

MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW
SEPTEMBER 2023

September was a warm, sunny and very dry month.

The rainfall total of just 4.4 millimetres was the lowest for the month of September since the drought year of 2019. The unusually dry conditions were caused by a developing El Nino event in the Pacific Ocean, and a number of high pressure systems moving across northern New South Wales keep rain bearing systems to southern and central parts of the state. It was the sixth consecutive month with below average rainfall.

Day temperatures were higher than normal, the average maximum of 21.6 degrees was the warmest for September since 2013 (21.7 deg). Overnight minimums were a little cooler than normal averaging 1.8 deg.

There were two noteworthy temperature extremes - see below.

Due to clear skies at night there was a greater incidence of frosts than normal with a total of 19 frosts.

Thunderstorms occurred on one day, and there was no hail or snow.

Winds were lighter than normal and were mostly westerlies.

Noteworthy events:

10th - The minimum temperature of -5.4C was the lowest for September since 2nd September 2017 when -6.2C was recorded. Cold dry air in the wake of a cold front which passed through on the 8th caused the unusually chilly conditions.

18th - The maximum temperature of 27.5C was the highest for September since 23rd September 2017 when 28.5C was recorded. The unusually warm conditions were caused by north-westerly winds drawing warm air into New South Wales from the centre of Australia.

SEPTEMBER 2023 STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 4.4 mm (50.6 mm)

Rain days: 3 (8)

2023 rainfall total Jan to Sep: 410.6 mm (543.5 mm)

Average maximum temp: 21.6 deg (17.9 deg)

Average minimum temp: 1.8 deg (2.6 deg)

Highest maximum temp: 27.5 deg on the 18th

Lowest maximum temp: 14.9 deg on the 9th

Highest minimum temp: 11.9 deg on the 8th

Lowest minimum temp: -5.4 deg on the 10th

Fine sunny days: 19 (19)

Ideal weather days: 9 (3)

Days with thunderstorms: 1 (2)

Days with frosts: 19 (14) light: 9, moderate: 9, severe: 1

Days with fogs: 4 (2)

Wind direction at airport at 3pm & number of days: W: 13, SW: 8, SE: 4, E: 3, NW: 1, S: 1

Average daily pan evaporation: 3.4 mm (3.2 mm)

Thunderstorm Details:

8th: 2.00-2.10pm approx - slight storm from west, 1.2 mm rain

Armidale weather on-line: www.weatherarmidale.com