

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations, Wellington, for the month of May, 1924. Observations taken 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 10 ft.

Date.	Barometer reduced and corrected in inches to Lat. 45°.	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 to 1 Inch).
		Max. Temp. in Shade.	Min. Temp. in Shade.	Mean Temp. in Shade.	Fah.	Fah.	Fah.						
1	29.979	62.6	39.3	50.9	111.0	30.3	42	0	S.E.	..	..		
2	29.757	61.0	53.8	57.4	112.0	50.2	206	8	N.W.	24			
3	29.958	60.5	46.4	53.4	87.0	44.0	387	6	S.E.	53			
4	30.157	57.0	42.6	49.8	91.0	38.5	541	10	S.S.W.	123			
5	30.272	52.7	44.0	48.3	99.0	41.2	492	10	S.E.	Trace			
6	30.430	55.0	51.9	53.4	80.0	49.6	445	9	S.E.	..			
7	30.202	58.8	43.1	50.9	104.0	35.0	132	3	N.W.	..			
8	29.932	59.9	55.1	57.5	111.0	52.1	391	7	S.E.	1			
9	29.860	57.7	40.0	48.8	102.0	30.0	127	0	N.W.	..			
10	29.627	60.1	56.6	58.3	109.0	51.8	247	6	W.N.W.	14			
11	29.701	62.0	49.3	55.6	115.0	38.0	206	7	N.N.W.	19			
12	30.189	62.3	43.2	52.7	112.0	41.1	368	1	S.S.W.	..			
13	30.124	58.8	51.0	54.9	104.0	47.2	212	7	N.W.	..			
14	30.079	63.0	46.9	54.9	107.0	38.3	157	1	N.E.	..			
15	30.095	66.1	42.4	54.2	107.0	35.6	30	7	S.E.	..			
16	29.986	59.9	42.1	51.0	100.0	35.1	74	8	S.E.	..			
17	29.734	56.8	50.0	53.4	86.0	49.5	299	10	S.E.	3			
18	29.650	57.0	49.3	53.1	64.0	46.0	519	10	S.	..			
19	29.933	54.9	43.8	49.3	87.0	35.4	150	0	N.W.	Trace			
20	29.878	59.1	53.0	56.0	104.0	48.2	234	10	N.W.	15			
21	29.846	60.3	42.2	51.2	110.0	34.9	77	3	N.W.	..			
22	29.964	60.1	43.7	51.9	110.0	35.0	105	6	S.E.	..			
23	30.089	53.8	47.3	50.5	89.0	43.1	272	7	S.E.	..			
24	30.106	54.4	36.3	45.3	103.0	29.1	76	9	Calm	31			
25	30.146	54.7	44.9	49.8	80.0	40.0	2	0	Calm	8			
26	30.215	57.8	52.0	54.9	95.0	47.9	17	10	Calm	9			
27	30.113	62.2	55.7	58.9	92.0	52.0	308	10	N.E.	Trace			
28	30.070	60.6	56.1	58.3	74.0	53.0	264	9	N.E.	9			
29	29.925	62.9	54.7	58.8	93.0	49.1	208	10	N.W.	8			
30	29.678	59.7	47.4	53.5	95.0	40.1	121	8	N.W.	15			
31	29.539	56.1	41.3	48.7	95.0	32.1	217	10	N.W.	33			
*	29.975	59.0	47.3	53.1	97.7	41.7	223.4	6.5	..	..	365		
†	29.971	58.2	47.2	52.7	95.3	40.4	220.0	5.7	..	..	473		

\* Means, &c. † Means previous years.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
1	3	..	10	3	..	1	10	3

NOTE.—A cloudy and showery month, with temperatures and barometric pressure slightly above the average and precipitation 23 per cent. below the mean of previous years. Total bright sunshine 112 hours 26 minutes, 37 per cent. of the possible, and four sunless days. Hail fell on the 3rd, 4th, and 11th, and fogs occurred on the 24th and 25th. Mean earth-temperature at 1 ft. was 51.5°, and 56.2° at 3 ft. Mean dew-point, 45.9°; mean elastic force of vapour, 0.309 in.; and mean relative humidity, 77 per cent. of saturation.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.  
MEANS AND TOTALS FROM THE CHIEF STATIONS.  
May, 1924.

