

# MONTHLY WEATHER BULLETIN

NO. 346  
MARCH 2015



On Sunday March 8th the day's highest daily sunshine total was 8.5 hours at Straide, Co Mayo. Further east, less sunshine was reported due to prolonged cloudy intervals. Dublin Airport's daily total (4.8 hours) was just over half of what was reported in the West, but later on in March the month's sunniest day of 11.5 hours was reported here on March 21st and 22nd. In the photo above, a cloudy period was captured over the orchard in the walled garden at Emo Court, Co Laois. These clouds have been dramatically enhanced by blending three photos taken at different exposures in a process known as High Dynamic Range (HDR). (Picture courtesy of Kieran Commins)

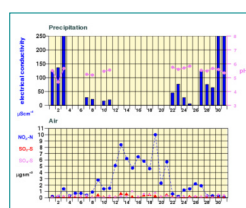
## WET AND WINDY IN PLACES; COOL AND SUNNY EVERYWHERE

Around two-thirds of stations reported above Long-Term Average (LTA) rainfall, with below LTA values primarily reported in the Southwest, South, Southeast, East and parts of the Midlands. Percentage of LTA rainfall values

ranged from 54% at Tullaroan (Ballybeagh), Co Kilkenny to 168% at Roscommon (Vocational School). Some areas in the Southeast and East reported just over half their normal rainfall for March, however there were no reports of 'dry



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On the morning of March 20th a partial solar eclipse was visible from Ireland. A solar eclipse is where the moon passes between the Earth and Sun and the dark silhouette of the moon obscures the bright light of the sun. On March 20th, over 90% of the sun was obscured by the moon. For Dublin, it started at 8:24 am, reaching maximum eclipse at 9:28 am and finished at 10:26 am. The weather at Dublin Airport and Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin reported near full or full cloud cover (seven or eight oktas) during the event, however there were a few breaks in coverage which allowed time to capture photos like the one on the right. Cork Airport reported the least amount of cloud cover during the event recording just three and four oktas. (Picture courtesy of Gerry Dunne)



spells' (a period of 15 or more consecutive days to none of which is credited 1.0 mm or more) during the month. The month's wettest day was at Glenvickee (Caragh River Area), Co Kerry on the 6th with 50.9 mm which was just under a quarter of its monthly total of 224.5 mm (105% of its LTA).

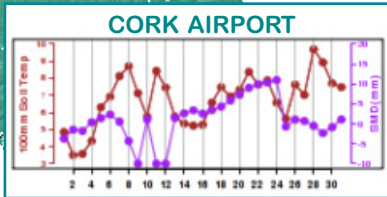
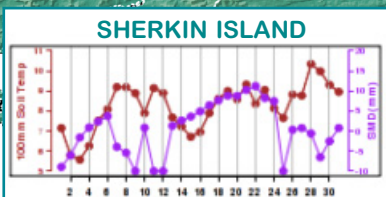
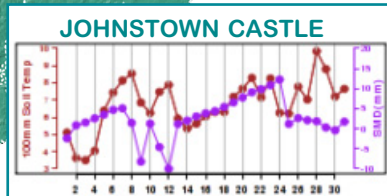
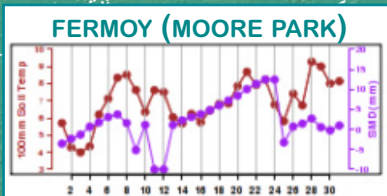
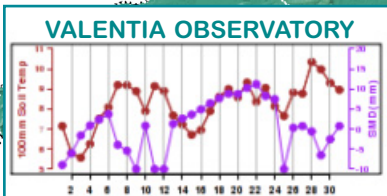
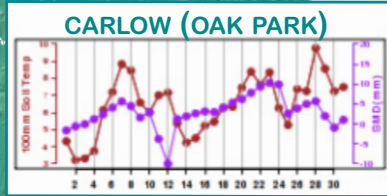
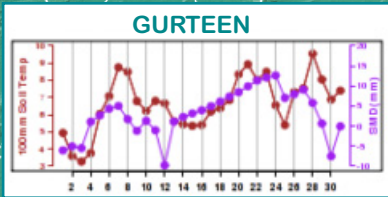
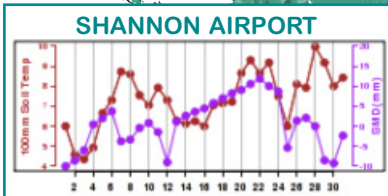
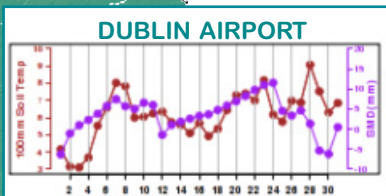
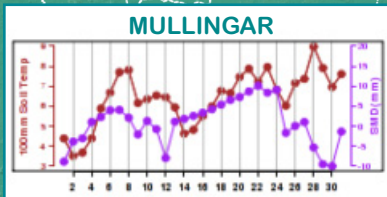
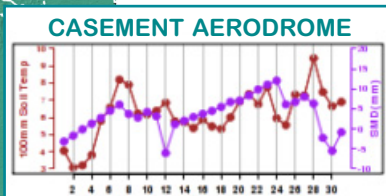
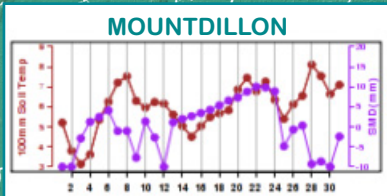
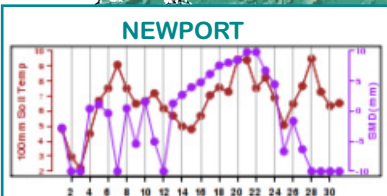
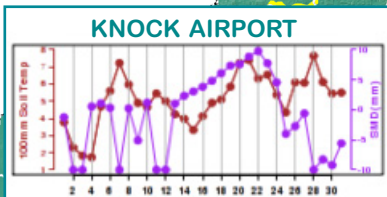
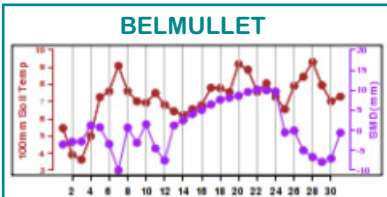
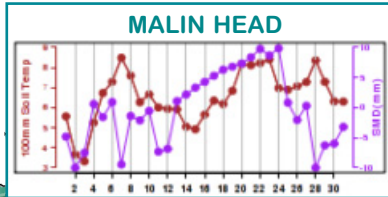
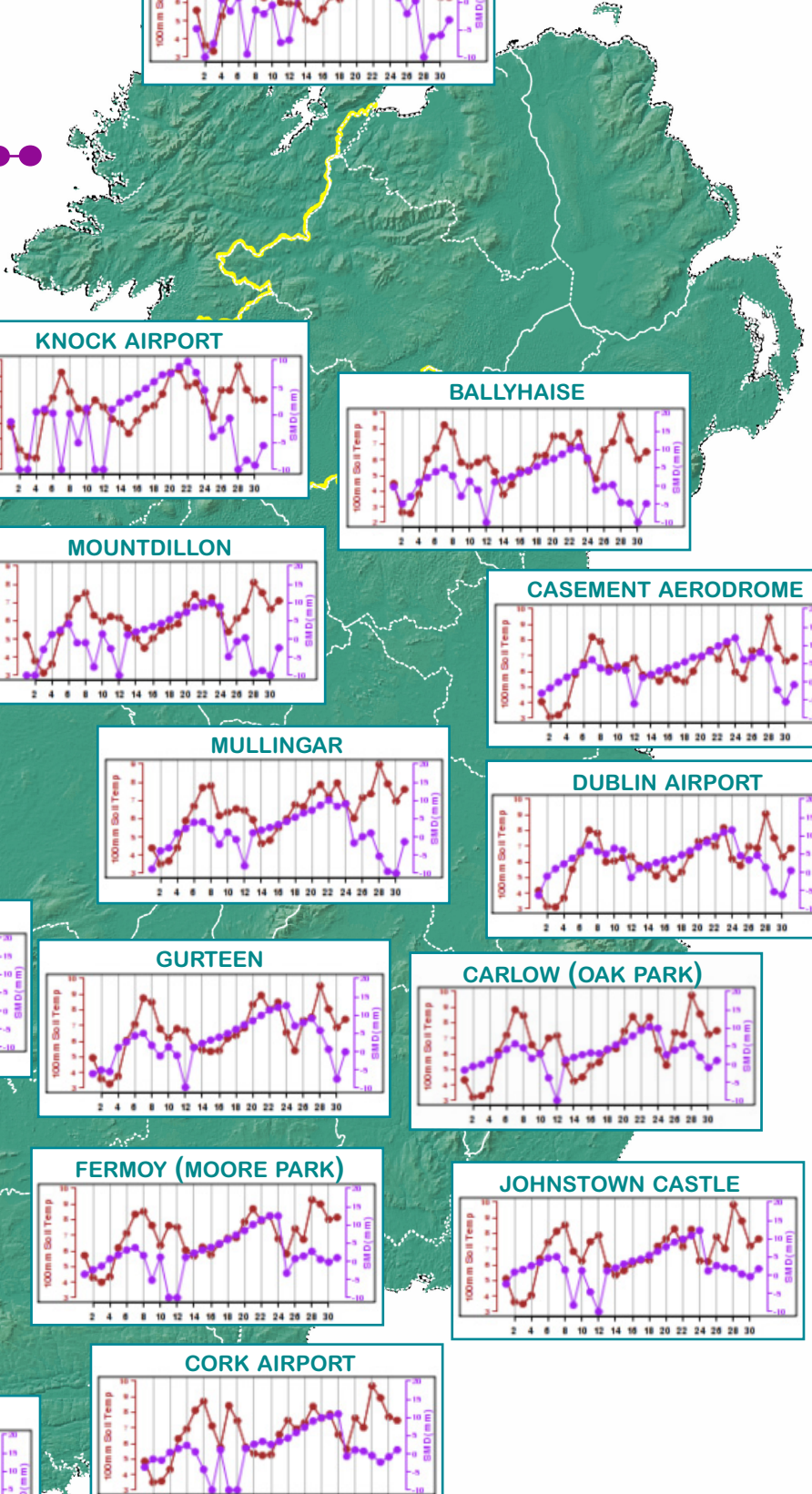
Monthly mean air temperatures were nearly all below their LTAs, with a few isolated stations in in Clare, Sligo and Cavan reporting on or slightly above LTA temperatures. Differences from LTA ranged from -1.4°C at Markree, Co Sligo with a monthly mean of 5.7°C to 0.1°C at Waterford (Tycor), the only station to report a slightly above LTA mean temperature with 7.6°C. The month's highest air maximum temperature was reported on the 7th in Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin with 18.5°C, while the month's lowest air minimum temperature was recorded at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin on the 18th with -5.1°C. The lowest grass minimum was -9.8°C at Thomastown (Mt Juliet), Co Kilkenny on March 19th with the station reporting the highest number of days with air frost with 15. The highest number of days with ground frost was reported at both Athy (Chanterlands), Co Kildare and Edenderry (Ballinla), Co Offaly with 24.

Monthly mean sunshine daily values ranged from 2.96 hours per day at Knock Airport, Co

Mayo (monthly total of 91.7 hours and lowest monthly percentage of LTA 101%) to 5.18 hours per day at Dungarvan (Carriglea), Co Waterford (monthly total of 160.5 hours and highest percentage of LTA with 155%). The most sunshine in a day was reported at Dublin Airport with 11.5 hours on both the 21st and 22nd, its highest March daily sunshine since 1981. The number of dull days (days with less than 0.5 hours of sunshine) ranged from four at Dungarvan (Carriglea) to 11 at Knock Airport.

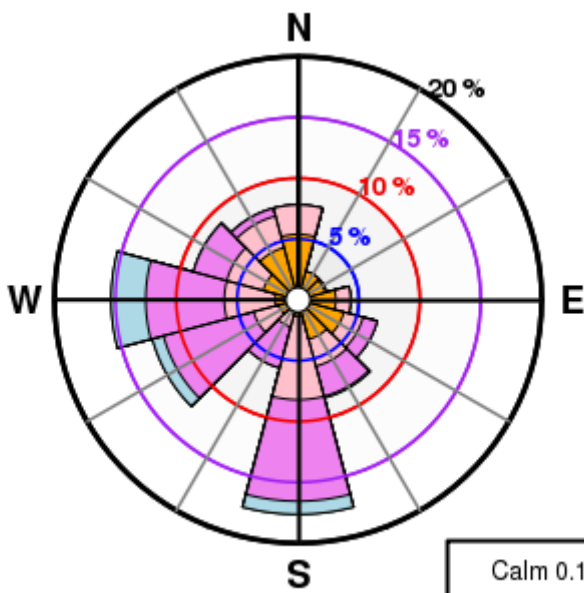
**Wind & elements:** Monthly mean wind speeds ranged from 6.9 knots (12.8 km/h) at Fermoy (Moore Park), Co Cork to 17.0 knots (31.5 km/h) at Mace Head, Co Galway. Two-thirds of stations reported their highest monthly wind speeds in seven to 11 years. Gales were reported on 13 days with strong gales winds measured on the 9th, 30th and 31st in some parts of Atlantic coastal areas. There was one report of storm force winds on the 9th at Malin Head, reporting the month's highest mean 10-minute wind speed of 49 knots (91 km/h) at this time. The station also reported the month's highest gust of 65 knots (120 km/h) on the 31st. Snow was reported in all counties between the 1st and the 3rd and in Laois on the 25th, with snow lying between the 1st to 3rd in parts of the West, South, East and Midlands. Eighteen days had fog in parts with the most widespread fog reported on the 18th and 19th.

