

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE—continued
 Summary of the Records of Temperature, Rainfall, and Sunshine for August 1953—continued

Station	Height of Station Above M.S.L.	Air Temperatures in Degrees (Fahrenheit)							Rainfall in Inches				Bright Sunshine		
		Means of		Mean of A and B	Difference From Normal	Absolute Maximum and Minimum				Total Fall	No. of Rain Days	Difference From Normal		Maximum Fall	
		A Max.	B Min.			Maximum	Date	Minimum	Date					Amount	Date
	Ft.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.	In.			In.		Hrs.		
Rudstone, Methven ..	1,217	53.3	37.5	45.4	+1.8	65.2	29 30.0	1 4.61	12	+1.45	1.25	26	122.5		
Akaroa ..	150	54.1	40.1	47.1	+0.7	64.5	30 33.8	20 5.55	10	(+1.57)	1.99	18	104.3		
Lincoln ..	36	52.8	36.3	44.6	+1.5	62.8	30 26.1	11 3.35	14	+1.27	1.29	13	119.8		
The Hermitage ..	2,510	46.2	32.2	39.2	+1.2	57.0	31 25.0	20 8.69	13	-3.74	3.00	7	66.9		
Winchmore ..	525	52.8	34.9	43.8	(+1.5)	64.2	31 24.0	22 2.97	11	(+1.10)	0.67	17	..		
Haast ..	15	53.6	41.8	47.7	..	61.3	26 32.6	9 11.46	22	(-2.84)	2.37	7	65.6		
Ashburton ..	323	54.9	35.2	45.0	+1.3	67.4	8 26.8	20 3.23	12	+0.91	0.93	13	111.3		
Fairlie ..	1,004	52.4	28.3	40.4	+0.2	65.0	30 19.0	1 2.74	12	+0.84	0.89	26	..		
Timaru ..	56	51.6	36.1	43.8	+0.0	64.6	30 27.8	20 2.94	9	+1.48	1.12	13	102.0		
Adair ..	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tara Hills ..	1,600	48.9	30.4	39.6	(+0.6)	59.8	30 22.8	1 0.85	9	(-0.48)	0.34	7	109.6		
Milford Sound ..	20	52.1	37.6	44.8	+1.6	60.9	24, 26 32.3	23 17.98	18	+0.78	2.39	29	..		
Waimate ..	200	53.2	35.2	44.2	-0.2	67.0	8 26.0	1 2.06	19	+0.35	0.48	26	99.3		
Frankton Airfield ..	1,144	50.8	32.4	41.6	..	62.2	7 26.8	22 1.62	9	..	0.44	17	..		
Queenstown ..	1,100	51.1	35.4	43.2	+1.6	59.9	7 30.2	1, 22 2.02	10	-0.20	0.49	17	99.5		
Cromwell ..	720	52.2	33.1	42.6	(+1.7)	61.4	7 24.6	1 0.54	8	(-0.31)	0.30	17	..		
Ophir ..	1,000	51.3	30.3	40.8	+1.2	62.0	7 21.3	1 1.18	7	+0.40	0.42	11	..		
Earnsclough ..	500	51.5	30.7	41.1	(+0.4)	63.6	30 23.0	1 0.67	6	+0.02	0.35	17	..		
Waipiata ..	1,550	47.8	31.6	39.7	+0.0	59.0	31 25.4	22 1.28	5	+0.25	0.58	17	116.7		
Alexandra ..	520	51.7	31.8	41.8	+0.4	63.3	30 25.8	5, 6 0.64	6	+0.01	0.34	17	110.2		
Roxburgh Hydro ..	350	53.4	36.2	44.8	..	64.1	7 24.0	22 1.18	8	(+0.21)	0.43	17	..		
Mid Dome ..	1,252	49.5	33.3	41.4	..	60.2	17 26.9	19 3.33	8	..	1.29	18	..		
Moa Flat, West Otago ..	1,345	48.5	34.5	41.5	..	58.2	7 29.2	23 2.13	13	(+0.40)	0.56	18	..		
Manorburn Dam ..	2,448	44.2	29.0	36.6	+2.6	57.5	7 19.5	1 0.86	7	-0.12	0.43	17	..		
Taieri ..	80	54.4	33.5	44.0	(+0.3)	67.8	31 25.7	22 1.72	12	(-0.02)	0.50	14	100.3		
Musselburgh, Dunedin ..	5	52.1	38.7	45.4	(-0.1)	64.0	8 31.3	22 2.74	11	+0.66	1.46	14	102.0		
East Gore ..	245	52.8	34.6	43.7	+1.0	65.0	7 27.0	21 2.10	13	+0.03	0.48	18	..		
Gore ..	240	53.5	34.7	44.1	(+1.1)	64.0	7 26.0	21 2.01	13	(-0.06)	0.36	18	116.7		
Otautau ..	180	52.1	33.8	43.0	+0.0	62.6	7 25.8	12 2.94	12	(+0.13)	0.72	18	..		
Pebble Hills ..	150	52.6	35.1	43.8	..	62.0	7 25.0	22 2.69	13	(+0.07)	0.59	2	..		
Invercargill South ..	8	53.9	35.8	44.8	+0.8	63.9	7 28.2	22 2.40	13	(-0.60)	0.61	1	..		
Invercargill Airfield ..	0	52.8	33.2	43.0	(+0.0)	62.8	7 25.7	22 2.37	12	(-0.57)	0.58	1	115.6		

