

Government Meteorological Observatory.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations at Kelburn, Wellington, for the Month of May, 1937. Observations taken at 9 a.m.

Altitude of Observatory, 415 ft.

Date.	Pressure in Inches at Sea-level and Standard Gravity.	Temperature (° F.) from Observations at 9 a.m.						Wind.			Rainfall, in Points: (100 Points = 1 Inch).	Bright Sunshine: Hours and Tenth.	Weather (Symbols) at 9 a.m.
		In Screen.						Beaufort Scale.	Anemometer.				
		At 9 a.m.			Maximum.	Minimum.	Minimum on Grass.						
		Dry.	Wet.	Humidity.				Dry.	Dry.	Direction.			
1	29.433	53.9	45.0	44	58.9	50.8	46.0	WNW	6	218	3	2.9	oy
2	29.265	57.8	56.2	90	61.1	50.9	49.5	NW	6	420	2	4.4	opq
3	29.460	50.5	48.4	85	59.3	47.5	43.3	W	2	347	17	7.9	b
4	29.294	52.5	46.6	61	55.3	49.0	44.6	WNW	5	329	9	6.4	o
5	29.418	45.8	44.4	89	55.6	43.7	38.3	Calm	..	300	..	6.6	b
6	29.749	49.0	42.7	55	55.7	38.5	33.3	W	1	151	..	9.1	b
7	30.044	45.8	43.2	80	57.8	40.0	32.2	Calm	..	102	..	7.3	b
8	29.879	53.2	50.4	81	57.2	43.3	37.0	NNW	4	113	7	0.0	o
9	29.477	57.2	56.5	96	57.2	52.2	52.0	NW	9	534	110	0.0	opq
10	29.938	45.3	44.0	90	49.9	43.5	43.0	SE	3	307	5	1.8	o
11	30.071	46.4	46.0	97	54.0	43.2	41.2	Calm	..	56	Trace	0.0	omr
12	30.236	47.7	43.9	72	54.0	42.4	35.1	Calm	..	30	..	3.4	ow
13	30.319	47.9	45.6	83	55.7	41.0	33.4	Calm	..	16	20	4.6	oz
14	30.056	51.5	51.4	99	61.2	46.6	42.0	Calm	..	8	6	0.1	omd
15	30.133	55.5	55.3	99	58.0	50.8	45.5	Calm	..	70	13	1.3	omr
16	29.956	57.8	55.0	82	59.8	51.0	50.7	E	1	170	43	0.0	o
17	29.740	58.6	57.5	93	58.6	56.2	54.3	N	3	152	4	0.0	om
18	29.912	56.4	54.3	86	57.7	53.7	51.9	NNE	2	271	22	0.3	o
19	29.817	57.4	56.8	96	57.9	54.2	51.8	NW	6	261	68	0.0	omr
20	30.009	49.1	47.7	90	54.1	44.2	40.6	Calm	..	244	..	2.6	cz
21	30.195	47.1	45.7	89	55.2	42.5	34.4	Calm	..	63	..	8.6	bz
22	29.979	51.3	49.4	87	53.9	45.1	38.7	N	1	51	..	0.0	o
23	29.802	53.6	49.9	76	56.6	45.7	41.0	NNW	3	82	9	6.7	bcw
24	29.802	48.4	48.2	98	55.1	42.3	34.7	Calm	..	98	..	5.0	cz
25	29.944	48.2	46.5	87	53.1	41.9	35.3	Calm	..	30	..	6.4	bz
26	30.033	47.7	46.1	88	58.7	40.0	30.9	E	1	21	3	6.0	bz
27	30.033	47.1	46.6	96	55.7	42.2	33.6	Calm	..	46	..	4.1	oz
28	30.154	48.1	47.1	92	59.3	44.3	37.1	Calm	..	6	..	1.6	c
29	30.195	56.0	53.4	83	60.0	48.1	45.0	N	1	63	..	6.2	c
30	30.101	53.8	50.6	79	59.9	51.7	48.5	NNE	3	224	..	5.0	ow
31	30.228	53.1	52.2	94	61.8	48.8	38.8	N	1	161	..	7.0	b
Means, &c. . .	29.893	51.4	49.2	85	58.9	46.3	41.4	..	1.9	159	341	115.3	..

Mean earth temperature at 1 ft., 52.4°; and at 3 ft., 55.0°. Number of rain days, 16. Total rainfall, 17 per cent. below normal. Sunshine, 38 per cent. of the possible. Mean dew-point at 9 a.m., 46.9°; mean vapour pressure, 0.320 in.

DIRECTION OF WIND.

Gale (force 8 or more).	Forces 4 to 7.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.
1	6	6	1	2	1	3	5	13

NOTE.—A boisterous north-west gale and heavy rain were experienced on the 9th, and in the evening a thunderstorm and hail occurred.

NOTES ON THE WEATHER FOR MAY, 1937.

General.—Though not particularly severe, the first part of May was cold and rather stormy. After the first week there was rather more snow than usual on the mountains. From then onwards mild weather prevailed, the conditions in the last twelve days often being almost summer-like. Rainfall was above average in most districts, and especially so over most of the South Island and the Auckland Province. The sky was cloudy and the atmosphere humid, so that even where the rain was below average moist conditions prevailed. This state of affairs was accentuated by the absence of wind during the second half of the month. Grass has continued to grow so that there is everywhere abundant feed for stock, which are reported, generally, to be in good condition. The state of the pastures has been very favourable to the dairying industry but less so for fattening stock. In the North the somewhat stormy conditions and the lack of sunshine caused the growth of most vegetation to be checked, but in the rest of the country growth was unusually vigorous for the time of year. Numbers of trees and shrubs are flowering out of season. The ground is, in most districts, too soft for ploughing and the sowing of crops.

Rainfall.—In the North Island the total rainfall was considerably above average from Auckland northwards and in parts of the Bay of Plenty and central areas and the South Taranaki Bight. East of the main ranges, in western Taranaki, and in southern Wellington it was below average. Over the South Island the month was a wet one except about the Canterbury-Marlborough border and in the extreme South.

Temperatures were about normal in Nelson, Marlborough, and North Canterbury, but above it almost everywhere else. The departures, except at some inland stations, were generally less than a degree. There was some cold weather in the first week, but thereafter, and especially after the 19th, it was very mild. There were few frosts and none very severe.

Sunshine was much below average in the North Island, especially the northern portion. Christchurch and Hamner Springs reported slightly more than average, but elsewhere in the South Island, also, there was less than normal. Blenheim had 147.5 hours, Napier 143.3, and Wanganui 142.5.

Pressure Systems.—During the first four days the westerly type of weather prevailed, strong winds blowing from between north-west and south-west, with frequent rain in districts with a westerly aspect, and some snow and hail on the ranges. During the 4th conditions became particularly boisterous, with widespread westerly gales. Severe thunderstorms occurred in many places west of the ranges; hailstorms were numerous, and heavy snow fell on the ranges.

After a brief spell of anticyclonic weather another westerly depression brought north-west to westerly gales to many places on the 8th to 9th. Some heavy rains were recorded, especially in the ranges. Rivers were flooded in Canterbury and Westland, and a brief flood occurred, also, in the Hutt River.