# DAILY SOIL MOISTURE DEFICITS & SOIL TEMPERATURES



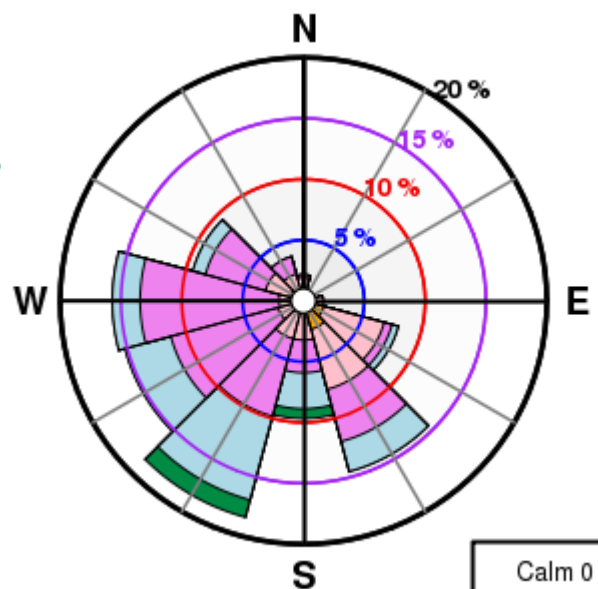
COUNTY / STATION	WIND (knots)										ELEMENTS (no.of days)					
	MEAN SPEED	MAX. 10-MIN. DIR.	MEAN SPEED	DATE/HOUR	MAX. GUST DIR.	GUST SPEED	DATE/TIME	DAYS WITH		HOURS WITH		SNOW	SNOW LYING	HAIL	THUNDER	FOG
								GALES	GUST > 34KNOTS	GUST > 34KNOTS	GUST > 34KNOTS					
<b>CO CARLOW</b>																
OAK PARK	9.2	250°	35	30/21	260°	53	30/2219	2	8	45						
<b>CO CAVAN</b>																
BALLYHAISE	7.9	230°	27	9/12	260°	46	30/2226	0	9	39						
<b>CO CLARE</b>																
SHANNON AIRPORT	10.6	250°	39	30/21	250°	56	30/2046	3	13	89	3	0	5	1	4	
<b>CO CORK</b>																
FERMOY (MOORE PARK)	6.9	250°	28	30/20	260°	48	30/2117	0	6	26						
SHERKIN ISLAND	13.5	280°	40	30/22	270°	54	30/2303	6	11	121						
ROCHE'S POINT	13.5	280°	38	29/10	280°	51	31/ 316	3	15	96						
		280°	38	31/11												
<b>CO DONEGAL</b>																
CORK AIRPORT	10.7	260°	33	30/21	270°	46	30/2049	0	14	64	5	2	0	0	7	
<b>CO DUBLIN</b>																
DUBLIN AIRPORT	12.9	250°	40	30/22	260°	56	30/2217	4	14	104	3	0	2	0	3	
CASEMENT AERODROME	11.7	260°	41	30/22	250°	59	30/2131	4	15	116	3	0	2	0	0	
<b>CO GALWAY</b>																
MACE HEAD	17.0	260°	43	30/20	290°	60	31/ 803	9	18	218						
ATHENRY	8.6	240°	28	30/19	230°	44	9/1006	0	10	35						
<b>CO KERRY</b>																
VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	11.4	240°	34	1/10	250°	44	30/1937	1	13	103						
		270°	49	2/ 200												
<b>CO MAYO</b>																
CLAREMORRIS	9.7	260°	31	30/20	250°	53	30/1906	0	13	79						
BELMULLET	14.7	200°	44	9/ 9	200°	59	9/ 942	6	15	181						
NEWPORT	12.0	300°	37	2/ 4	200°	57	9/ 854	3	17	138						
KNOCK AIRPORT	11.6	250°	34	30/19	280°	53	31/1232	2	13	120	6					4
		290°	34	31/13												
<b>CO MEATH</b>																
DUNSANY (GRANGE)	9.4	260°	32	30/21	250°	48	30/2042	0	7	31						
<b>CO ROSCOMMON</b>																
MOUNTDILLON	8.2	230°	27	9/11	300°	46	31/1308	0	6	28						
<b>CO TIPPERARY</b>																
GURTEEN (AG COLLEGE)	9.8	260°	33	30/20	270°	52	31/1010	0	10	45						
		280°	33	31/10												
<b>CO WESTMEATH</b>																
MULLINGAR	7.1	160°	21	9/ 8	270°	40	31/1700	0	4	14						
<b>CO WEXFORD</b>																
JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	9.9	260°	30	30/23	260°	46	30/2254	0	10	42						

CARLOW (OAK PARK)



Calm 0.1 %

BELMULLET

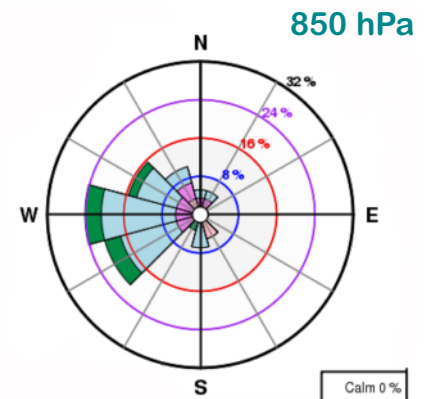
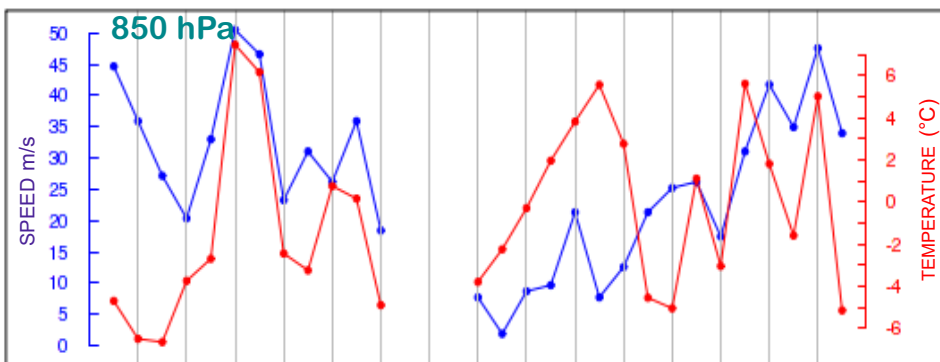
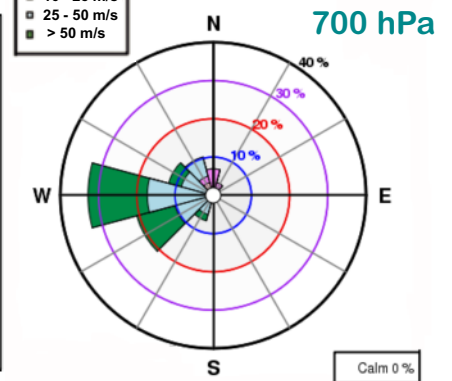
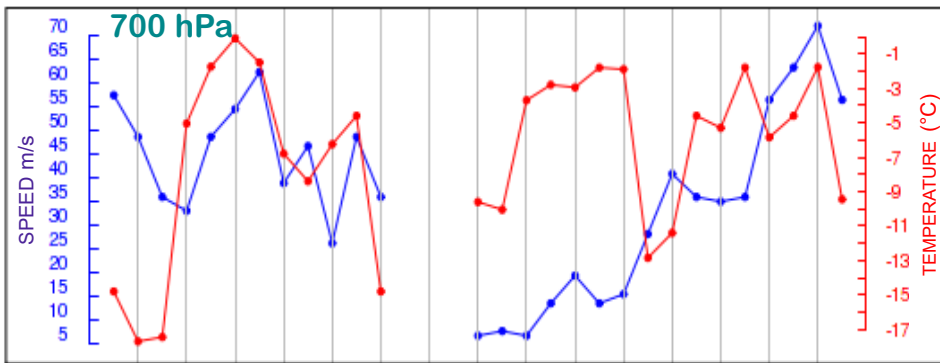
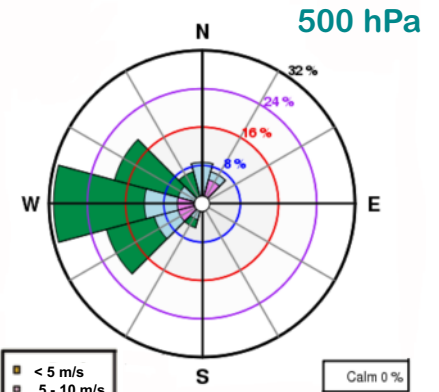
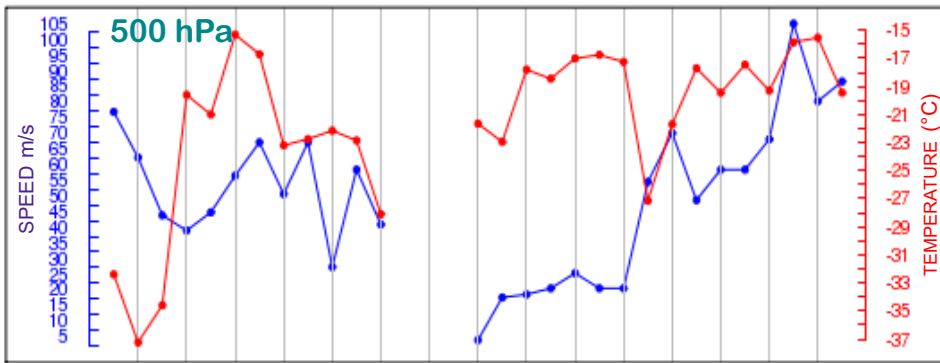
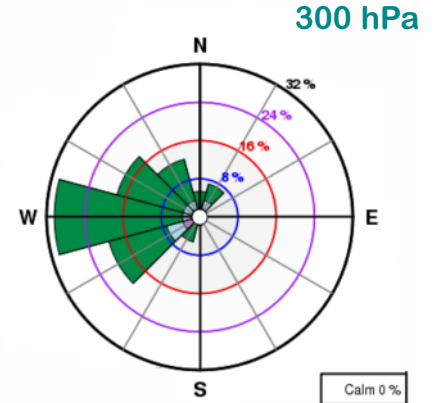
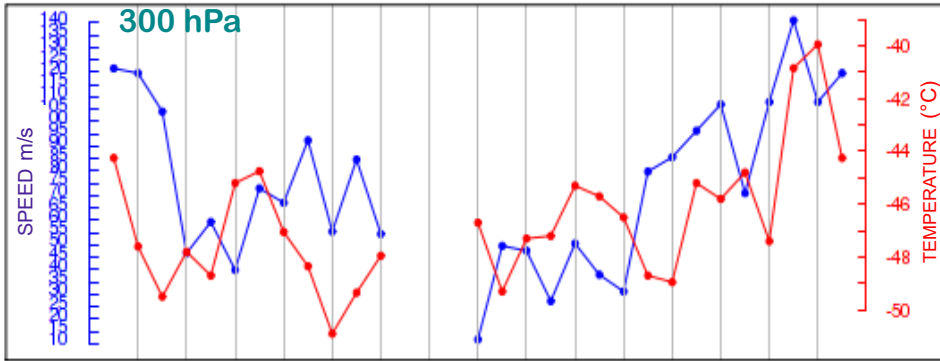


Calm 0 %

PERCENTAGE FREQUENCY OF WIND DIRECTION

Upper Atmosphere wind and temperature readings are made at Valentia Observatory twice a day by a radiosonde (a balloon with instruments attached). Shown below are daily average wind speeds and temperatures at defined pressure levels, 850, 700, 500 and 300 hPa, corresponding approximately to heights of 1.5, 3, 6 and 10 km. Monthly wind roses are also shown for each pressure level.

