MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW FEBRUARY 2011

February 2011 was a very warm month with good falls of rain

The rainfall total of 94.8 mm was a little above the average with most of the rain falling in the middle two weeks of the month.

Day temperatures were mostly above the long term average with 30 degrees reached or exceeded on the first six days of the month, and again on the 20th.

Overnight temperatures were also warmer than normal due to numerous cloudy nights. There were no notable extremes.

Prevailing winds were light to moderate westerlies, and thunderstorm activity was close to normal. There were no hailfalls.

There were two noteworthy rain events:

On the 7th an active trough over north-eastern New South Wales produced thunderstorms and heavy showers over the Northern Tablelands. In Armidale 40.0 mm of rain were recorded from these storms for the 24 hours to 9am on Tuesday the 8th. This was the highest daily fall since December 2009. The rain was heavier at Armidale Airport which recorded 52.8 mm for the same period.

On the 13th another trough resulted in afternoon thunderstorms and evening rain with a total of 36.6 mm to 9am on the 14th.

FEBRUARY STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 94.8 mm (88.8 mm)

Rain days: 10 (10)

2011 rainfall total Jan to Feb: 198.6 mm (190.5 mm)

Average maximum temp: 26.2 deg (25.4 deg) Average minimum temp: 13.6 (12.6 deg) Highest maximum temp: 33.2 deg on the 4th Lowest maximum temp: 17.7 deg on the 22nd Highest minimum temp: 19.9 deg on the 6th Lowest minimum temp: 5.8 deg on the 24th

Fine sunny days: 12 (13) Ideal weather days: 0 (1.5) Days with thunderstorms: 5 (5)

Days with frosts: 0 (0) Days with fogs: 2 (1)

Wind direction at 3pm & number of days: W: 9, E: 8, NW: 4, SE: 3, N: 1, NE: 1, S: 1, SW: 1

Average daily evaporation: 2.8 mm (4.6 mm)

Thunderstorm details:

7th: 8.15-8.35am - slight storm

1.00-2.30pm approx - slight storm

4.30-7.00pm - slight storms

12th: 5.30-6.00pm - slight storm

13th: 12.00-1.30pm - slight storm

2.30-4.00pm approx - moderate & slight storms

17th: 5.30-6.00pm approx - thunder heard, no rain

28th: 6.00-7.00pm moderate storm from west - 2.8 mm rain