

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations, Wellington, for the Month of May, 1914. Observations taken 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 8 ft.

Date.	Barometer reduced and corrected in Inches to Liab. 49.	From Self-registering Instruments, for Twenty-four Hours previously.					Solar Radiation.	Terrestrial Radiation.	Veloc. Wind in Miles.	Amount of Cloud, 0 to 10.	Direction of Wind.	Rainfall, in Points (100 for 1 inch).
		Max. Temp. in Shade.	Min. Temp. in Shade.	Mean Temp. in Shade.	Fah.	Fah.						
1	29-869	61.2	51.6	56.4	117.6	51.6	292	8	N.	97		
2	29-880	61.2	46.8	54.0	115.8	45.0	381	10	S.	16		
3	30-063	55.8	46.2	51.0	93.6	43.8	593	3	E.	..		
4	29-871	61.6	51.8	56.7	107.6	49.0	296	6	N.W.	..		
5	30-282	63.6	40.4	52.0	114.8	31.2	154	2	Calm	..		
6	30-379	58.6	38.0	48.3	118.8	29.0	24	3	Calm	..		
7	30-163	59.0	47.2	53.1	108.0	38.6	180	10	N.	65		
8	29-839	59.0	50.2	54.6	74.0	49.0	372	10	S.	42		
9	30-289	52.0	46.2	49.1	80.4	48.6	570	7	S.	3		
10	30-249	51.8	45.4	48.6	102.6	43.8	484	8	S.	81		
11	30-010	50.6	46.8	48.7	64.0	45.0	656	10	S.	78		
12	29-863	49.8	46.4	48.1	64.6	44.6	630	10	S.	1		
13	29-849	54.6	40.4	47.5	94.0	33.0	260	8	N.	..		
14	30-163	63.2	50.0	56.6	109.6	47.2	120	10	Calm	23		
15	29-779	57.8	52.0	54.9	77.6	52.0	334	10	N.W.	48		
16	29-672	58.8	50.2	54.5	77.8	48.6	446	10	S.	8		
17	30-159	50.2	45.0	47.6	63.6	42.0	860	10	S.E.	30		
18	30-163	50.6	45.4	48.0	108.2	43.4	711	8	S.E.	43		
19	29-850	52.6	47.2	49.9	88.6	45.6	720	10	S.	13		
20	29-561	51.2	47.4	49.3	85.4	45.2	620	7	S.	16		
21	29-382	53.8	41.6	47.7	103.6	31.0	230	10	S.	110		
22	29-929	44.6	39.2	41.9	57.2	37.2	590	10	S.	64		
23	30-199	49.8	40.2	45.0	92.6	39.6	387	8	S.	..		
24	30-270	53.6	35.2	44.4	101.0	26.0	143	8	Calm	..		
25	30-221	55.2	43.6	49.4	60.6	36.2	180	8	N.	..		
26	30-249	55.2	47.4	51.3	80.0	41.4	250	0	Calm	..		
27	30-310	57.8	39.8	48.8	103.6	32.0	97	8	N.	..		
28	30-379	56.0	43.2	49.6	101.6	41.9	98	8	N.E.	..		
29	30-309	57.2	38.6	47.9	102.8	31.0	42	5	N.	31		
30	29-879	58.6	46.0	52.3	108.6	46.0	302	10	N.	24		
31	29-629	57.6	52.6	55.1	98.4	50.6	508	4	W.	4		
*	30-016	55.6	45.2	50.4	92.8	41.4	372	7	..	797		
†	29-965	58.3	47.3	52.8	95.0	39.9	218	480		

* Means, &c. † Means previous years.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
7	1	1	2	12	..	1	2	5

NOTE.—The weather during the month has been cloudy and unsettled, with strong southerly winds prevailing, while the rainfall was 66 per cent. above the mean of previous years. Total bright sunshine, 99 h. 25 m., and ten sunless days. Six frosts were recorded on the grass. Mean earth temperature at 1 ft. was 51.3°, and 54.4° at 3 ft. Mean dew-point, 44.9°; mean elastic force of vapour, 0.298 in.; and mean relative humidity, 82 per cent. of saturation.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.

MEANS AND TOTALS FROM THE CHIEF STATIONS.

May, 1914.