UPPER AIR WIND SPEED AND TEMPERATURE MARCH 2015\*



DAY OF MONTH

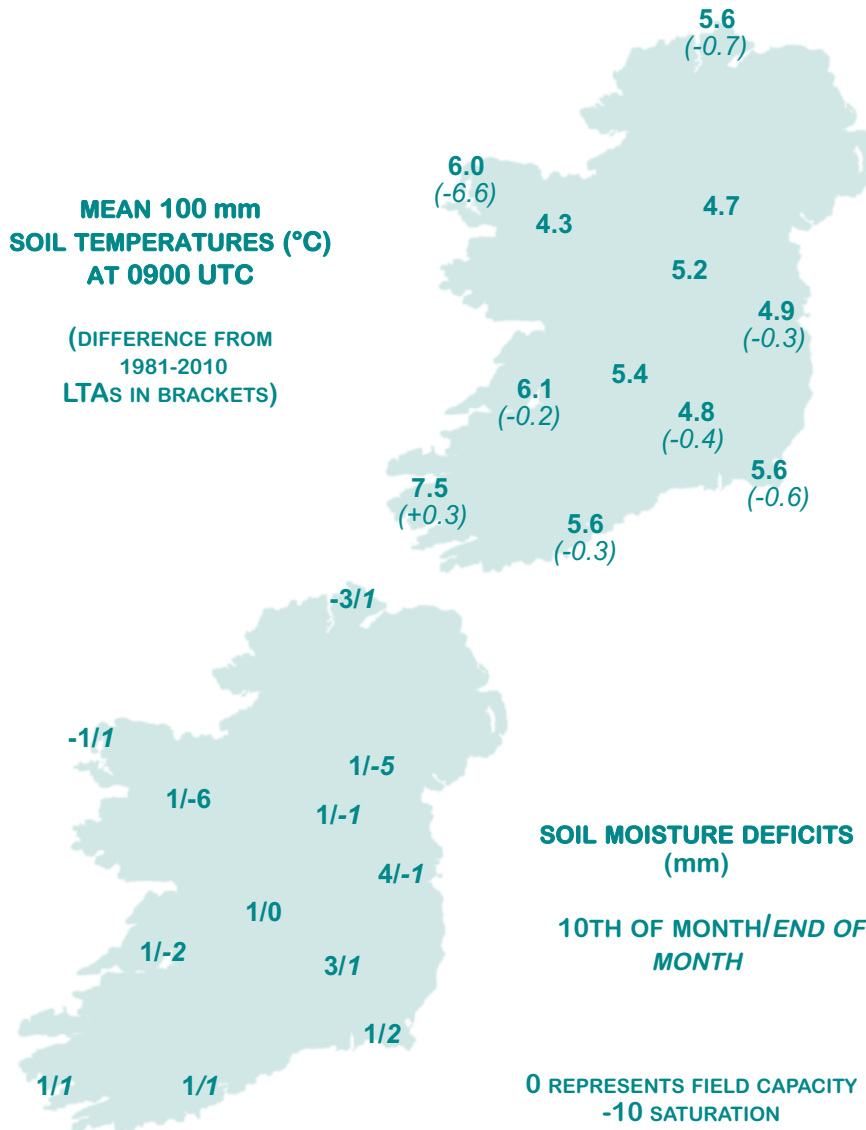
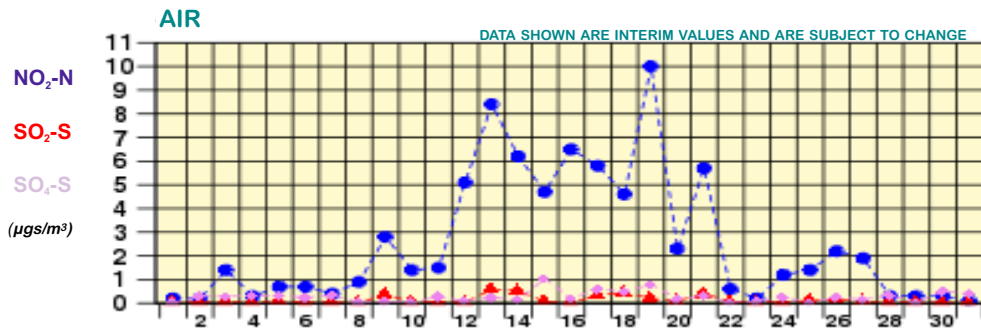
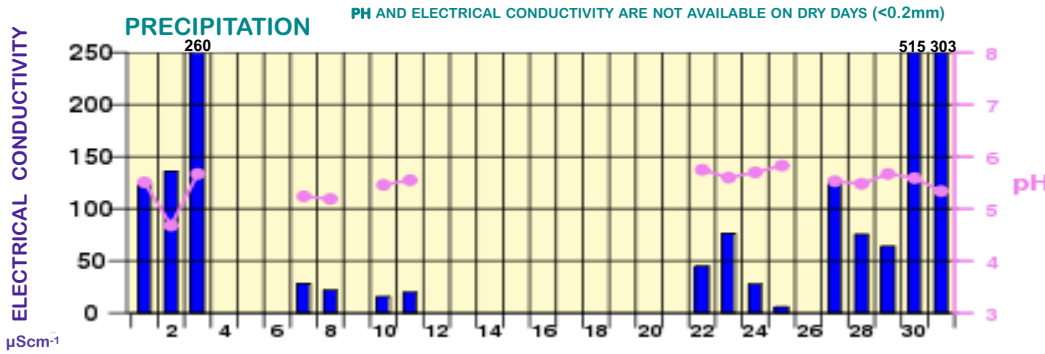
\*DATA MISSING FOR UPPER AIR WIND SPEED AND TEMPERATURE MARCH 12TH TO 15TH 2015

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF PRECIPITATION AND AIR SAMPLES AT VALENTIA OBSERVATORY

Acid rain occurs when pollutants combine with moisture in the air to form sulphuric or nitric acid. pH is the simplest way of measuring the acidity of precipitation. Usually pH of 7.00 is considered neutral but this is not the case in rainfall samples. Pure water in the atmosphere has an equilibrium pH value of 5.65 at 20°C owing to carbon dioxide in the air dissolving to form carbonic acid. Any value below pH 5.65 is considered acid while any value above is considered alkaline.

Conductivity measures the total ion activity in the rainfall, i.e. the higher the conductivity the greater the number of ions.

Sulphur dioxide and sulphate in air contribute to the formation of sulphuric acid; nitrate in air contributes to the formation of nitric acid.



MEAN SOIL TEMPERATURES (°C) AT 0900 UTC

COUNTY/STATION	100 mm	200 mm	300 mm
<b>CO CARLOW</b>			
CARLOW (OAK PARK)	4.8	5.6	5.8
<b>CO. CAVAN</b>			
BALLYHAISE	4.7	5.4	6.3
<b>CO CLARE</b>			
SHANNON AIRPORT	6.1	6.6	7.5
CARRON	5.6		6.3
<b>CO CORK</b>			
ROCHE'S POINT	6.1	6.7	7.1
FERMOY (MOORE PARK)	6.0	6.4	6.8
CORK AIRPORT	5.6	6.5	7.3
SHERKIN ISLAND	6.8	7.4	8.3
BALINCURRIG (PEAFIELD)	5.8	6.2	6.8
<b>CO DONEGAL</b>			
MALIN HEAD	5.6	6.1	6.7
<b>CO DUBLIN</b>			
PHOENIX PARK	5.2	6.2	6.4
DUBLIN AIRPORT	4.9	5.6	6.0
CASEMENT AERODROME	4.9	5.7	6.1
<b>CO KERRY</b>			
VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	7.5	8.0	8.3
<b>CO KILKENNY</b>			
THOMASTOWN (MT JULIET)	6.1	6.5	7.3
<b>CO LIMERICK</b>			
MOUNT RUSSELL	5.3	6.0	
<b>CO MAYO</b>			
BELMULLET	6.0	6.8	7.4
STRAIDE	5.5		
KNOCK AIRPORT	4.3	5.0	5.2
<b>CO MEATH</b>			
WARRENSTOWN	4.6	5.6	6.1
DUNSANY (GRANGE)	4.5	5.9	6.3
<b>CO TIPPERARY</b>			
GURTEEN (AG COLLEGE)	5.4	5.8	6.0
FETHARD (PARSONSHILL)	5.4	6.1	
<b>CO WATERFORD</b>			
DUNGARVAN (CARRIGLEA)	6.8	7.3	
<b>CO WESTMEATH</b>			
MULLINGAR	5.2	5.9	6.4
<b>CO. WEXFORD</b>			
JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	5.6	6.0	6.5
JFK PARK	6.1	6.6	8.0
<b>CO WICKLOW</b>			
ASHFORD (CRONYKEERY)	5.7	6.4	7.0

10-DAY VALUES FOR SELECTED AGROMETEOROLOGICAL STATIONS		RAINFALL (mm)				TEMPERATURE (°C)												SUNSHINE (hours)			
STATION	PERIOD	AMOUNT	% OF AVERAGE	RAIN DAYS	WET DAYS	MEAN MAX.	MEAN MIN.	MEAN DAILY	DIFF. FROM AVERAGE	LOWEST MIN.	DATE	DAYS WITH AIR FROST	DEGREE DAYS > 4.4°C	DEGREE DAYS > 10.0°C	LOWEST "GRASS-MIN." "	DATE	DAYS WITH GROUND FROST	MEAN 10CM AT 0900H	MEAN 30CM AT 0900H	TOTAL NO. OF HOURS	% OF AVERAGE
BALLINCURRIG	11-20	20.2	2	2	10.7	1.0	5.9	-2.8	14	3	24	4	-3.0	14	3	5.5	6.6	47.6			
(PEAFIELD)	21-END	23.8	8	5	11.7	2.4	7.1	-1.5	25	3	37	6	-1.7	25	3	6.5	7.7	60.6			
	<b>MONTH</b>	<b>91.1</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>17 13</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>145.2</b>	<b>139</b>	
<b>CO DONEGAL</b>	1-10	95.2	10	10	9.1	3.3	6.2	-0.5	3	1	24	1	-3.2	3	5	-	-	-			
GLENTIES HATCHERY	11-20	21.5	5	3	10.6	0.8	5.7	-2.1	18	4	23	2	-5.4	18	8	-	-	-			
	21-END	79.7	10	8	10.3	2.5	6.4	-1.4	25	2	29	2	-4.2	25	5	-	-	-			
	<b>MONTH</b>	<b>196.4</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>25 21</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-5.4</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		
<b>CO KERRY</b>	1-10	50.6	7	6	11.2	4.1	7.7	1.1	3	0	37	6	-0.5	10	3	-	-	34.4			
ARDFERT	11-20	14.7	4	2	11.7	1.7	6.7	-1.5	15	2	30	5	-3.5	15	5	-	-	38.2			
(LISCAHANE)	21-END	34.4	10	7	11.8	4.6	8.2	0.5	25	0	45	5	-1.2	25	2	-	-	43.5			
	<b>MONTH</b>	<b>99.7</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>21 15</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>-3.5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>116.1</b>	<b>110</b>	
<b>CO MONAGHAN</b>	1-10	16.3	7	5	9.8	2.5	6.2	-2.1	9	2	26	4	-4.9	9	6	-	-	-			
CARRICKMACROSS	11-20	11.5	3	3	9.8	0.0	4.9	-2.9	19	5	17	2	-5.1	19	9	-	-	-			
	21-END	42.8	7	7	11.1	2.1	6.6	-2.4	22	2	31	4	-4.1	24	5	-	-	-			
	<b>MONTH</b>	<b>70.6</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>17*15*</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-5.1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		
<b>CO WATERFORD</b>	1-10	41.4	7	6	10.5	3.4	7.0	-2.0	10	2	32	3	-5.0	10	6	-	6.9	48.1			
DUNGARVAN	11-20	26.1	3	2	10.9	1.4	6.1	-2.6	14	3	25	3	-5.7	14	6	-	6.9	48.9			
(CARRIGLEA)	21-END	21.6	7	5	12.3	3.8	8.1	-1.4	25	2	44	7	-4.5	25	4	-	8.0	63.5			
	<b>MONTH</b>	<b>89.1</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>17 13</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-5.7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>160.5</b>	<b>155</b>	
<b>CO WEXFORD</b>	1-10	29.1	6	6	10.2	3.1	6.7	0.2	3	0	29	2	-2.4	3	5	5.3	7.3	38.4			
JFK PARK	11-20	25.1	3	3	10.4	2.2	6.3	0.0	18	0	24	3	-2.0	18	4	5.8	7.8	40.5			
	21-END	20.1	4	3	11.8	3.4	7.6	0.0	25	0	40	6	-3.0	24	4	7.2	8.9	59.5			
	<b>MONTH</b>	<b>74.3</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>13 12</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>138.4</b>	<b>131</b>	
<b>CO WICKLOW</b>	1-10	12.5	6	4	10.9	3.5	7.2	-1.9	9	2	33	4	-8.8	9	6	5.2	6.4	50.4			
ASHFORD	11-20	23.9	2	2	9.9	1.4	5.6	-1.9	19	3	20	2	-8.9	19	9	5.5	6.8	35.8			
(CRONYKEERY)	21-END	21.4	7	5	12.0	3.4	7.7	-1.5	22	1	41	6	-9.2	22	7	6.5	7.6	66.6			
	<b>MONTH</b>	<b>57.8</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>15 11</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>-9.2</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>152.8</b>	<b>136</b>	

