-	-3.3	3	3	14	-	0	-	-7.2	3	9	-	-	4.61	-	3.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	11-20	8.8	-	3	3	10.4	1.2	5.8	-	-1.5	18	4	22	-	2	-	-7.2	18	10	-	-	5.81	-	2.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	21-END	59.6	-	8	8	11.7	4.3	8.0	-	1.8	28	0	38	-	4	-	-2.9	24	5	-	-	3.90	-	4.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	MONTH	94.3	155	17	16	10.3	2.0	6.2	-	-3.3	3	7	74	-	6	-	-7.2	18	24	-	-	4.77	-	3.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47	
Clonroche Co. Wexford	1-10	26.5	-	7	6	8.8	0.8	4.8	-	-1.1	7	4	14	-	1	-	-7.5	7	9	-	-	5.03	-	2.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	11-20	12.6	-	5	3	10.4	-0.1	5.2	-	-2.4	20	4	20	-	2	-	-10.6	18	10	-	-	6.18	-	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	21-END	54.5	-	9	8	11.4	3.5	7.5	-	0.5	24	0	34	-	4	-	-8.2	24	7	-	-	3.79	-	2.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	MONTH	93.6	136	21	17	10.2	1.4	5.8	-	-2.4	20	8	68	-	6	-	-10.6	18	26	-	-	5.00	-	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44	
Johnstown Castle Co. wexford	1-10	30.4	-	7	7	8.4	1.0	4.7	-	-0.9	3	1	12	-	0	-	-6.6	7	8	-	-	6.19	-	4.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	11-20	4.2	-	3	2	9.9	2.0	6.0	-	-0.6	20	2	22	-	1	-	-7.1	20	10	-	-	6.55	-	3.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	21-END	41.4	-	7	7	11.0	4.7	7.9	-	2.6	24	0	35	-	3	-	-5.4	24	5	-	-	4.99	-	4.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	MONTH	76.0	113	17	16	9.7	2.6	6.2	-	-0.9	3	3	69	-	4	-	-7.1	20	23	-	-	5.91	-	4.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48	
Rosslare Co. Wexford	1-10	30.9	-	7	7	8.9	2.2	5.5	-	0.8	8	0	17	-	0	-	-5.0	9	6	6.5	-	6.26	-	6.3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	11-20	3.4	-	4	1	9.9	3.4	6.7	-	1.4	20	0	25	-	1	-	-5.8	18	4	8.4	-	6.58	-	5.1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	21-END	39.1	-	7	7	11.0	6.3	8.7	-	4.8	24	0	43	-	3	-	-1.2	24	1	10.6	-	5.96	-	5.3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	MONTH	73.4	136	18	15	9.9	4.0	7.0	-1.9	0.8	8	0	85	67	4	-	-5.8	18	11	8.5	-1.5	6.27	106	5.5	6	63	-	-	-	-	-	-		

