MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW - ARMIDALE NSW OCTOBER 2018

October 2018 was a cloudy, mild to warm month with good falls of rain.

The rainfall total of 86.4 millimetres was 19 mm higher than the average and was the wettest month so far this year. The rain all fell during the first three weeks of the month with the highest daily fall being 31.6 mm on the 18th.

Day temperatures were slightly higher than normal, but overnight minimums were much higher than normal as a result of numerous cloudy nights.

There was one notable temperature extreme on the 11th - see below.

Thunderstorm activity was slightly higher than normal with storms on six days. There were no hailfalls. Winds were mostly light to moderate westerlies, and there were only three light frosts on the 2nd, 3rd and 8th.

Noteworthy events:

11th - the maximum temperature of just 11.6 degrees was the lowest for the month of October since 12th October 2012 (7.7C). The wintry conditions were caused by cold easterly winds and rain, combined with thick cloud cover preventing heating by the sun.

OCTOBER 2018 STATISTICS (long term averages in brackets)

Rainfall: 86.4 mm (67.6 mm) Rain days: 13 (9) 2017 rainfall total Jan to Oct: 431.8 mm (612.2 mm) Average maximum temp: 21.5 deg (20.7 deg) Average minimum temp: 7.7 deg (5.6 deg) Highest maximum temp: 27.5 deg on the 24th Lowest maximum temp: 11.6 deg on the 11th Highest minimum temp: 12.4 deg on the 21st Lowest minimum temp: 0.3 deg on the 2nd Fine sunny days: 11 (18) Ideal weather days: 1(2)Days with thunderstorms: 6(4)Days with frosts: 3(6.5)Days with fogs: 0 (2) Wind direction at airport at 3pm & number of days: W: 12, E: 6, NE: 4, S: 3, SW: 3, SE: 2, NW: 1 Average daily pan evaporation: 3.2 mm (4.1 mm)

Thunderstorm details:

- 10th: 3.30-4.10pm moderate storm from west
- 11th: 5.30-5.40am approx slight storm 11.40am-4.30pm - slight & moderate storms from north-west
- 17th: 12.00noon-3.45pm slight & moderate storms
- 18th: 1.45-3.00pm slight storms
 - 4.30-5.00pm approx slight storm 3.0mm rain from all afternoon storms
- 21st: 5.10-5.50pm slight storm from south 0.8mm rain
- 24th: 3.20-8.00pm slight & moderate storms from south-west 5.6mm rain