

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES OF THE MONTH:

MAY CAN BE PROBLEMATIC WITH FROST. ON AVERAGE WE CAN EXPECT 1 AIR AND 4.5 GROUND FROSTS IN THE MONTH. 1977 SAW 5 AIR FROSTS AND 1971, 12 GROUND FROSTS. THE MOST SEVERE GROUND FROST WAS -8.3C (17F) ON 18 MAY 1970. SNOW HAS BEEN RECORDED ON 8 OCCASIONS IN MAY, THE LAST BEING IN 1983.

THUNDERSTORMS BEGIN IN EARNEST THIS MONTH, AVERAGING 2.3 FOR MAY. IN 1969 THERE WERE 9.

THERE HAVE BEEN 31 OCCASIONS IN MAY WHEN THE TEMPERATURE HAS EXCEEDED 25C (77F), THE LONGEST PERIOD BEING FROM 27-31 MAY 1978.

THE MAY OF 1976 SAW RECORD NUMBERS OF SUNNY DAYS, BUT WAS FOLLOWED BY A POOR JUNE. THE ENSUING MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST SAW THE GREAT DROUGHT WITH ALMOST UNYIELDING SUNSHINE AND HIGH TEMPERATURES.