LATE RETURNS

Adair, July 1953 ..	200	49.7	35.6	42.6	(+0.7)	62.3	23 31.0	16 1.11	8	(-0.66)	0.44	19	..
Roxburgh Hydro, July 1953 ..	350	47.3	30.6	39.0	..	58.0	23 24.5	20 0.61	5	(-0.61)	0.34	10	..
Gore, July 1953 ..	240	48.4	32.3	40.4	(+0.7)	61.0	23 25.0	17 1.24	11	(-0.77)	0.58	10	109.0

NOTE.—At stations where departures from normal are in parentheses, the temperature record has been maintained for less than ten years, the rainfall record for less than twenty years. Rainfall normals have been revised and now refer to the standard period 1921-50. Where observations are not available for the whole period, or where the site of the rain-gauge has been changed, the normals are partly interpolated.

NOTES ON THE WEATHER FOR AUGUST 1953

General—August was a cloudy and mild month, and it was particularly wet for northern districts of both Islands. In eastern districts of the North Island lambing commenced under rather favourable conditions. In most other districts stock were wintering well, but in many parts of Northland the ground was waterlogged and feed was short.

On the 17th several small tornadoes caused local damage in Auckland, Waikato, and Taranaki. In Marlborough heavy rains fell on three occasions, and by the 27th large slips blocked the railway and main roads.

Rainfall—Rainfall was above normal in northern and eastern districts of the South Island, in Central Taranaki, and over most of the Auckland province. There was a substantial surplus in the lower Waimea Valley, in the far north, and on the Kaikoura coast; in the two latter districts it was the wettest August for over thirty years.

A few places had less than half the average rainfall, including the Manawatu and Rangitikei districts and the area between Napier and Gisborne.

Temperature—In eastern districts of both Islands and in the far south temperatures were about normal. Elsewhere August was considerably warmer than usual, especially in Westland and the far north.

Falls of snow to low levels were reported in Grey Valley, Westland, on the 18th and in south-western Southland on the 19th. Exceptionally heavy snow in the Alps on the 13th caused power failures in Westland.

Sunshine—August was a little sunnier than usual for Gisborne, southern Hawke's Bay, and Wairarapa; elsewhere sunshine was below normal. The deficit was about an hour a day or more in the far north, and over most of the South Island except on the Southland coast and in coastal districts north of Ashburton, where it was somewhat less.

Weather Sequence—At the end of July an anticyclone centred to the east covered the whole country. Pressure still remained comparatively high for the first few days of August, but scattered rain was reported on the 1st and 2nd, mainly associated with the slow north-eastward passage of a weak cold front.

Following the formation of a very shallow depression west of Nelson on the 3rd, considerable rain occurred in northern districts of both islands. There were several particularly heavy falls in the far north, and some roads were flooded. On the 5th and 6th scattered light rain persisted in Northland, but elsewhere the weather was fair.

For the next five days westerly conditions prevailed. Eastern districts received very little rain, and there were some fair intervals elsewhere, except on the West Coast, where the weather continued unsettled with frequent rain throughout this period.

During the passage of a depression across the North Island on the 13th and 14th rain became general, except in the far south-west. There were substantial falls in northern and eastern districts of both Islands, accompanied in most of these areas with winds of gale force. A temporary return to westerly conditions caused a clearance in eastern districts on the 15th and in most other areas on the 16th.

Rain became general again as a depression moved across the country on the 17th and 18th, and a north-easterly gale caused some damage in Auckland. Two weak troughs of low pressure then brought rain, mainly to the central provinces and the far south. By the 21st an anticyclone covered the whole country. Showers persisted in parts of Westland and Northland, but elsewhere fair weather predominated until the 25th.

A complex depression which had formed in the south Tasman Sea then moved north-eastward. During its slow passage across Northland from the 25th to the 28th, there were heavy rains in the eastern part of this district, and also in Auckland. The easterly winds associated with the depression also brought heavy rain to parts of Canterbury and to Marlborough. Elsewhere rain was confined mainly to coastal districts, and the far south was not affected.

With an anticyclone centred to the east, fair or fine weather prevailed in many districts for the last three days of the month. Over the northern half of the North Island, however, there was further rain associated with the approach of a depression from the Queensland coast, and some heavy falls were again reported in Northland and Coromandel. In Westland, too, the weather remained unsettled on account of the passage of a deep depression far to the south-west.

M. A. F. BARNETT, Director.