

MAINLY COOL, WET AND SUNNY

Nearly all seasonal mean air temperatures were below their LTA for spring, with the exception of some stations in Cork, Limerick, Tipperary and Waterford. Monthly mean air temperatures were mainly on or below LTA in March and May, with variable monthly means reported in April. Differences from spring LTAs ranged from -1.3°C at Markree, Co Sligo with a seasonal mean air temperature of 7.6°C to 0.4°C at Waterford (Tycor) with a seasonal mean air temperature of 9.8°C. Seasonal mean air temperatures ranged from 7.3°C at Knock Airport, Co Mayo (difference from LTA -0.5°C) to 10.0°C at Dooks, Co Kerry. Nearly all stations reported cooler spring conditions in 2013.

Seasonal highest maximum temperatures were mainly recorded on April 22nd and 23rd and between May 21st and 26th with the highest seasonal temperature of 21.5°C recorded on April 23rd at both Ardfert (Lisahan), Co Kerry and Dooks, Co Kerry. The season's lowest air and grass temperatures were mainly on March 2nd, 14th, 18th and 19th with spring's lowest air minimum of -5.1°C reported on March 18th at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin, its lowest March minimum in five years. The season's lowest grass minimum was -9.8°C reported at Thomastown (Mt Juliet), Co Kilkenny on March 19th. The number of days with air frost ranged from zero at around a quarter of stations to 25 days at Markree, Co Sligo, while the number of days with ground frost ranged from seven at Sherkin Island, Co Cork to 54 at Cloosh, Co Galway.

The majority of seasonal rainfall totals were above LTA with below LTA rainfall in parts of southern half of the country. March and April reported variable monthly LTAs, with May reporting mainly above LTA rainfall totals. Percentage of spring LTAs ranged from 64% in the Moanbane Mountains, Co Wicklow with a total of 214.9 mm to 170% at Crolly (Filterworks), Co Donegal with a total of 479.8 mm, its highest spring rainfall total since the station opened in 1972. Seasonal totals in a low-lying regions (areas below 200m) ranged from 150.6 mm at Gowran, Co Kilkenny to 659.2 mm a Dummin

Tawnyard, Co Mayo. The overall highest spring rainfall accumulation was at the Glentoran Mountains (Grogan More), Co Donegal with 686.2 mm (161% of LTA), its wettest spring on available record since it opened in 1948. Three quarters of stations reported their wettest day during the first 10 days of May with over half reporting theirs on May 2nd. The wettest day of spring was reported at Omeath, Co Louth on May 2nd with 80.6 mm, its wettest spring day on available record since the station opened in 1943. The number of seasonal wet days (*days with 1 mm or more*) ranged from 26 at Bannow, Co Wexford to 65 at Derryhenny Doochary, Co Donegal, its highest amount of spring wet days since 1986.

Sunshine totals were near or above their seasonal LTAs. Both March and April reported above monthly LTA sunshine, with variable LTA sunshine reported in May. Percentage of spring LTA sunshine values ranged from 96% at Knock Airport, Co Mayo (lowest seasonal total of 390.6 hours) to 129% at Dungarvan (Carriglea), Co Waterford (highest seasonal total of 581.0 hours), its sunniest spring in five years. The season's sunniest day was April 21st at Dublin Airport with 13.9 hours. The number of dull days (*days with less than 0.5 hours of sunshine*) ranged from nine at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin to 26 at Knock Airport, Co Mayo.

Seasonal mean wind speeds ranged from 6.6 knots (*12.2 km/h*) at Mullingar, Co Westmeath to 15.1 knots (*28.0 km/h*) at both Mace Head, Co Galway and Malin Head, Co Donegal. Eighteen days had gales, twelve days in March with three days in both April and May. Severe gales were only reported during March on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 9th, 28th, 30th and 31st with the only report of storm strength winds on March 9th. Spring's highest gust and highest 10-minute wind speed were both at Malin Head with spring's highest gust of 65 knots (*120 km/h*) on March 31st and the highest 10-minute wind speed of 49 knots (*91 km/h*) on March 9th.

COUNTY/STATION	RAINFALL (mm)					TEMPERATURE (°C)					SUNSHINE (HRS)				WIND				
	TOTAL	% OF LTA	MOST IN A DAY	NO. OF RAIN DAYS	NO. OF WET DAYS	MEAN	DIFFERENCE FROM LTA	EXTREMES MAXIMUM	EXTREMES MINIMUM	NO. OF DAYS GROUND FROST	NO. OF DAYS AIR FROST	TOTAL	% OF AVERAGE	MOST IN A DAY	NO. OF DULL DAYS	HIGHEST GUST (KNOTS)	HIGHEST 10-MIN WIND SPEED (KNOTS)	NO. OF DAYS GALES	NO. OF DAYS GUSTS ≥34 KNOTS
CO CARLOW																			
CARLOW (OAK PARK)	168.9	94	20.9	52	36	8.6	-0.7	19.2	-2.2	41	8					53	35	2	14
CO CAVAN																			
BALLYHAISE	274.9	125	24.0	55	44	7.6	-1.0	18.4	-3.5	36	16					46	27	0	14
CO CLARE																			
SHANNON AIRPORT	276.7	137	18.6	53	44	9.2	-0.6	20.0	-1.1	19	5	548.5	126	13.3	12	56	39	3	21
CO CORK																			
CORK AIRPORT	242.7	95	31.9	50	37	8.6	-0.1	18.5	-1.8	29	3	514.5	113	13.4	15	46	33	0	22
ROCHE'S POINT	229.8	115	36.5	46	32	9.3	-0.2	18.6	0.7	15	0					51	38	5	28
CO DONEGAL																			
FINNER	320.7	125	22.7	57	45	8.2	-0.6	19.1	-0.5	27	6					60	40	8	31
MALIN HEAD	322.9	153	23.2	60	46	7.9	-0.7	17.6	-0.7	22	1					65	49	15	42
CO DUBLIN																			
CASEMENT AERODROME	209.0	129	17.2	51	37	8.1	-0.6	19.1	-5.1	38	11	494.0	112	13.3	9	59	41	4	24
DUBLIN AIRPORT	191.9	115	28.2	47	35	7.8	-0.8	18.4	-4.0	36	14	551.7	120	13.9	10	56	40	4	27
CO KERRY																			
VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	313.8	100	25.2	58	50	9.4	-0.3	20.2	0.0	15	1	483.8	112	13.2	18	49	34	1	22
CO MAYO																			
BELMULLET	279.0	115	18.0	64	45	8.7	-0.6	18.0	0.7	17	0	482.6	109	13.8	19	59	44	7	27
KNOCK AIRPORT	374.5	128	23.6	63	52	7.3	-0.5	18.5	-1.8	25	8	390.6	95	13.1	26	53	34	2	26
CO TIPPERARY																			
GURTEEN	255.9	127	20.2	52	43	8.2	-0.6	19.2	-4.2	43	12					52	33	0	15
CO WESTMEATH																			
MULLINGAR	292.5	138	28.7	52	42	7.8	-0.7	19.2	-4.6	49	15					40	21	0	4
CO WEXFORD																			
JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	231.1	106	26.0	48	34	8.6	-0.3	18.9	0.5	32	0					46	30	0	16