P.E. (PENMAN)		GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION (MJ/m <sup>2</sup> )				MONTHLY EVAPORATION (mm) FROM CLASS A PAN			
STATION /COUNTY	TOTAL (mm)	STATION /COUNTY	1ST-10TH	11TH-20TH	21ST-END	TOTAL	COUNTY/ STATION	MONTHLY RAINFALL (mm)	MONTHLY EVAPORATION (mm)
<b>CO CARLOW</b>		<b>CO CARLOW</b>							
CARLOW (OAK PARK)	37	CARLOW (OAK PARK)*	92.47	80.77	138.22	311.46			
<b>CO CAVAN</b>		<b>CO CAVAN</b>							
BALLYHAISE	33	BALLYHAISE*	71.83	77.03	121.96	270.82			
<b>CO CLARE</b>		<b>CO CORK</b>							
SHANNON AIRPORT	39	ROCHE'S POINT*	86.69	98.72	125.59	311.00	<b>CO KERRY</b>		
<b>CO CORK</b>		<b>CO DONEGAL</b>					VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	130.8	58.4
CORK AIRPORT	33	MALIN HEAD*	62.97	84.42	115.02	262.41	<b>CO KERRY</b>		
<b>CO DONEGAL</b>		<b>CO DUBLIN</b>					NORTH KERRY LANDFILL	N/A	N/A
MALIN HEAD	37	DUBLIN AIRPORT*	86.27	75.65	133.45	295.37	<b>CO MAYO</b>		
<b>CO DUBLIN</b>		<b>CO KERRY</b>					NEWPORT (FURNACE)	150.0	18.8
DUBLIN AIRPORT	38	VALENTIA OBS.*	75.71	104.00	106.98	286.69	<b>CO OFFALY</b>		
CASEMENT AERODROME	37	<b>CO MAYO</b>					DERRYGREENAGH	88.9	26.2
<b>CO KERRY</b>		BELMULLET*	62.06	92.66	96.37	251.09	<b>CO WATERFORD</b>		
VALENTIA OBS.	39	<b>CO TIPPERARY</b>					DUNGARVAN (CARRIGLEA)	89.1	41.6
<b>CO MAYO</b>		GURTEEN (AG.COLLEGE)*	87.64	96.22	122.36	306.22	<b>CO WEXFORD</b>		
BELMULLET	40	<b>CO WESTMEATH</b>					JFK PARK	74.3	46.4
KNOCK AIRPORT	28	MULLINGAR*	74.18	80.35	125.71	280.24			
<b>CO TIPPERARY</b>		<b>CO WEXFORD</b>							
GURTEEN (AG.COLLEGE)	36	JOHNSTOWN CASTLE*	83.65	83.36	129.88	296.89			
<b>CO WESTMEATH</b>									
MULLINGAR	34								
<b>CO WEXFORD</b>									
JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	35								

GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION VALUES FOR STATIONS MARKED  
 \* ARE PROVISIONAL  
 \* ARE FROM AUTOSOL INSTRUMENTS  
 RAINFALL VALUES MARKED \* ARE ESTIMATED.

**Sunday 1st:** An intense trough tracked quickly eastwards over the south of the country in the morning and early afternoon and the flow became increasingly cold later in the day. Winds were fresh to strong, southwesterly.  
*Rainfall:* 0.3 mm at Shantonagh (Tooa), Pollymounty Fish Farm to 20.4 mm at Delphi Lodge  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 4.6°C at Dunsany, highest max. 12.5°C at Killarney (Muckross Hse). Lowest min. 0.6°C at Dunmoe (Craigs Lane), highest min. 6.1°C at Sherkin Island  
*Sunshine:* 1.0 hours at Valentia Obs to 6.0 hours at Dublin (Glasnevin)

**Monday 2nd:** Frost and ice overnight with wintry showers and accumulations of snow. The showers became heavier and thundery later on and more frequent in the North and West. Some good sunny spells in between the showers. Winds were fresh to strong, southwesterly.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 19.8 mm at Ardnavark Barnesmmore  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 1.3°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 9.0°C at Cahore (Kilmichael Hse). Lowest min. -1.7°C at Knock Apt, highest min. 2.4°C at Sherkin Island  
*Sunshine:* 0.9 hours at Knock Apt to 7.7 hours at Cork Apt

**Tuesday 3rd:** Cold and icy overnight with wintry showers and some accumulations of snow. Showers most frequent and heaviest in the North and West, with some thunderstorms with hail and rain in the afternoon. Showers gradually confined to the West towards nightfall and temperatures dropped at night. Winds were fresh to strong, southwesterly.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 19.2 mm at Banteer Lyre  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 3.0°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 10.0°C at Cahore (Kilmichael Hse). Lowest min. -2.1°C at Ballincurrig (Peafield), highest min. 3.1°C at Sherkin Island  
*Sunshine:* 1.1 hours at Straide to 8.4 hours at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse)

**Wednesday 4th:** In the morning, temperatures were close to freezing along western coasts, but generally the day was mild everywhere. There were a few light showers in the North and West but rainfall amounts were mostly low. Winds were moderate to fresh, southwesterly.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 5.4 mm at Dunlewy Lough  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 6.9°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 13.0°C at Cahore (Kilmichael Hse). Lowest min. -1.6°C at Slieve Bloom Mtns (Nealstown), highest min. 3.5°C at Ballycroy (Knockmoyleen)  
*Sunshine:* 2.4 hours at Newport (Furnace) to 8.0 hours at Ashford (Cronykeery)

**Thursday 5th:** The day was mainly dry apart from some scattered light rain or drizzle. More persistent rain spread into Donegal in the late afternoon and evening, clearing away later. Mild and mostly cloudy. Winds were fresh to strong, southwesterly.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 12.8 mm at Dunlewy Lough  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 8.6°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 12.2°C at Ballyshannon (Cathleen's Fall). Lowest min. 0.3°C at Fethard (Parsonshill), highest min. 7.5°C at Sherkin Island  
*Sunshine:* Nil at numerous locations to 1.4 hours at Ballyshannon (Cathleen's Fall)

**Friday 6th:** Mostly dry overnight apart from a brief spell of rain in Donegal. Around dusk, a front spread into the West, making very slow progress eastwards through the evening. Some sunshine in the South and East, cloudy elsewhere. Winds were strong, southwesterly.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 50.1 mm at Dunlewy Lough  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 9.3°C at Cork Apt, highest max. 13.7°C at Dublin (Glasnevin), Dooks. Lowest min. 5.4°C at Craggaunowen, highest min. 9.5°C at Killarney (Muckross Hse), Dooks  
*Sunshine:* Nil at Knock Apt to 3.5 hours at Ashford (Cronykeery)

**Saturday 7th:** Rain in the western half of the country during the evening, becoming widespread as it slowly spread eastwards. Mild, sunny in the East, cloudier further West. Winds were strong to gale force, southwesterly.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 27.2 mm at Inagh (Mt Callan)  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 9.8°C at Johnstown, highest max. 18.5°C at Dun Laoghaire. Lowest min. 5.6°C at Craggaunowen, highest min. 10.5°C at Dooks  
*Sunshine:* Nil at numerous locations to 5.8 hours at Dublin Apt

**Sunday 8th:** It was a bright, mild day with good periods of sunshine recorded. It continued dry into the evening and night. Winds were moderate to fresh, southwest to west.  
*Rainfall:* 0.1 mm at Dublin (Merrion Square) to 50.9 mm at Glenvickee (Caragh River Area)  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 8.1°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 13.4°C at Glengarriff (Inacullin). Lowest min. 0.5°C at Ballycroy (Knockmoyleen), highest min. 8.4°C at Dublin (Glasnevin)  
*Sunshine:* 3.8 hours at Ardfert (Liscahane) to 8.5 hours at Straide

**Monday 9th:** A band of rain crossed the country from the West during the early morning, followed by scattered showers which affected all areas by the afternoon. The showers began to become more isolated during the evening and had mostly died out as midnight approached. Winds were fresh to strong, southeast to southwest.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 19.9 mm at Rossinver Organic Centre  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 9.8°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 15.1°C at Dublin (Glasnevin). Lowest min. -2.6°C at Mullingar, highest min. 7.1°C at Roches Pt  
*Sunshine:* 1.2 hours at Knock Apt to 5.6 hours at Ardfert (Liscahane)

**Tuesday 10th:** A cold start to a mainly dry and sunny day with any overnight light showers clearing by early morning. Plenty of good prolonged periods of sunshine. Winds were light to moderate, southerly.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 42.6 mm at Gap of Dunloe  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 9.3°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 13.3°C at Ardfert (Liscahane). Lowest min. -2.3°C at Thomastown (Mt Juliet), highest min. 5.9°C at Mace Head  
*Sunshine:* 5.8 hours at Valentia Obs to 9.5 hours at Dublin Apt

**Wednesday 11th:** A dry cold night in most places before rain, heavy in places, spread from the Southwest. The rain cleared to isolated showers by afternoon. Plenty of clear spells and good sunshine. These continued to nightfall. Winds were fresh to strong, southeasterly.  
*Rainfall:* 1.2 mm at Dublin (Ringsend), Ardee (Boharnamoe) to 33.5 mm at Glencar (Dreenagh)  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 9.9°C at Newport (Furnace), highest max. 15.0°C at Cahore (Kilmichael Hse). Lowest min. 0.3°C at Ardee (Boharnamoe), highest min. 7.5°C at Sherkin Island  
*Sunshine:* 4.1 hours at Casement to 8.8 hours at Valentia Obs

**Thursday 12th:** The rain cleared the east coast after nightfall. Some light showers affected western areas following a clearance and temperatures dropped below zero in places before midnight. Winds were moderate to fresh, southeast to southwest.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 23.6 mm at Oldbridge (Oakview)  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 7.7°C at Carron, highest max. 12.4°C at Phoenix Park. Lowest min. -1.1°C at Dundalk (Annaskeagh WW), highest min. 7.9°C at Valentia Obs  
*Sunshine:* Nil at numerous locations to 2.1 hours at Belmullet

**Friday 13th:** A ridge of high pressure built over the country in a westerly airflow. Winds were light, southwest to northwest.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 4.9 mm at Carheeney Beg  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 8.3°C at Slieve Bloom Mtns (Nealstown), Dun Laoghaire, highest max. 12.5°C at Glengarriff (Inacullin). Lowest min. -4.1°C at Athenry, highest min. 3.4°C at Sherkin Island  
*Sunshine:* 7.6 hours at Newport (Furnace) to 10.7 hours at Belmullet

**Saturday 14th:** The day started cold with sharp or severe frost in most parts of the country and some mist and fog. It was a mainly cool dry cloudy day with some bright sunny spells. During the day it was misty in the West and the East of the country with light easterly breezes turning cold again at the end of the day. Winds were light, east to southeast.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 4.2 mm at Goleen  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 5.2°C at Glenealy (Kilmacurragh Park), highest max. 13.5°C at Castleconnell. Lowest min. -5.0°C at Castleconnell, highest min. 4.3°C at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse)  
*Sunshine:* Nil at numerous locations to 9.6 hours at Ballyshannon (Cathleen's Fall)

**Sunday 15th:** A dry and mostly cloudy day over the country but some good sunny breaks in the North and Northwest. The evening and night continued dry and mainly cloudy, with mist in places. Winds were light, northeast to southeast.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 4.1 mm at Cloone Lake (Caragh River Area)  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 5.1°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 11.1°C at Belmullet. Lowest min. -2.0°C at Mt Dillon, highest min. 4.6°C at Cloyne (Lisanley)  
*Sunshine:* Nil at numerous locations to 8.5 hours at Belmullet

**Monday 16th:** A mostly dry day apart from some light drizzle in places, mainly in the extreme south of country. The evening and night continued dry with mist in places. Winds were light, easterly.  
*Rainfall:* Nil at numerous locations to 5.3 mm at Tacumshane  
*Temperature:* Lowest max. 6.0°C at Dunmoe-Craigs Lane, highest max. 10.2°C at Listowel (Gurtcloghane). Lowest min. -0.5°C at Springfield Castle, highest min. 6.0°C at Valentia Obs  
*Sunshine:* Nil at numerous locations to 0.4 hours at Newport (Furna ce)



**Tuesday 17th:** It was a mostly fine day with some good spells of sunshine in the West of the country. It was cloudier in the East but remained mostly dry countrywide with just a few showers, mainly in the North and East. It remained mostly dry and clear towards nightfall with fog across the country. Winds were light, east to southeast.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 3.8 mm at New Ross WW*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 7.6°C at Dublin (Merriam Square), highest max. 14.6°C at Ardfert (Liscahane). Lowest min. -1.3°C at Dunsany, highest min. 6.0°C at Valentia Obs*  
*Sunshine: 0.1 hours at Casement to 9.2 hours at Shannon Apt*

