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Monthly Weather Bulletin Summer 2014

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DRY CONDITIONS IN PARTS; MOSTLY MILD WITH NEAR AVERAGE SUNSHINE

Over two thirds of summer rainfall totals were below their seasonal LTA. All three months reported variable rainfall, with some places reporting a period of absolute drought (*15 or more consecutive days to none of which 0.2 mm or more is credited*) between June 8th and 24th. In contrast, heavy rainfall in eastern areas at the start of August, lead to double or more the normal rainfall for the month at some stations. The driest and wettest conditions (compared to monthly LTA) were reported in Galway in June (lowest percentage of monthly LTA 21%) and in Dublin in August (highest percentage of monthly LTA 281%). Seasonal percentage of LTA values ranged from 50% (seasonal total 316.4 mm) at the Ballaghbeama Gap, Co Kerry to 144% (seasonal total 265.4 mm) at Dublin (Glasnevin). Summer rainfall totals in low-lying areas (regions below 200m) ranged from 116.2 mm (54% of its LTA) at Rathkeale (Duxtown), Co Limerick to 457.6 mm at Leenane (Glanagimla), Co Galway. The overall highest accumulation was at a gauge in the Cumberagh Mountains Co Kerry with 608.7 mm (86% of its LTA). The wettest day of summer August 1st Clonasclee (Waterworks), Co Laois, with 95.0 mm, nearly a third of its seasonal total of 314.8 mm (125% of its LTA) and its wettest summer day since the station opened in 1984. The number of seasonal wet days (*days with 1 mm or more of rainfall*) ranged from 24 days at a small selection of stations in the Southwest to 59 days Dromahair (Market St), Co Leitrim.

All mean air temperatures were near of above their summer LTAs. Monthly mean air temperatures were above their monthly LTAs in June and July, with below LTA mean temperatures recorded in August. Seasonal differences from LTA ranged from -0.3°C at Markree, Co Sligo (mean air temperature of 14.3°C) to 0.9°C at both Ballincurring (Peafield), Co Cork (mean

temperature of 15.3°C) and Waterford (Tycor), which had the seasons highest mean temperature of 16.4 °C. The seasons lowest mean temperature was 14.0°C (0.6°C from its LTA) at Knock Airport, Co Mayo. Seasonal highest maxima were mainly recorded in the last week of July with the highest temperature of the season reported at Durrow, Co Laois on July 25th with 28.8°C. Both the seasons lowest air and grass minima were recorded on June 5th with the lowest air temperature recorded at Castleconnell, Co Limerick with 0.5°C and the lowest grass minimum at Straide, Co Mayo of -2.5°C. There were no days with air frost during summer while ground frost was reported on eight days at scattered stations across the country.

Sunshine totals were near or above their seasonal LTAs in most parts with exception of Knock Airport. Variable sunshine was recorded during all three months with the lowest sunshine (relative to monthly LTAs) recorded in the West in July (just 70%) and the highest in the Southwest in June (above 160%). Lowest percentage of seasonal LTA were at Knock Airport, Co Mayo with 88% (lowest seasonal daily mean sunshine of 3.84 hrs). Percentage of seasonal LTA values were highest at Belmullet Co Mayo with 141% (highest seasonal daily mean sunshine of 6.56 hrs). Belmullet measured summer's sunniest day on June 17th with 15.8 hours, its sunniest June and summer day since 1995. The number of dull days ranged from six days at Dublin Airport to 21 at Knock Airport.

Seasonal mean wind speeds were from 5.1 knots (*9 km/h*) at Mullingar, Co Westmeath to 11.9 knots (*22 km/h*) at Malin Head, Co Donegal. Four days with gale-force winds were reported, all during August on the 2nd, 17th, 27th and 28th in the North and West. Summer's highest 10-minute mean wind speed was at Mace Head on August 28th with 36 knots (*67 km/h*) while the season's highest gust was reported at Malin Head on August 17th with 47 knots (*87 km/h*).

COUNTY/STATION	RAINFALL (mm)					TEMPERATURE (°C)					SUNSHINE (HRS)				WIND				
	TOTAL	% OF LTA	MOST IN A DAY	NO. OF RAIN DAYS	NO. OF WET DAYS	MEAN	DIFFERENCE FROM LTA	EXTREMES MAXIMUM	EXTREMES MINIMUM	NO. OF DAYS GROUND FROST	NO. OF DAYS AIR FROST	TOTAL	% OF AVERAGE	MOST IN A DAY	NO. OF DULL DAYS	HIGHEST GUST (KNOTS)	HIGHEST 10-MIN WIND SPEED (KNOTS)	NO. OF DAYS GALES	NO. OF DAYS GUSTS ≥34 KNOTS
CO CARLOW CARLOW (OAK PARK)	208.7	109	27.6	44	35	15.5	0.2	27.7	5.3	0	0					31	22	0	0
CO CAVAN BALLYHAISE	255.4	110	45.0	54	42	14.7	-0.1	25.2	2.0	1	0					30	17	0	0
CO CLARE SHANNON AIRPORT	166.3	76	15.6	56	37	15.9	0.2	27.4	3.7	1	0	461.7	106	14.5	10	36	26	0	2
CO CORK CORK AIRPORT	217.2	85	24.3	49	34	15.1	0.5	24.4	5.3	1	0	546.4	108	15.5	12	37	24	0	3
ROCHE'S POINT	140.2	66	25.8	40	24	15.7	0.7	24.8	5.4	0	0					38	30	0	7
CO DONEGAL FINNER	220.0	82	31.4	64	46	14.8	0.2	26.7	5.3	2	0					36	26	0	3
MALIN HEAD	228.4	93	12.3	65	46	14.4	0.4	25.6	5.8	0	0					47	34	3	13
CO DUBLIN CASEMENT AERODROME	216.1	114	32.6	50	32	14.9	0.0	24.9	4.5	0	0	498.5	107	15.6	14	34	24	0	1
DUBLIN AIRPORT	244.2	124	50.5	50	26	14.7	-0.2	24.1	3.0	2	0	544.0	110	15.6	6	36	26	0	4
CO KERRY VALENTIA OBSERVATORY	210.6	68	16.8	56	46	15.4	0.5	23.2	4.2	0	0	586.2	134	15.4	11	45	26	0	5
CO MAYO BELMULLET	196.1	78	16.2*	60*	46*	14.9	0.5	22.9	4.8	0	0	603.3	141	15.8	9	41	30	0	4
KNOCK AIRPORT	280.0	95	27.3	71	55	14.0	0.6	25.2	5.5	0	0	353.2	88	15.3	21	38	24	0	3
CO TIPPERARY GURTEEN	213.4	95	27.7	52	37	15.1	0.2	27.0	4.5	1	0					34	21	0	1
CO WESTMEATH MULLINGAR	248.9	108	49.2	60	41	14.7	0.2	26.6	3.7	n/a	0					29	17	0	0
CO WEXFORD JOHNSTOWN CASTLE	198.8	87	32.7	40	26	15.1	0.2	23.3	6.8	0	0					33	20	0	0