Ft.	Name of Station and Observer.	Absolute Mean Temp. Air in Shade.	Extremes.		Total Rainfall (100 Points to the Inch).	Days with rain (½ Point or more).
			Mean Max. Temp.	Mean Min. Temp.		
NORTH ISLAND.						
152	AUCKLAND ..	Deg. 57.8	Deg. 62.7	Deg. 52.8	Points. 1063	22
131	RUAKURA FARM, HAMILTON EAST W. B. Monro	52.2	61.6	42.9	777	20
46	TE AROHA .. C. E. Christensen	54.9	63.1	46.8	1579	19
340	WAIHI .. C. F. Sims.	54.9	62.9	47.0	2112	21
100	TAURANGA .. C. J. Butcher	54.1	61.1	47.2	708	20
925	ROTORUA .. W. E. Penno	51.7	59.6	43.8	1435	18
60	NEW PLYMOUTH G. H. Dolby	54.5	60.6	48.3	691	23
250	MOUMAHAKI J. G. McFarlane	52.7	58.9	46.5	427	23
2080	TAIHAPE .. A. R. Fannin	47.1	52.5	41.8	336	23
100	PALMERSTON NORTH J. A. Colquhoun	52.2	59.9	44.6	363	14
5	OROUA DOWNS R. A. Reid	49.8	59.9	38.8	216	9
119	CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT FARM, WERAROA J. E. Sharp	51.3	59.2	43.4	241	16
5	NAPIER .. Chas. L. Thomas	52.5	59.9	45.2	480	17
377	MASTERTON R. Brown	49.9	59.4	40.4	423	18
186	GREYTOWN W. Allan	50.3	59.5	41.2	420	16
10	WELLINGTON ..	53.1	59.0	47.3	365	15
SOUTH ISLAND.						
87	BRIGHTWATER Ven. Archdeacon Kempthorne	50.3	60.1	40.6	472	13
34	NELSON .. H. Harrison	51.8	60.6	43.0	313	14
1220	HANMER SPRINGS W. G. Morrison	45.1	54.1	36.2	240	17
25	CHRISTCHURCH H. F. Skey	48.1	56.3	40.0	479	19
42	LINCOLN .. M. J. Scott	48.4	56.9	39.9	301	20
1220	KISSELTON F. Freeman	45.7	56.2	35.3	177	12
130	TIMARU .. Caretaker of Domain	49.4	58.8	40.1	182	18
200	WAIMATE .. F. Akhurst	49.8	57.4	42.3	162	15
300	DUNEDIN .. D. Tannock	49.0	54.9	43.2	429	18
245	GORE .. A. T. Newman	45.4	53.9	37.0	325	16
12	HOKITIKA .. J. A. Chesney	49.9	58.1	41.7	938	20
12	INVERCARGILL L. Lennie	46.9	54.7	39.2	585	20
LATE RETURN.						
245	GORE—November, 1923	57.7	69.8	45.6	127	11

SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1924.

The rainfall records for May show totals above the average over the North Island, except about Cook Strait, the excess being considerable in the northern and East Coast districts. In the South Island most of the Nelson district, scattered places along the East Coast, and the south-east portion of Otago recorded above, while elsewhere the rainfall was below the mean of previous years.

The more generally unsettled periods were the result of three ex-tropical disturbances passing in the north—viz., between the 2nd and 3rd, the 16th and 18th, and from the 24th to the 27th. Of these, the middle storm was the most intense, the barometer falling as low as 28.5 inches at Awanui on the 17th. Easterly gales, heavy rain, and severe floods were experienced about this time in the northern and East Coast districts of the North Island. Similar conditions prevailed between the 24th and 27th, though at this time the centre of the storm passed a considerable distance north of New Zealand, while the barometer was comparatively high over the Dominion and excessively so in the vicinity of the Chatham Islands.

There were also three westerly low-pressure areas, which culminated on the 1st, 10th, and 31st respectively. They were of moderate intensity only, but afforded rainfall to the West Coast districts, where the northern disturbances had but little effect.

During the month there were several periods of fair weather, but the skies were more cloudy than usual, while temperatures were milder and, in consequence, pasture-land showed a remarkable growth in most parts.