

MAIDENHEAD METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR 2012

Temperature and sunshine averaged close to normal values, but there was a large range of temperature with an unusually cold day in December. The year turned from one of drought to flood and was the wettest overall since 2000, although only 84mm fell in the first three months. Five months recorded in excess of 100mm of rain; this has never happened before in the local record back to 1859; there were 4 instances in 1946.

	2012	Climatological normal	Notes
Air temperature (degC)			
Mean maximum	15.2	15.1	
Mean minimum	6.8	7.0	The lowest value since 2010
Mean	11.0	11.0	
Highest maximum	30.7	30.9	The warmest day since 2009
Lowest maximum	-1.4	0.3	The coldest December day since 1991
Highest minimum	17.9	18.5	The coolest 'warmest night of the year' since 2007
Lowest minimum	-9.0	-7.0	The coldest night only since December 2010
No. of days with minimum below -5C	3	3.0	
No. of days with maximum 25C or more	27	25.0	Equal highest number of hot days (with 2010) since 2006
No. of days with maximum below 0C	0	1.2	
No. of days with minimum 15C or more	18	21.0	
Grass temperature (degC)			
Lowest minimum	-11.0	-10.5	
Mean grass minimum	4.6	4.5	
Soil temperature (degC)			
5cm mean	9.7	9.7	
10cm mean	9.8	9.9	
20cm mean	10.6	10.9	
30cm mean	11.2	11.3	
50cm mean	11.1	11.1	
100cm mean	11.2	11.2	
5cm maximum	18.8		
5cm minimum	-0.6		
10cm maximum	19.1		
10cm minimum	-0.2		
20cm maximum	19.7		
20cm minimum	1.3		
30cm maximum	19.3		
30cm minimum	2.4		
50cm maximum	18.2		
50cm minimum	3.1		
100cm maximum	16.8		
100cm minimum	5.2		
Sunshine (hr)			
Mean daily sunshine amount	4.20	4.18	
Total sunshine	1534.0	1529.8	The dullest year since 2002
Maximum daily sunshine	14.8	14.7	
Number of sunless days	65	67.7	
No. of days with over 12h	16	16.4	
Precipitation (mm)			
Total fall	845.1	660.7	The wettest year since 2000 although the first 3 months were unusually dry
Highest daily total	24.2	33.7	
No. of days with 0.2mm or more	176	157	
No. of days with 1.0mm or more	134	115	
No. of days with 5.0mm or more	61	43.9	
Number of days with			
Snow or sleet falling	9	12.2	
50% snow cover on ground at 0900GMT	7	5.0	
Hail or ice pellets falling	7	4.8	
Thunder heard	10	13.0	
Fog at 0900GMT	12	9.4	
Air frost	43	40.0	
Ground frost	87	88.6	
Gale	0	1.2	
Air pressure			
Mean at 0900GMT	1014.8	1016.0	
Miscellaneous			
Mean relative humidity at 0900GMT	83	82.0	
Number of hours with rain	702.3	543.9	The highest value since before 1985
Number of hours with air frost	334.9	301.1	
Most hours of rain in a day	19.0		
Mean cloud cover at 0700GMT (eighths)	5.5	5.6	
Mean wind speed at 0700GMT (knots)	5.0	5.1	
Total piche evaporation (ml)	493.8	564.8	
Greatest daily evaporation (ml)	5.7		

Climatological normals refer to 1981-2010