

MAIDENHEAD METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR 2017

Milder than normal in 2017, but sunshine and rainfall totals for the year both close to normal. June was the sunniest month, with April being the second sunniest. Both April (5.4 mm total) and October (12.3 mm) were remarkably dry - but July was wet with 16 rain days. Snow fell on 12 days - just slightly less than normal but the 'snowiest' year since 2013. However, measurable snow cover on the ground was restricted to 2 days in December (4 cm was the greatest depth observed). Few thunderstorms were observed in 2017 - just 7 days with thunder was about the half the normal incidence. Temperatures climbed above 30C on 5 days this year - four of them being in June, although July was still the warmest month of the year. January was the coldest month of the year - by almost 2 degC from December - while no air frost was recorded in March, which was nearly as mild as April.

	2017	Climatological normal	Notes
Air temperature (degC)			
Mean maximum	15.9	15.1	
Mean minimum	7.6	7.0	
Mean	11.7	11.0	The warmest year since 2014
Highest maximum	33.4	30.9	The highest temperature for two years
Lowest maximum	0.8	0.3	
Highest minimum	18.5	18.5	
Lowest minimum	-5.8	-7.0	
No. of days with minimum below -5C	1	3.0	
No. of days with maximum 25C or more	28	25.0	
No. of days with maximum below 0C	0	1.2	
No. of days with minimum 15C or more	24	21.0	
Grass temperature (degC)			
Lowest minimum	-7.1	-10.5	
Mean grass minimum	4.4	4.5	
Soil temperature (degC)			
5cm mean	10.4	9.7	
10cm mean	10.5	9.9	
20cm mean	11.4	10.9	
30cm mean	11.8	11.3	
50cm mean	11.5	11.1	
100cm mean	11.8	11.2	
5cm maximum	21.8		
5cm minimum	-1.1		
10cm maximum	22.1		
10cm minimum	-0.1		
20cm maximum	22.2		
20cm minimum	1.0		
30cm maximum	21.0		
30cm minimum	2.4		
50cm maximum	19.6		
50cm minimum	3.0		
100cm maximum	17.6		
100cm minimum	5.1		
Sunshine (hr)			
Mean daily sunshine amount	4.24	4.18	
Total sunshine	1553.2	1529.8	Sunnier than normal, but the dullest year since 2013
Maximum daily sunshine	14.8	14.7	
Number of sunless days	59	67.7	The lowest total since 2014
No. of days with over 12h	15	16.4	
Precipitation (mm)			
Total fall	635.1	660.7	A dry year, but not as dry as 2015
Highest daily total	30.9	33.7	
No. of days with 0.2mm or more	165	157.0	The most rain days since 2014
No. of days with 1.0mm or more	116	115.3	
No. of days with 5.0mm or more	38	43.9	
Number of days with			
Snow or sleet falling	12	12.2	The most snow days since 2013
50% snow cover on ground at 0900GMT	2	5.0	The most snow lying days since 2013
Hail or ice pellets falling	3	4.8	
Thunder heard	7	13.0	Fewest thunder days since 2015
Fog at 0900GMT	7	9.4	Fewest fog days since 2015
Air frost	40	40.0	
Ground frost	91	88.6	
Gale	0	1.2	
Air pressure			
Mean at 0900GMT	1016.9	1016.0	
Miscellaneous			
Mean relative humidity at 0900GMT	79	82.0	
Number of hours with rain	541.7	543.9	Most hours of rain since 2014
Number of hours with air frost	259.0	301.1	
Most hours of rain in a day	15.1		
Mean cloud cover at 0700GMT (eighths)	5.8	5.6	
Mean wind speed at 0700GMT (knots)	3.6	5.1	
Total pan evaporation (ml)	531.4	564.8	
Greatest daily evaporation (ml)	4.7		

Climatological normals refer to 1981-2010