**Wednesday 18th:** A cold and frosty overnight with widespread fog, dense in places, gradually clearing towards morning to give a dry bright day with hazy sunshine. Towards evening some coastal mist or fog patches thickened to fog in most places with frost setting in, in most places. Winds were light, variable in direction.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 0.2 mm at Cloghane, Roches Pt, Listowel (Inch), Inishcarra (Gen.Stn.), Tullaroan (Ballybeagh), Carrigaline (Kilnagleary), Millstreet Sewage Works*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 7.7°C at Sherkin Island, highest max. 14.9°C at Ardfert (Liscahane). Lowest min. -5.1°C at Casement, highest min. 3.5°C at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse)*  
*Sunshine: 2.9 hours at Sherkin Island to 10.5 hours at Dublin Apt*

**Thursday 19th:** Fog and frost cleared in the morning and it was a mostly dry day with sunny spells developing. Winds were light, variable in direction.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 7.5 mm at Raphoe (Tops)*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 9.3°C at Roches Pt, Dun Laoghaire, highest max. 14.5°C at Cavan (Drumconick). Lowest min. -4.4°C at Thomastown (Mt Juliet), highest min. 6.5°C at Ballycroy (Knockmoyleen)*  
*Sunshine: 1.3 hours at Belmullet to 10.0 hours at Cork Apt*

**Friday 20th:** An overcast day generally. The best of the sunshine was in the Southwest. A weak front passing across the country brought patchy rain and drizzle to many areas but amounts were low. Winds were light, variable in direction.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 4.0 mm at Goleen, Moneypoint ESB*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 8.9°C at Finner, highest max. 16.2°C at Glengarriff (Innacullin). Lowest min. -1.5°C at Edenderry (Ballinla), highest min. 7.5°C at Cloosh*  
*Sunshine: 0.3 hours at Knock Apt to 6.9 hours at Sherkin Island*

**Saturday 21st:** Apart from some cloud in the Northwest and West, it was a mostly sunny day everywhere. Frost returned by late evening under clear skies. Winds were light, northerly.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 2.8 mm at Ballinskelligs (The Glen)*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 8.9°C at Malin Head, highest max. 14.8°C at Ballincurrig (Peafield). Lowest min. -0.2°C at Casement, highest min. 7.0°C at Belderrig*  
*Sunshine: 2.8 hours at Ballyshannon (Cathleen's Fall) to 11.5 hours at Dublin Apt*

**Sunday 22nd:** A dry and mostly sunny day. Cloud increased in the West bringing light rain late in the evening. Winds were light to moderate, southwesterly.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 9.8 mm at Cloghane*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 9.3°C at Roches Pt, Johnstown, highest max. 15.3°C at Springfield Castle. Lowest min. -3.1°C at Thomastown (Mt Juliet), highest min. 6.6°C at JFK Park*  
*Sunshine: 0.1 hours at Belmullet to 11.5 hours at Dublin Apt*

**Monday 23rd:** Patchy light rain cleared eastwards overnight. Heavy showers developed in the West spreading countrywide by late morning. The showers died back to Atlantic coasts in the late evening. Winds were light to moderate, northwesterly.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 13.6 mm at Drummin (Tawnyard)*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 8.9°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 14.0°C at Cahore (Kilmichael Hse). Lowest min. 1.5°C at Clonroche (Knoxtown) 1.5°C at Ballincurrig (Peafield), highest min. 6.9°C at Dublin (Glasnevin), Sherkin Island*  
*Sunshine: 3.2 hours at Casement to 7.9 hours at Belmullet*

**Tuesday 24th:** Showers spread countrywide during the late morning and afternoon but died out quickly after dark. Winds were light to moderate, northwesterly.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 15.1 mm at Glenvickee (Caragh River Area)*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 7.4°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 12.0°C at Glengarriff (Innacullin), Cahore (Kilmichael Hse), Sherkin Island. Lowest min. -3.0°C at Castleconnell, highest min. 5.1°C at Sherkin Island*  
*Sunshine: 5.9 hours at Casement to 9.9 hours at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse)*

**Wednesday 25th:** Rain moved in from the Atlantic during the morning, spreading countrywide during the afternoon. A clearance followed from the West shortly after dusk. Winds were light to moderate, southeasterly.

*Rainfall: 1.9 mm at Tralee UDC to 43.0 mm at Sneem*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 7.2°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 11.5°C at Dooks. Lowest min. -4.9°C at Castleconnell, highest min. 4.3°C at Ballycroy (Knockmoyleen)*  
*Sunshine: Nil at numerous locations to 6.5 hours at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse), Dublin Apt*

**Thursday 26th:** Rain cleared to isolated showers in the Northwest, mainly dry elsewhere in the afternoon. Some frost towards nightfall with clear skies. Winds were moderate to fresh, northwesterly.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 10.6 mm at Mulrany (Doughbeg)*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 8.7°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 14.0°C at Cahore (Kilmichael Hse). Lowest min. -1.5°C at Cashel (Ballydoyle Hse), highest min. 6.2°C at Sherkin Island*  
*Sunshine: 2.2 hours at Newport (Furnace) to 10.3 hours at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse)*

**Friday 27th:** Frost in the North and Northeast but some rain on the West and Southwest coasts overnight and in the morning. Mainly a dry day elsewhere. Rain in the West again later in the evening. Winds were light to moderate, southeast to southwest.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 44.1 mm at Maam Valley*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 10.0°C at Johnstown, highest max. 15.2°C at Mallow (Spa Hse). Lowest min. -1.4°C at Thomastown (Mt Juliet), highest min. 7.0°C at Ballycroy (Knockmoyleen)*  
*Sunshine: Nil at numerous locations to 3.7 hours at Ballyshannon (Cathleen's Fall)*

**Saturday 28th:** Some heavy widespread rain overnight cleared to more scattered showers by afternoon. More persistent rain from the Northwest spread southeastwards. Some good spells of sunshine in the East and Southeast. Winds were fresh to strong, southwesterly.

*Rainfall: 0.3 mm at Paulstown (Shankill Castle) to 25.5 mm at Maam Valley*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 9.0°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 16.1°C at Waterford (Tycor), Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse), Ashford (Cronykeery). Lowest min. 2.1°C at Mallow (Spa Hse), highest min. 9.3°C at Adare Manor*  
*Sunshine: Nil at Straide to 7.2 hours at Ashford (Cronykeery)*

**Sunday 29th:** Scattered heavy showers developed generally during the afternoon with more persistent rain in the Southwest. The showers continued in Ulster but died out elsewhere by late evening. Some sunshine in the North and East, cloudy elsewhere. Winds were fresh to strong, southwest or northwest.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 22.5 mm at Knocknagoshel (Meinleitrim)*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 7.4°C at Belderrig, highest max. 14.9°C at Waterford (Tycor). Lowest min. 3.0°C at Knock Apt, highest min. 9.5°C at Sherkin Island*  
*Sunshine: Nil at numerous locations to 3.9 hours at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse)*

**Monday 30th:** Rain arrived on the west coast around dawn spreading countrywide through the morning. The rain cleared the Southwest by mid-morning but persisted in the northern half of the country, where it was heaviest through the afternoon. The rain cleared the East in the evening but was quickly followed by heavy showers. Winds were fresh to strong, southwesterly.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 30.7 mm at Ardnawark (Barnesmore)*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 10.0°C at Slieve Bloom Mtns (Nealstown), Belderrig, highest max. 14.9°C at Mallow (Spa Hse). Lowest min. 1.2°C at Horseleap, highest min. 7.8°C at Sherkin Island*  
*Sunshine: Nil at numerous locations to 2.8 hours at Ballincurrig (Peafield)*

**Tuesday 31st:** Showers in the morning, some heavy and of hail. Widespread showers also through afternoon, again heavy and some of hail. Becoming mainly dry by nightfall apart from showers in the West. Winds were fresh to strong, northwesterly.

*Rainfall: Nil at numerous locations to 17.2 mm at Rossinver Organic Centre*  
*Temperature: Lowest max. 6.4°C at Knock Apt, highest max. 12.6°C at Glengarriff (Innacullin). Lowest min. 2.6°C at Edenderry (Ballinla), highest min. 7.9°C at Sherkin Island*  
*Sunshine: 2.6 hours at Valentia Obs to 10.3 hours at Arklow (Ballyrichard Hse)*

**VARIABLE RAINFALL; HALF THE LTA IN SOME PARTS OF THE EAST AND SOUTHEAST**

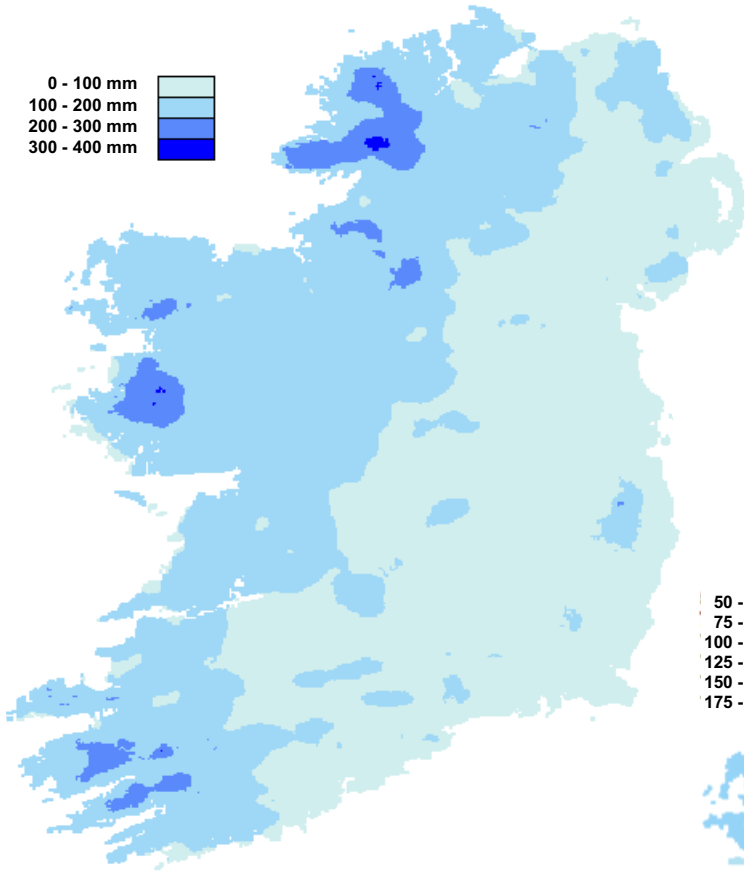
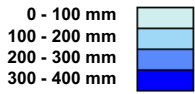
Percentage of Long-Term Average (LTA) values were variable, with mainly below LTA values in parts of the Southwest, South, Southeast, East and Midlands. Percentage of LTA values were around half in parts of the East and Southeast with the month's lowest percentage of LTA reported at Tullaroan (Ballybeagh), Co Kilkenny with 54% (47.7mm). The highest percentage of LTA was 168% at Roscommon (Vocational School) with 153.6 mm, its highest March rainfall since the station opened in 1984. Monthly rainfall totals in low-lying areas (regions below 200 m) ranged from 33.6 mm at Tacumshane, Co Wexford (57% of LTA) to 281.4 mm at Drummin (Tawnyard), Co Mayo. The highest overall rainfall accumulation recorded was at Glentornan in the Grogan More Mountains, Co Donegal where 300.2 mm and 162% of its LTA was recorded, its wettest March since 1995 and its second highest on available record since the station opened in 1948. A few isolated stations mainly in Donegal, Roscommon, Mayo and Clare reported their wettest March since the mid-1990's. The wettest days of the month were mainly the 6th, 11th, 12th, 25th and 30th with the month's wettest day reported at Glenvickee (Caragh River Area), Co Kerry on the 6th with 50.9 mm which was just under a quarter of its monthly total of 224.5 mm (105% of its LTA).

The number of wet days (*days with 1 mm or more rainfall*) ranged from eight days at Killealy Askinvillar, Co Wexford to 24 at Creeslough (Brockagh), Co Donegal, its highest number of March wet days since 2008. The number of very wet days (*days with 10.0 mm or more*) ranged from none in numerous locations to 12 at Derrypark, Co Mayo, its highest amount for March in seven years and its second highest since the station opened in 1997.

