

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations, Wellington, for the month of March, 1927. Observations taken 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 10 ft.

Date.	Barometer reduced and corrected to sea-level.	From Self-registering Instruments, for Twenty-four Hours previously.					Solar Radiation.	Terrestrial Radiation.	Veloc. Wind, in Miles, 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.					
1	30-168	66-0	51-0	58-5	130-0	45-5	96	7	E.	..	
2	30-361	74-8	49-7	62-2	132-0	42-4	64	0	W.	..	
3	30-448	71-0	59-3	65-1	126-0	55-2	157	6	N.W.	..	
4	30-358	72-8	61-0	66-9	137-0	57-2	199	4	N.W.	..	
5	30-248	70-0	62-5	66-2	129-0	59-0	353	1	N.W.	..	
6	30-257	70-9	61-8	66-3	135-0	59-1	302	1	N.	..	
7	29-978	74-5	59-3	66-9	129-0	54-5	206	0	N.W.	Trace	
8	30-110	75-8	57-0	66-4	127-0	55-8	284	10	S.S.E.	..	
9	30-103	63-0	56-4	59-7	95-0	54-2	286	10	S.	4	
10	29-995	67-1	60-0	63-5	113-2	56-2	76	8	N.N.W.	..	
11	29-928	72-2	61-2	66-7	139-2	58-7	220	8	N.W.	1	
12	29-876	71-2	62-1	66-6	132-6	60-1	267	6	N.W.	27	
13	29-867	71-2	60-3	65-7	135-7	58-2	284	5	N.N.W.	..	
14	30-011	70-1	56-2	63-1	132-6	51-0	205	3	N.N.W.	..	
15	30-062	71-8	57-2	64-5	124-8	52-2	107	6	N.N.E.	14	
16	29-583	74-5	61-0	67-7	133-0	59-5	245	10	N.W.	4	
17	29-925	69-5	54-1	61-8	108-0	52-0	285	10	S.	..	
18	29-876	61-8	52-8	57-3	118-0	48-0	187	9	N.N.W.	22	
19	29-359	66-9	57-9	62-4	128-8	54-4	419	10	N.W.	11	
20	29-278	64-7	59-1	61-9	114-4	57-8	351	2	N.W.	115	
21	29-165	65-6	54-2	59-9	121-5	49-2	391	10	W N W	..	
22	29-755	62-0	51-8	56-9	118-5	47-1	238	10	N.W.	1	
23	29-489	64-3	56-1	60-2	127-0	54-0	399	10	N.W.	105	
24	29-630	64-8	54-0	59-4	109-0	50-0	413	0	W.N.W.	..	
25	30-067	65-0	49-3	57-1	117-2	40-1	174	0	N.W.	..	
26	30-003	65-0	58-1	61-5	118-1	55-1	360	5	N.W.	..	
27	29-886	60-1	55-7	57-9	120-4	53-1	252	4	N.N.W.	1	
28	29-739	63-4	57-7	60-5	123-0	34-5	451	0	N.W.	..	
29	29-944	65-0	52-2	58-6	117-2	49-0	234	0	N.W.	..	
30	29-915	67-7	53-8	60-7	120-0	47-3	207	0	N.W.	34	
31	30-228	64-5	46-0	55-2	120-0	43-0	303	4	S.S.W.	..	
*	29-923	68-0	56-4	62-2	123-6	52-0	259	5-1	..	339	
†	30-027	66-9	54-2	60-5	117-4	47-5	242	5-3	..	329	

DIRECTION OF WIND.

N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
7	..	1	..	4	..	3	16	..

NOTE.—A sunny, warm, and windy month, with precipitation 3 per cent. above the mean of previous years. Total bright sunshine, 226 hours 38 minutes (59 per cent. of the possible), and two sunless days. A heavy thunderstorm, with hail, occurred on the night of the 20th. Mean earth-temperature (at 1 ft.) was 63-9°, and 65-2° at 3 ft. Mean dewpoint, 51°; mean elastic force of vapour, 0-374 in.; and mean relative humidity, 67 per cent. of saturation.

SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1927.

The weather of March was decidedly summerlike—calm, warm, and fair generally, during the first half; the latter part of the month, however, was, on the contrary, cold, unsettled, and boisterous. The contrast between these two periods was very marked, the average temperature showing a considerable difference, as much as ten degrees being reported by an observer in Otago.