Altitude above Sea-level.	Name of Station and Observer.	Absolute Mean Temp. Air in Shade.	Extremes.			Total Rainfall (100 Points to the inch).	Days with Rain (4 Points or more).
			Max. Temp.	Min. Temp.	Deg.		
Ft.	NORTH ISLAND.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Points.	Dys.	
20	DARGAVILLE .. Dr. H. M. Levinge	59.7	65.7	53.8	552	18	
125	AUCKLAND .. T. F. Cheeseman	54.0	59.6	48.5	471	19	
..	TE AROHA .. G. F. McGirr	51.4	61.6	41.3	371	15	
925	ROTORUA .. L. J. Bayfield	50.3	59.2	41.3	299	15	
..	TAURANGA .. C. J. Butcher	54.0	63.3	44.8	268	18	
63	NEW PLYMOUTH .. W. D. Fletcher	58.3	71.1	45.5	481	17	
250	MOUMAHARI .. A. S. Huntington	52.8	62.0	43.7	645	13	
2080	TAIHAPE .. A. F. Fennin	44.2	49.7	38.7	553	20	
..	PALMERSTON NORTH .. J. E. Vernon	49.0	56.7	41.4	481	15	
186	GREYTOWN .. W. C. Davies	47.8	55.9	39.7	697	18	
377	MASTERTON .. Wm. Hood	47.4	55.8	39.0	611	18	
..	GISBORNE .. C. H. Ferris	52.9	59.9	45.9	1,291	19	
14	GREENMEADOWS, NAPIER .. Very Rev. Dean Smyth	51.8	58.3	45.4	740	11	
10	WELLINGTON .. F. W. Simms	50.4	55.6	45.2	797	20	
34	SOUTH ISLAND.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Points.	Dys.	
..	NELSON .. Rev. J. P. Kempthorne	50.2	59.0	41.4	343	9	
1218	HANMER SPA .. Dr. J. C. Duncan	41.7	50.8	32.6	515	14	
25	CHRISTCHURCH .. H. F. Skey	45.2	53.7	36.7	385	16	
42	LINCOLN .. G. Gray	46.2	54.2	38.2	431	14	
130	TIMARU .. Caretaker of Domain	44.6	53.7	35.6	153	11	
90	WAIMATE .. W. M. Hamilton	44.5	52.4	36.6	139	12	
300	DUNEDIN .. D. Tannock	45.2	52.5	38.0	263	12	
245	GORE .. H. Dolamore	41.0	50.1	31.9	284	14	
12	HOKITIKA .. F. T. Sandford	47.1	56.0	38.2	981	13	
18	INVERCARGILL .. L. Lennie	43.0	52.6	33.4	395	16	

SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1914.

Anticyclones were in existence over the Dominion between the 4th, and 7th, and 23rd, and 28th, and during these two periods fair weather was experienced in most parts of the country, with clear frosty nights in the South and in the inland districts of the North Island. The weather for the rest of the month was unsettled owing to various disturbances which passed over or in the close proximity to the Dominion.

On the 1st a rapidly moving depression passed in the South and the winds changed to southerly, increasing to gale force at widely separated places. Ngaruawahia, in the Waikato, reported an exceptionally severe south-west gale which did considerable damage to property.

On the 8th the centre of a small disturbance passed in the vicinity of Cook Strait, and this was followed by a depression which prevailed in the North between the 8th and 13th. This latter disturbance and also an extensive cyclone which was centred off East Cape between the 16th and 22nd accounted for heavy rains in the East Coast districts of the North Island, and cold south-easterly weather generally. On the 17th, 18th, and 19th, owing to the continuous heavy rains, floods occurred in many of the Gisborne and Hawke's Bay rivers. At Patunamu, Wairoa, the extraordinary fall of 13.05 inches fell on the 17th, and for the four days 16th to the 19th 29.63 inches were measured, while the total for the month was 38.31 inches. Although this disturbance had not decreased in intensity on the 20th, the presence of another low-pressure area to the southward of New Zealand had a neutralizing effect, and a brief improvement in conditions was experienced, but this was followed by boisterous unsettled weather again on the night of the 20th. From the 29th to the close of the month squally weather ruled, with the development of an extensive westerly low-pressure area. About this date some heavy rains occurred in the northern districts; on the 29th Kaitiaki reported 5.30 inches, Wekawaeka 4.88 inches, and at Ruatoki 2 inches fell in one hour on the 30th.

The aggregate total rainfall for the month was below the average in the West Coast and in the extreme south of the South Island, and also in the central portion of the North Island, but elsewhere it was in excess of the average.

D. C. BATES, Director.