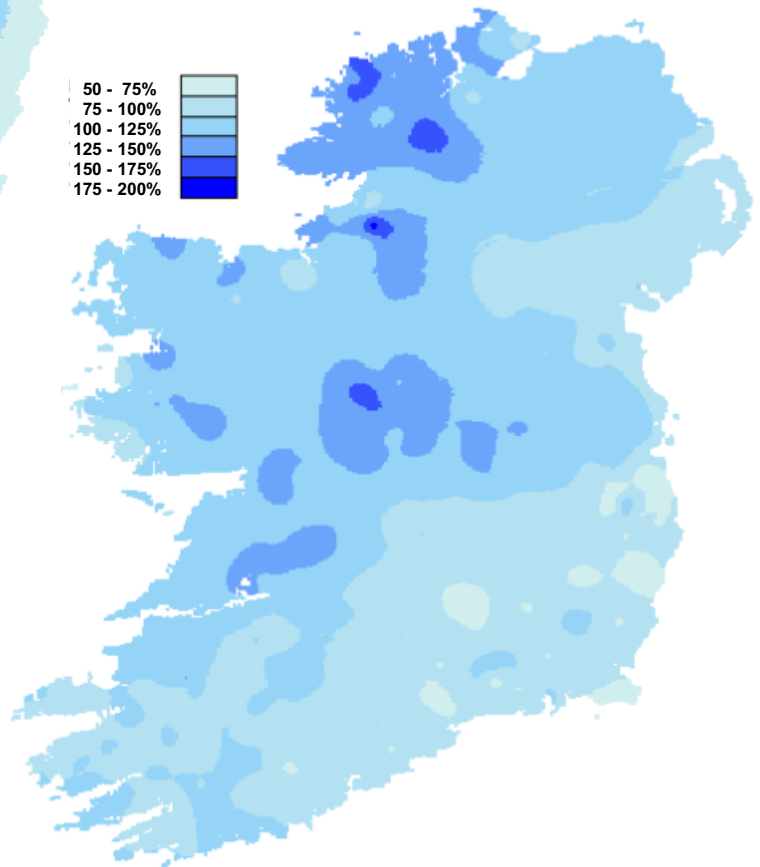
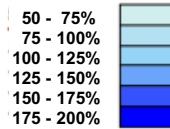
COUNTY/ STATION	TOTAL AMOUNT (mm)	% OF 1981-2010 AVERAGE	MOST IN A DAY / DATE		NUMBER OF RAINDAYS (>0.2mm)	NUMBER OF WETDAYS (>1mm)
<b>CO CARLOW</b>						
CARLOW (OAK PARK)	53.2	84	10.3	11	20	13
<b>CO CAVAN</b>						
BALLYHAISE	82.3	97	14.6	30	18	15
<b>CO CLARE</b>						
CARRON	147.5	110	21.5	30	19	18
SHANNON AIRPORT	101.8	129	14.7	25	18	17
<b>CO CORK</b>						
BALLINCURRIG (PEAFIELD)	91.1	86	21.8	10	17	13
CORK AIRPORT	88.7	91	16.7	10	19	14
FERMOY (MOORE PARK)	77.3	90	16.8	25	17	12
ROCHE'S POINT	75.5	97	15.4	8	19	13
SHERKIN ISLAND	88.1	93	21.6	25	20	14
<b>CO DONEGAL</b>						
BALLYSHANNON (CATHLEEN'S FALL)	106.4	109	18.0	25	21	19
GLENTIES HATCHERY	196.4	148	30.7	6	25	21
MALIN HEAD	123.7	140	14.0	25	22	18
<b>CO DUBLIN</b>						
CASEMENT AERODROME	56.4	111	10.9	28	18	10
DUBLIN (MERRION SQUARE)	46.4	90	7.0	25	16	12
DUBLIN AIRPORT	57.5	109	10.6	25	16	11
DUBLIN (PHOENIX PARK)	57.9	107	10.7	28	18	11
<b>CO GALWAY</b>						
MAAM VALLEY	279.2	119	44.1	27	22	20
<b>CO KERRY</b>						
ARDFERT (LISCAHANE)	99.7	109	16.8	25	21	15
VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	130.8	106	25.2*	25	21*	16*
<b>CO KILKENNY</b>						
THOMASTOWN (MT. JULIET)	64.7	94	14.2	11	16	10
<b>CO LIMERICK</b>						
MOUNT RUSSELL	106.1	105	20.1	25	21	19
<b>CO MAYO</b>						
BELMULLET	106.2	107	13.4	6	23	15
DELPHI LODGE	259.7		28.0	11	24	19
KNOCK AIRPORT	135.3	115	16.0	11	23	18
STRAIDE	128.9	118	16.3	11,27	19	18
<b>CO MEATH</b>						
WARRENTOWN	78.4	125	13.6	25	15	12
<b>CO MONAGHAN</b>						
CARRICKMACROSS (DUNOGE)	70.6	93	12.7*	25	17*	15*
<b>CO OFFALY</b>						
DERRYGREENAGH	88.9	124	13.2	30	18	13
<b>CO ROSCOMMON</b>						
MOUNTDILLON	116.1	132	16.3	25	20	18
<b>CO SLIGO</b>						
ARDTARMON	116.5	140	19.8	25	21	17
<b>CO TIPPERARY</b>						
FETHARD (PARSONSHILL)	59.7	81	10.5	11	19	12
GURTEEN (AG.COLLEGE)	69.4	93	9.3	30	17	14
<b>CO WATERFORD</b>						
DUNGARVAN (CARRIGLEA)	89.1	92	17.6	10	17	13
WATERFORD (TYCOR)	57.7	72	13.7	11	12	12
<b>CO WESTMEATH</b>						
MULLINGAR	92.6	121	17.4	30	19	15
<b>CO WEXFORD</b>						
CLONROCHE (KNOXTOWN)	74.8		18.2	11	17	11
JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	61.7	78	13.9	11	16	11
<b>CO WICKLOW</b>						
ASHFORD (CRONYKEERY)	57.8	79	17.1	11	15	11

\* ESTIMATED DATA USED IN CALCULATION. TABLE REPRESENTS DATA FROM A SMALL SELECTION OF RAINFALL STATIONS. ALL DATA IS 09-09 HR

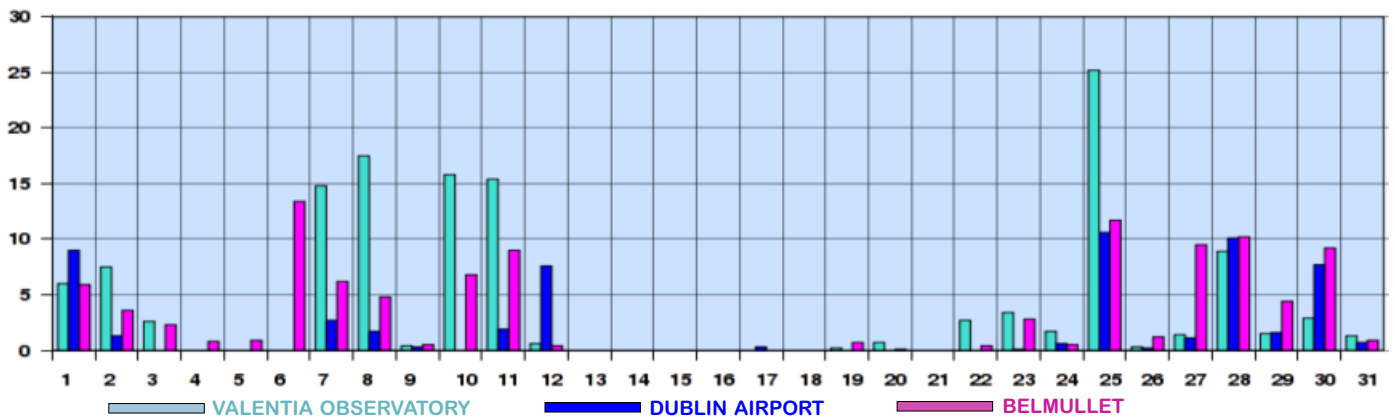
TOTAL RAINFALL (mm)



PERCENTAGE OF NORMAL RAINFALL  
(1981-2010 NORMALS)



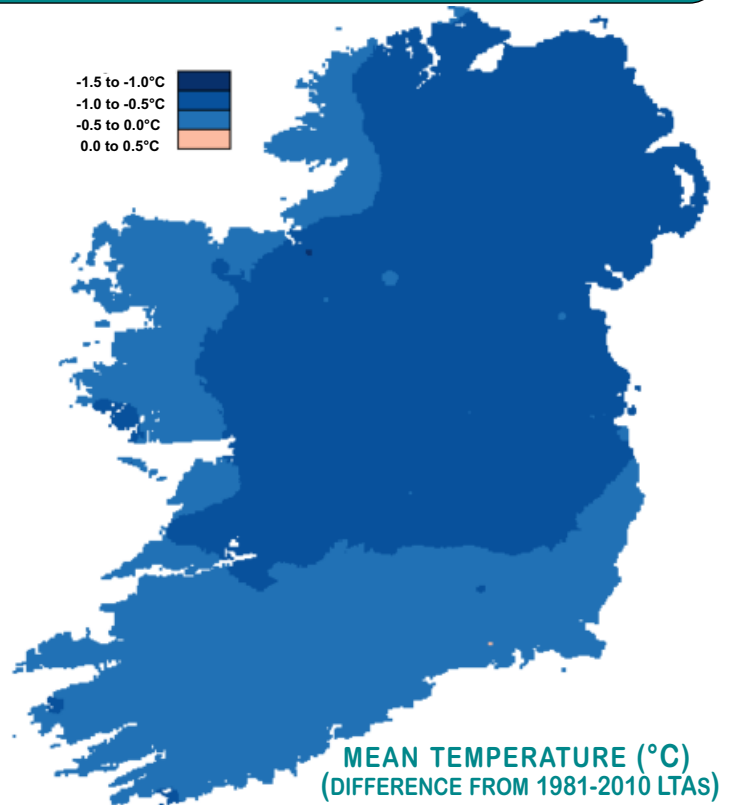
DAILY 0901-0900hr RAINFALL VALUES (mm)



**MEAN AIR TEMPERATURES BELOW AVERAGE  
NEARLY EVERYWHERE**

Nearly all monthly mean air temperatures were below their Long-Term Average with the largest differences from average of over 1°C reported at isolated stations in Clare, Sligo and Cavan. The largest deviation from LTA was -1.4°C at Markree, Co Sligo with a monthly mean temperature of 5.7°C. Isolated stations in Tipperary, Limerick, Waterford and Donegal reported on or just above LTA mean temperatures, with Waterford (Tycor) reporting the only above LTA mean temperature with 7.6°C, just 0.1°C above its LTA. Mean temperatures for March ranged from 5.2°C at Knock Airport, Co Mayo (difference from LTA of -0.5°C) to 8.1°C at Dooks, Co Kerry. Nearly all stations reported a cooler March in 2013.

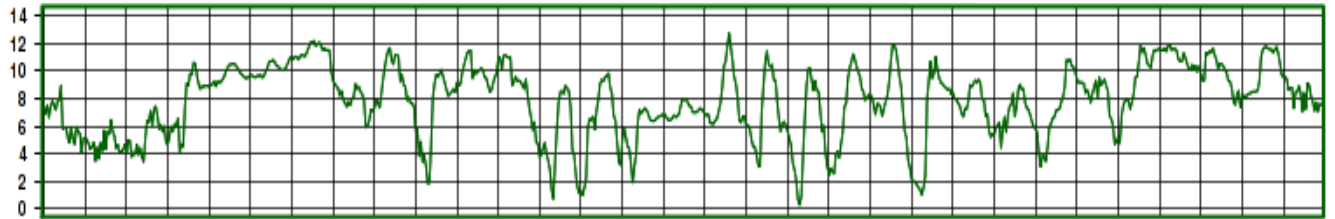
Differences from monthly mean maximum LTAs were variable ranging from -1.4°C at Mace Head, Co Galway (mean maximum of 9.5°C) to 0.9°C at Waterford (Tycor), (mean maximum of 11.7°C). The month's highest maximum temperatures were mainly recorded on the 7th, 20th, 21st and between the 28th and 30th. Highest maxima ranged from 12.1°C at Mace Head (on the 27th), its lowest maximum in five years to 18.5°C at Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin (on the 7th), its highest March temperature at the station since it opened in 2003. Differences from monthly mean minimum temperatures were all below their monthly mean minimum LTA with differences ranging from



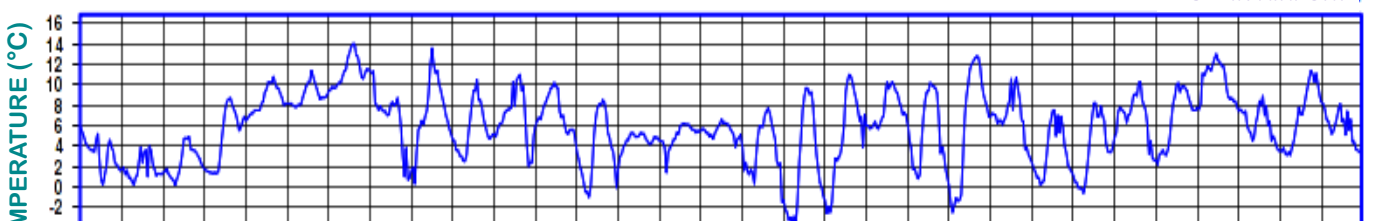
-1.7°C at Castleconnell, Co Limerick (mean minimum 1.1°C) to -0.1°C at Belderrig, Co Mayo (mean minimum 3.8°C). The month's lowest minimum temperatures were mainly recorded on the 3rd, 13th, 14th, 18th and 19th. Lowest minima ranged from -5.1°C at Casement Aerodrome, Co Dublin (on the 18th), its lowest March minimum in five years to 1.3°C at Mace Head (2nd and 3rd).