Until the middle of the month anticyclonic conditions ruled, a high centre persisting off the east coast of the North Island, though some scattered rain fell about the 10th with the passing of a shallow "low" southward of the Dominion. After the 15th, until the 28th, westerly depressions of considerable intensity were frequent. The trough of one passed on the 16th, and was succeeded by a more severe and extensive disturbance. This storm was apparently affiliated to a cyclone, the centre of which passed over the South Island, the lowest atmospheric pressure, 28-65 inches, being observed at Christchurch at 7 p.m. on the 23rd. On the 28th another intense westerly or Antarctic "low" passed, after which the barometer rose steadily with strong southerly winds, bringing a cold snap at the close of the month.

There were some slight frosts, and snow was left rather low down on the southern mountains.

Except in the east coast districts of both Islands, the rainfall was above the average, the greatest excess being recorded in the high country and the southern parts of the South Island. The total fall at Arthur's Pass was 36-42 inches, of which 10-35 inches fell on the 23rd, and of this 8-52 inches was registered in nine hours. Floods occurred in the Waimakariri and other rivers on this account, and also at this time in Marlborough.

The westerly gales were troublesome to orchardists, but the heat and dryness of the summer had left a warm soil and the rains in consequence produced a splendid growth of autumn pasturage.

D. C. BATES, Director.

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE.  
MEANS AND TOTALS FROM CHIEF STATIONS.  
March, 1927.

Altitude above Sea-level.	Name of Station and Observer.	Extremes.			Total Rainfall (100 Points to the Inch).	Days with Rain (½ Point or more).
		Absolute Mean Temp. Air in Shade.	Mean Max. Temp.	Mean Min. Temp.		
Ft.	NORTH ISLAND.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Points.	
152	AUCKLAND ..	64-1	70-1	58-1	457	15
131	RUAKURA FARM, HAMILTON EAST	62-5	74-1	50-9	727	15
211	A. Y. Montgomery MATAMATA ..	60-8	71-9	49-7	743	16
46	W. Halligan TE AROHA ..	64-0	74-3	53-7	519	14
340	C. E. Christensen WAIHI ..	62-0	72-2	51-8	663	21
100	C. F. Sims TAURANGA ..	62-5	71-7	53-4	510	11
925	C. J. Butcher ROTORUA ..	59-9	69-5	50-4	526	10
60	W. E. Penno NEW PLYMOUTH ..	61-0	68-3	53-7	640	17
2080	G. H. Dolby TAIHAPE ..	56-0	63-7	48-3	331	14
100	A. R. Fannin PALMERSTON NORTH ..	60-5	68-2	52-8	458	15
8	J. A. Colquhoun TANGIMOANA ..	61-6	70-1	53-1	324	12
119	T. E. Stringer CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT FARM, WERAROA	60-4	68-0	52-8	400	14
5	J. E. Sharp NAPIER ..	63-0	70-9	55-1	108	7
377	Chas. L. Thomas MASTERTON ..	60-8	72-0	49-7	272	9
186	R. Brown GREYTOWN ..	60-9	70-8	51-0	315	8
10	W. Allan WELLINGTON ..	62-2	68-0	56-4	339	12
	SOUTH ISLAND.					
11	J. H. Scott TAKAKA, NELSON ..	58-6	68-9	48-8	642	11
34	H. Harrison NELSON ..	58-7	68-3	49-1	221	10
1220	HANMER SPRINGS ..	55-6	66-6	44-7	524	16
25	W. Montgomery CHRISTCHURCH ..	58-2	67-6	48-8	115	11
42	H. F. Skey LINCOLN ..	58-6	69-8	47-4	106	12
1220	M. J. Scott KISSELTON ..	..	..	..	598	13
349	A. E. Young RAKAIA ..	59-3	70-5	48-1	166	12
323	Miss A. Hardy ASHBURTON ..	56-9	67-0	46-9	162	12
1000	H P. Clayton FAIRLIE ..	54-7	68-0	41-5	367	14
2350	A. J. Grant LAKE TEKAPO ..	50-9	62-1	39-7	348	10
130	R. R. Beauchamp TIMARU ..	57-3	67-8	46-9	152	15
200	Caretaker of Domain WAIMATE ..	56-1	65-8	46-4	154	12
1550	F. Akhurst SANATORIUM, WAIPIATA	53-1	63-3	42-9	257	13
1000	Dr. A. Kidd OPHIR ..	54-4	64-3	44-5	349	9
300	Rev. A. Don DUNEDIN ..	55-4	64-1	46-8	506	17
245	D. Tannock GORE ..	54-2	64-1	44-4	497	19
12	A. T. Newman HOKITIKA ..	56-7	64-4	49-1	1556	20
12	J. A. Chesney INVERCARGILL ..	53-9	61-3	46-5	865	21
	L. Lennie					