NOTES ON THE TABLES IN JANUARY ISSUE

TABLE 2 GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION

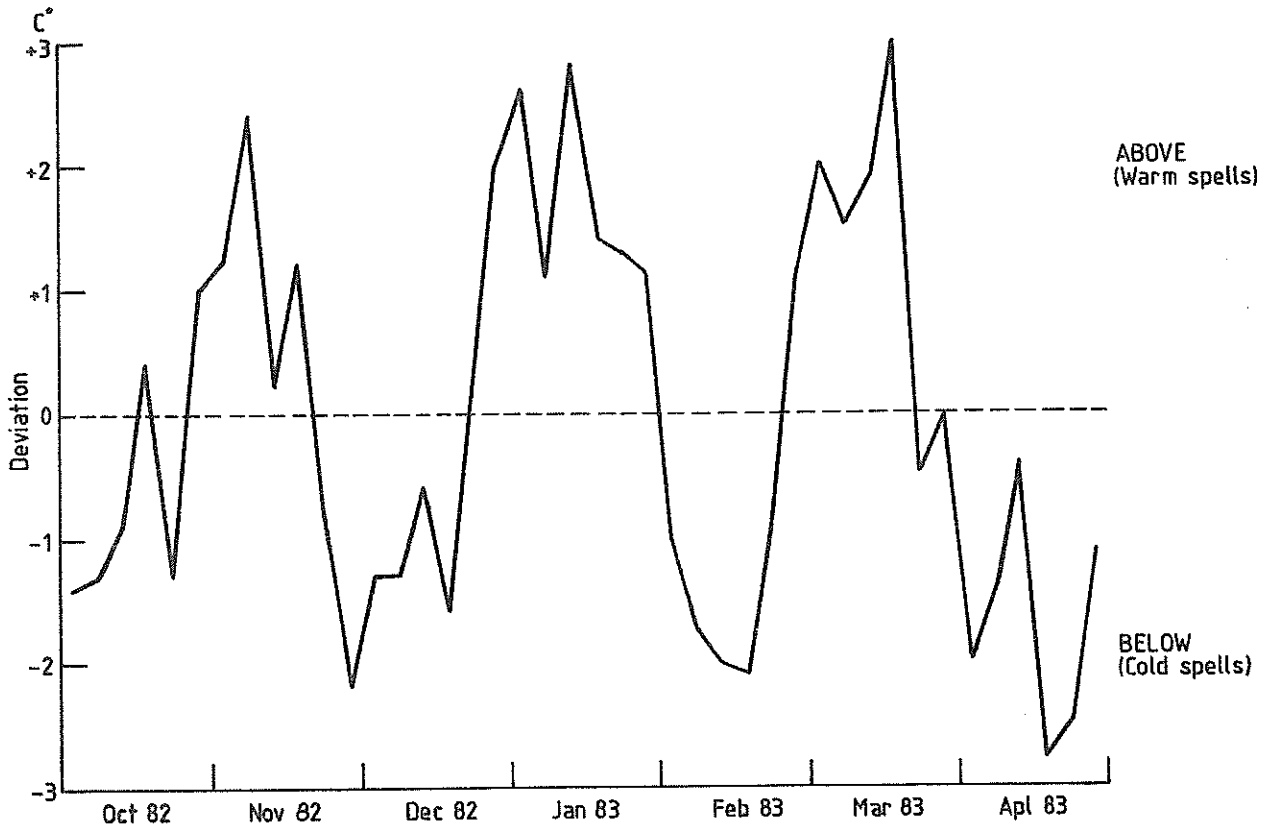
STATION	PERIOD	AMOUNT
		Joule/cm ²
Malin Head Co. Donegal	1-10	13786
	11-20	15714
	21-end	16331
	Month	45831
Dublin Airport Co. Dublin	1-10	10775
	11-20	14772
	21-end	13072
	Month	38617
Cahirciveen (Valentia Obs.) Co. Kerry	1-10	11452
	11-20	14497
	21-end	11453
	Month	37402
Kilkenny Co. Kilkenny	1-10	11552
	11-20	14269
	21-end	10731
	Month	36552
Belmullet Co. Mayo	1-10	13997
	11-20	15389
	21-end	14907
	Month	44293
Clones Co. Monaghan	1-10	12033
	11-20	15414
	21-end	11635
	Month	39082
Birr Co. Offaly	1-10	11595
	11-20	13665
	21-end	10384
	Month	35644

TABLE 3 POTENTIAL EVAPOTRANSPIRATION (P.E.) AND SOIL MOISTURE April 1983

STATION	PERIOD	SOIL MOISTURE (mm)			
		P.E. (mm)	Deficit	Accumulated Deficit	Surplus
Carlow (Oak Park) Co. Carlow	1-10	7.0	-	0	11
	11-20	13.1	0	0	-
	21-end	9.9	-	0	32
	Month	30.0	-	-	-
Kinsealy Co. Dublin	1-10	11.8	-	0	21
	11-20	10.3	9	9	-
	21-end	22.6	-	0	21
	Month	54.7	-	-	-
Cahirciveen (Valentia Obs.) Co. Kerry	1-10	4.5	-	0	27
	11-20	15.1	2	2	-
	21-end	12.9	-	0	48
	Month	32.5	-	-	-
Ballinamore Co. Leitrim	1-10	5.8	-	0	17
	11-20	14.0	5	5	-
	21-end	12.6	-	0	20
	Month	32.4	-	-	-
Glenamoy Co. Mayo	1-10	6.6	-	0	24
	11-20	14.5	-	0	2
	21-end	9.6	-	0	14
	Month	30.7	-	-	-
Johnstown Castle Co. Wexford	1-10	13.9	-	0	17
	11-20	11.4	7	7	-
	21-end	20.7	-	0	21
	Month	46.0	-	-	-

Notes on the tables in January issue

special topic



Differences from normal in C° of soil temperature (100 mm depth) at Birr, October 1982 to April 1983.

Soil heat is essential for crop growth. It is of particular importance in winter and spring, especially in the period March to May, for the establishment and early growth of both winter and spring cereals, and other crops including grass. Soil temperatures normally decrease in the autumn from about 12°C in October, reach a minimum of about 4.0°C in January/February and recover again in March, rising through the spring. In an individual year the actual temperature at a location varies about the normal, being either above or below normal from time to time. A large departure from normal in one or two spells may be expected over the course of a year but for most the deviation over an extended period is usually not very great, perhaps, about 1.0°C to 1.5°C.

The figure above shows the occurrences of both warm and cold spells during the seven months, October 1982 to April 1983, as represented by differences from normal soil temperature (100mm) corresponding to the particular time of year. The period as a whole has been remarkable not only for the intensity of each spell but also for the regularity with which the spells, both warm and cold, recurred. The most recent of the cold spells, March 20 - April 30, has been particularly severe on young growth. The advantage gained by the forward growth, occasioned by the first extensive warm spell of the year in January, and a second warm spell in early March, has been almost eroded by the latest cold spell.

T. Keane
(Agmet)