**HOURLY TEMPERATURES MARCH 2015**

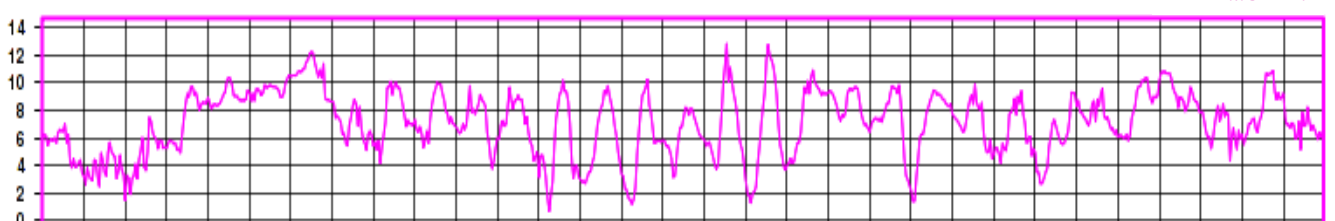
VALENTIA OBSERVATORY



DUBLIN AIRPORT



BELMULLET



DAY OF MONTH

COUNTY/ STATION	MEAN MAX.	MEAN MIN.	DIFFERENCE FROM 1981-2010		HIGHEST MAX./DATE	LOWEST MIN./DATE	LOWEST GRASS MIN./DATE	DAYS WITH FROST	
			MEAN	AVERAGE				AIR	GROUND
<b>CO CARLOW</b>									
CARLOW (OAK PARK)	10.5	2.4	6.4	-0.9	14.3 7	-2.2 19	-7.1 19	6	19
<b>CO CAVAN</b>									
BALLYHAISE	9.5	1.9	5.7	-1.0	13.8 7	-3.5 14	-7.2 13	10	17
<b>CO CLARE</b>									
CARRON	9.7	3.1	6.4	-0.2	13.0 19	-0.4 3	-4.3 25	1	17
SHANNON AIRPORT	10.8	3.4	7.1	-0.7	14.6 7	-1.1 13	-4.8 13	4	14
<b>CO CORK</b>									
BALLINCURRIG (PEAFIELD)	10.6	1.9	6.3	-0.4	14.8 21,28	-2.8 14	-3.0 14	10	10
CORK AIRPORT	10.0	3.3	6.7	-0.2	14.0 20	-1.8 3	-7.1 14	3	15
FERMOY (MOORE PARK)	11.0	2.1	6.6	-0.4	14.4 28,30	-4.0 14	-5.8 14	9	17
ROCHE'S POINT	10.2	4.5	7.3	-0.5	14.0 28	0.7 2	-4.2 14	0	10
SHERKIN ISLAND	10.2	5.2	7.7	-0.6	13.8 20	1.2 14	-2.2 25	0	5
<b>CO DONEGAL</b>									
BALLYSHANNON (CATHLEEN'S FALL)	10.1	3.4	6.7	0.0	13.8 7	-0.1 3		1	
GLENTIES HATCHERY	10.0	2.2	6.1	-0.4	13.7 18	-2.1 18	-5.4 18	7	18
MALIN HEAD	9.3	3.7	6.5	-0.4	12.3 7	0.4 3	-5.7 15	0	11
<b>CO DUBLIN</b>									
CASEMENT AERODROME	9.9	2.0	5.9	-0.9	13.8 7	-5.1 18	-7.7 18	9	20
DUBLIN (MERRION SQUARE)	10.1	4.0	7.0	-0.9	15.4 7	0.1 18		0	
DUBLIN AIRPORT	9.9	2.1	6.0	-0.8	14.2 7	-4.0 18	-7.3 22	9	16
DUBLIN (PHOENIX PARK)	10.5	2.5	6.5	-0.4	14.8 7,28	-3.1 18	-5.1 25	7	21
<b>CO GALWAY</b>									
MAAM VALLEY	10.7	3.2	7.0	-0.4	14.0 20	-1.2 13	-4.9 13	4	11
<b>CO KERRY</b>									
ARDFERT (LISCAHANE)	11.6	3.5	7.6	-0.2	14.9 7,18	-1.5 15	-3.5 15	2	10
VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	10.6	4.7	7.6	-0.6	12.8 17	0.0 19	-4.3 14	1	9
<b>CO KILKENNY</b>									
THOMASTOWN (MT. JULIET)	11.1	1.4	6.3	-0.6	15.4 28	-4.4 19	-9.8 19	15	21
<b>CO LIMERICK</b>									
MOUNTRUSSELL	10.2	3.2	6.7	0.0	13.5 22	-0.8 2 14	-6.2 13	5	20
<b>CO MAYO</b>									
BELMULLET	10.1	4.2	7.1	-0.5	13.0 18	0.7 13	-2.7 18	0	8
DELPHI LODGE	10.6	3.7	7.1	-0.5	13.7 18	-1.0 13	-4.7 13	3	14
KNOCK AIRPORT	8.5	1.9	5.2	-0.5	12.3 19	-1.8 3	-4.7 13	7	15
STRAIDE	10.5	2.6	6.6	-0.3	13.8 19	-3.8 13	-9.3 14	7	20
<b>CO MEATH</b>									
WARRENTOWN	10.4	1.7	6.1	-0.6	14.5 7,22	-4.0 19	-7.1 13	8	21
<b>CO MONAGHAN</b>									
CARRICKMACROSS (DUNOGE)	10.2	1.6	5.9	-0.6	15.1 7	-2.9 18 19	-5.1 18,19	9	20
<b>CO OFFALY</b>									
DERRYGREENAGH	10.3	1.6	6.0	-0.4	15.1 7	-2.5 14	-5.7 14	11	22
<b>CO ROSCOMMON</b>									
MOUNTDILLON	10.1	1.7	5.9	-0.8	13.8 7	-4.1 14	-6.4 14	10	15
<b>CO SLIGO</b>									
ARDTARMON	10.5*	3.7*	7.1*	-0.1	14.1* 22	0.0* 13	-4.0* 14	0*	15
<b>CO TIPPERARY</b>									
FETHARD (PARSONSHILL)	10.6	2.0	6.3	0.0	14.2 28	-0.9 25	-2.1 25	8	13
GURTEEN (AG.COLLEGE)	10.3	2.0	6.2	-0.8	14.6 7	-4.2 14	-8.9 14	9	18
<b>CO WATERFORD</b>									
DUNGARVAN (CARRIGLEA)	11.3	2.9	7.1	-0.4	14.7 29	-2.6 14	-5.7 14	7	16
WATERFORD (TYCOR)	11.7	3.5	7.6	0.1	16.1 28	0.6 2 13		0	
<b>CO WESTMEATH</b>									
MULLINGAR	9.8	1.5	5.7	-0.7	14.7 7	-4.6 14	-8.3 14,25	9	21
<b>CO WEXFORD</b>									
CLONROCHE (KNOXTOWN)	10.3	1.7	6.0	-0.5	15.4 28	-2.3 18	-6.0 19	10	23
JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	9.8	3.6	6.7	-0.4	13.7 28	0.5 2	-4.2 9	0	16
<b>CO WICKLOW</b>									
ASHFORD (CRONYKEERY)	11.0	2.8	6.9	-0.4	16.1 28	-1.9 9 19	-9.2 22	6	22

\* PARTIAL DATA USED IN CALCULATION. TABLE REPRESENTS DATA FROM A SMALL SELECTION OF STATIONS. ALL DATA IS 09-09 HR

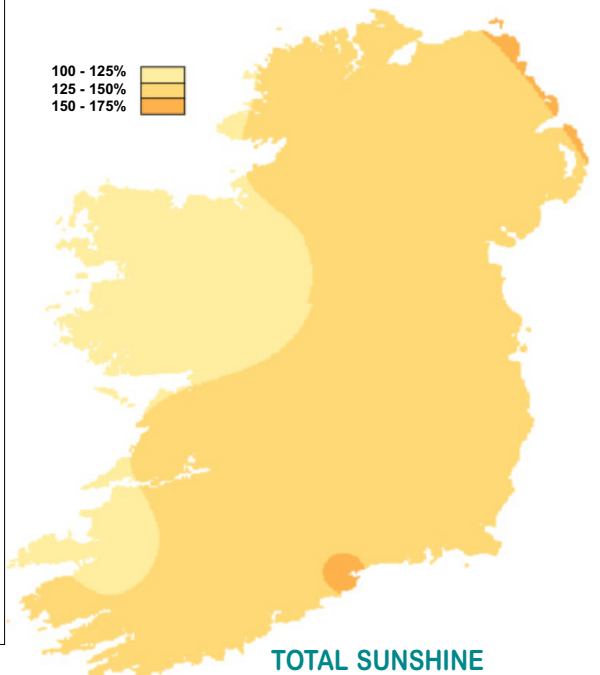
COUNTY/ STATION	DAILY MEAN (HOURS/DAY)	% OF 1981-2010 LTA	DULL DAYS (<0.5 HRS)	MOST IN A DAY/DATE
<b>CO CLARE</b>				
SHANNON AIRPORT	4.51	140	6	10.2 22
<b>CO CORK</b>				
BALLINCURRIG (PEAFIELD)	4.68	139	7	10.7 21
CORK AIRPORT	4.35	130	8	10.9 21
SHERKIN ISLAND	4.61	125	8	10.5 13
<b>CO DONEGAL</b>				
BALLYSHANNON (CATHLEEN'S FALL)	3.99	133	5	9.6 14
<b>CO DUBLIN</b>				
CASEMENT AERODROME	4.17	127	5	10.7 22
DUBLIN (GLASNEVIN)	4.55	130	6	9.6 21,22
DUBLIN AIRPORT	5.03	143	7	11.5 21,22
<b>CO KERRY</b>				
ARDFERT (LISCAHANE)	3.75	110	6	10.3 22
VALENTIA OBSERVATORY*	3.86		8	10.6 21
<b>CO MAYO</b>				
BELMULLET*	3.52		8	10.7 13
KNOCK AIRPORT	2.96	101	11	8.4 18
NEWPORT (FURNACE)	3.38	117	6	8.0 18
STRAIDE	3.49	116	8	8.9 13
<b>CO WATERFORD</b>				
DUNGARVAN (CARRIGLEA)	5.18	155	4	11.0 21
<b>CO WEXFORD</b>				
CLONROCHE (KNOXTOWN)	4.64	136	7	10.2 13
JFK PARK	4.46	131	8	10.2 21
WEXFORD WILDFOWL RESERVE	-----not available-----			
<b>CO WICKLOW</b>				
ARKLOW (BALLYRICHARD HSE.)	5.18		5	10.9 21
ASHFORD (CRONYKEERY)	4.93	136	5	10.0 22

\* PARTIAL DATA USED IN CALCULATION  
 \* SUNSHINE DURATION DERIVED FROM AUTOSOL INSTRUMENTS. LONG-TERM AVERAGE COMPARISONS ARE NOT USED WITH AUTOSOL READINGS.

**SUNNIEST IN THE SOUTHEAST; ABOVE LTA SUNSHINE EVERYWHERE**

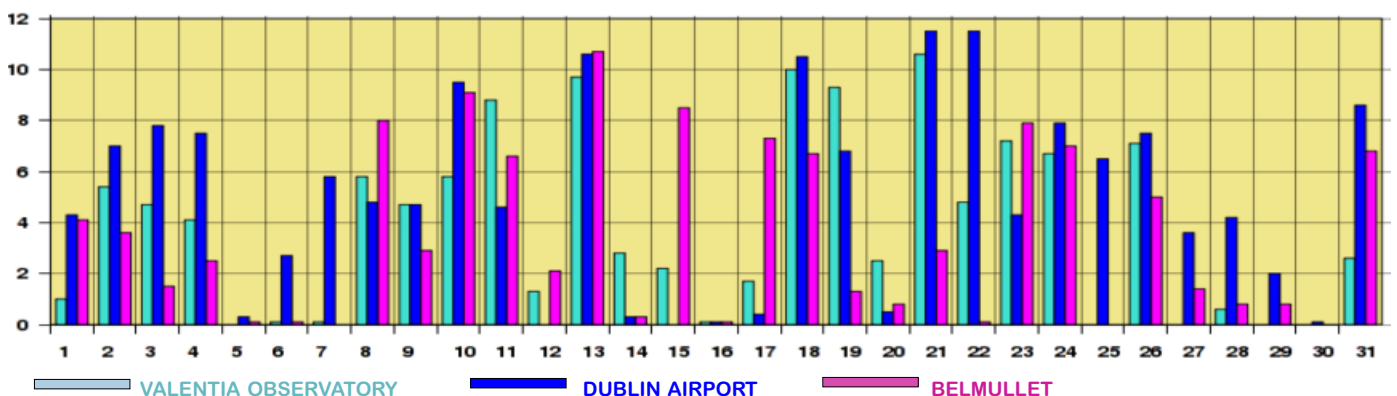
Sunshine totals were just on or above Long-Term Average (LTA) everywhere with percentage of LTA values were lowest at Knock Airport, Co Mayo where 101% was reported with the month's lowest monthly sunshine total of 91.7 hours (daily mean of 2.96 hours). The month's highest percentage of LTA was at Dungarvan (Carriglea), Co Waterford with 155%, reporting the month's highest monthly sunshine total of 160.5 hours (daily mean of 5.18 hours), its sunniest March since the station opened 32 years ago. The most sunshine in a day was 11.5 hours reported on both the 21st and 22nd at Dublin Airport, its sunniest March day since 1981 and equalling its third highest March daily sunshine since the station opened in 1942.

Global solar radiation LTA values ranged from 102% at Belmullet, Co Mayo to 116% at Valentia Observatory, Co Kerry.

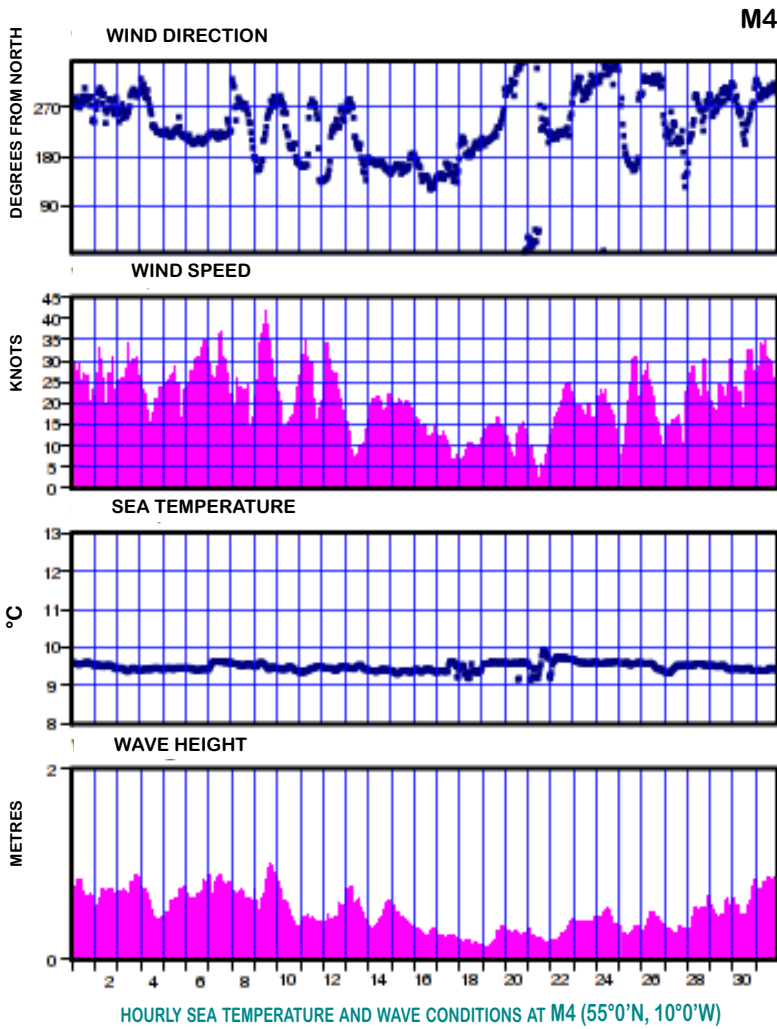


**TOTAL SUNSHINE (PERCENTAGE OF 1981-2010 NORMALS)**

**DAILY SUNSHINE VALUES (HOURS)**

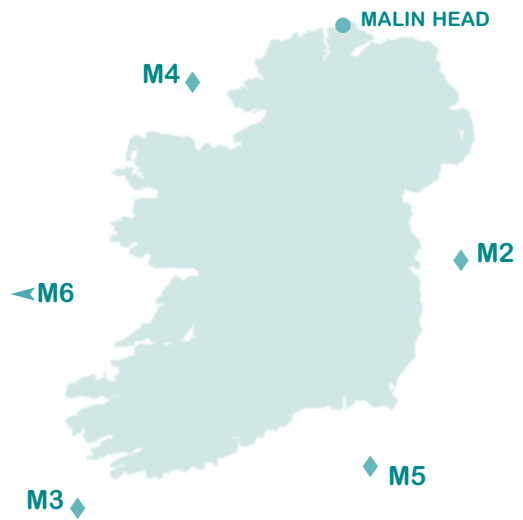


### MARINE OBSERVATIONS FROM IRISH MARINE DATA BUOY NETWORK

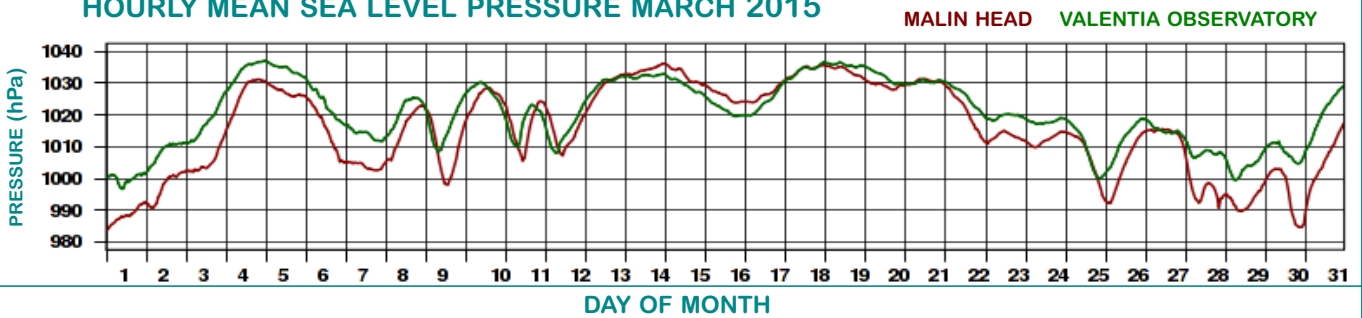


BUOY	SEA SURFACE TEMP. (°C)	MEAN WIND SPEED (knots)	MAX 10-MIN WIND (knots)	MEAN SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT (m)	MAX SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT (m)
M2	7.7	16.0	36.0	1.3	3.2
M3*	10.8*	16.0	32.9	4.2	8.9
M4	9.5	19.5	42.0	4.7	10.0
M5	8.5	14.5	32.2	2.2	6.1
M6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MALIN HEAD	7.5	* PARTIAL DATA			

#### SUMMARY OF MEAN MONTHLY VALUES

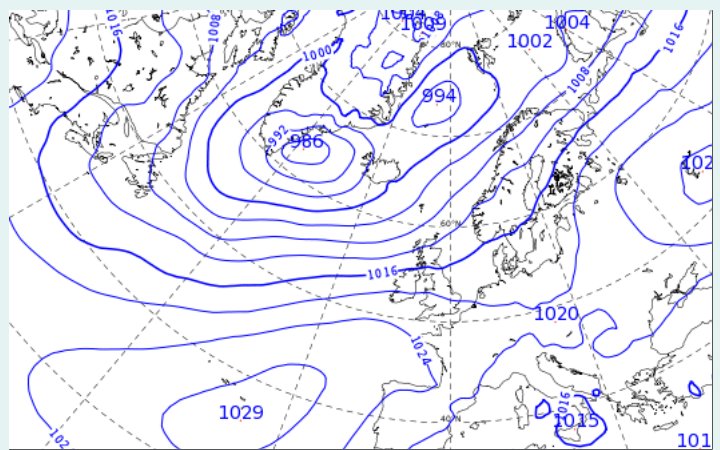


### HOURLY MEAN SEA LEVEL PRESSURE MARCH 2015



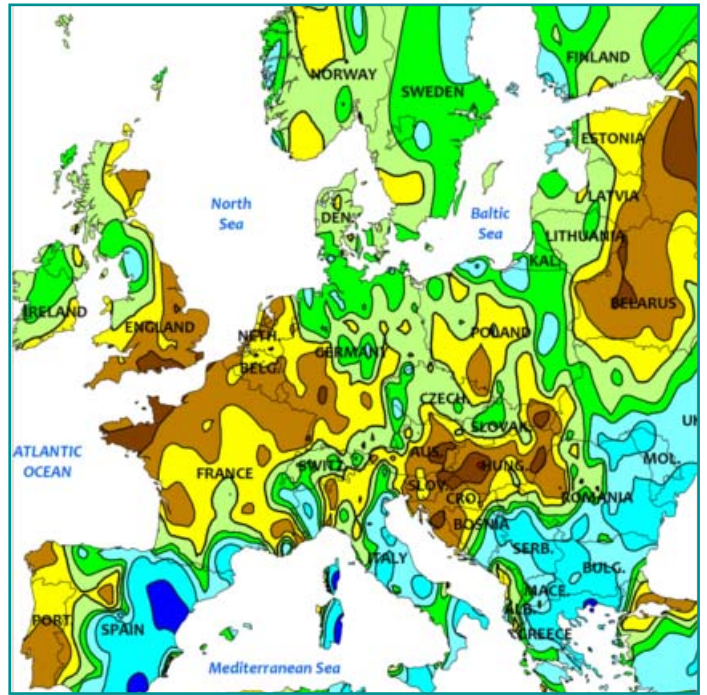
### ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE

Monthly mean sea level pressure values ranged from just above 1015 hPa in the North to 1021 hPa in the South. The month's lowest pressure value of 984.1 hPa was recorded at Malin Head, Co Donegal on the 1st at 0100 UTC as a depression of 967 hPa was located over northeast Scotland. The month's highest pressure value was 1038.7 hPa recorded at both Johnstown Castle, Co Wexford and Roche's Point, Co Cork on the 4th between 2100 UTC and 0000 UTC as a high pressure system was centred over the Bay of Biscay, northern France and southeast England.

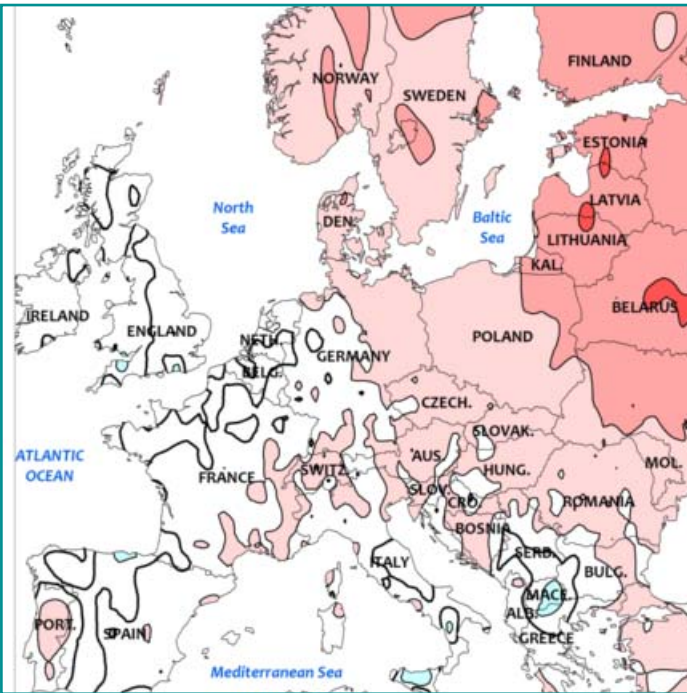


MONTHLY MEAN MSL PRESSURE, BASED ON 1200 UTC VALUES

**MARCH RAINFALL**  
(PERCENTAGE OF 1961-1990 NORMAL)



**MARCH MEAN TEMPERATURE**  
(DIFFERENCE FROM 1961-1990 NORMAL)



MAPS SUPPLIED BY NOAA  
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTRE,  
US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.  
GLOBAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS SUPPLIED  
BY AON BENFIELD

**GLOBAL WEATHER SUMMARY**

Large portions of the US were subject to two periods of winter weather during the first week of March. There was significant snow, sleet, freezing rain, and torrential rain in numerous states which resulted in 13 fatalities. Huge economic losses and damage to homes and businesses caused major disruption.

Two severe Windstorms Mike and Niklas caused major disruption in western and central Europe during a 72-hour stretch of severe weather at the end of the month. Considerable widespread damage and at least nine deaths were reported. Hurricane-force winds, including a peak gust of 104 knots (193 km/hr), were recorded in numerous parts of Europe. The most severe damage was reported in Germany, where trees were uprooted and vehicles were toppled. Some major infrastructure was also affected.

Twelve individuals died due to lightning strikes and landslides triggered by heavy rainfall in the state of Rajasthan in India. Severe thunderstorms killed three individuals and were responsible for the destruction of 900 homes.

At least 634 homes were destroyed or damaged as a result of torrential rainfall in the Shinyanga District of Tanzania causing the displacement of 3,500 residents. This region also suffered floods at the start of the month resulting in 47 fatalities and numerous injuries.

Severe thunderstorms brought gusty winds, torrential rain, and large amounts of hail to parts of Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. Flash floods and landslides were experienced due to the heavy rainfall.

Cyclone Pam struck Vanuatu on March 13th with maximum 1-minute sustained winds of 146 knots (270 km/hr) and gusts up to 175 knots (324 km/hr). There were at least 16 fatalities and numerous injuries. A minimum of 30,000 homes sustained severe damage while trees, crops, power lines, infrastructure, vehicles, and livestock also endured massive losses.