

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE MONTH.

March was the mildest in general since 1991 and the fifth mildest on record here at 7.5C (46F). All temperatures, air, soil and radiation, were well above the 30-year means by as much as 4C. Air temperatures ranged from 15.5C (60F) on the 8th, to -0.3C (31F) on the 26th.

Rainfall totalled 62.4mm (2.46ins), about normal, though it rained on 19 days, 3 above expectation. No snow, hail or sleet was noted.

Sunshine at 114 hours was 11% above the 30-year mean, with 7 sunless days, about average for March. The 26th saw 10 hours of bright sunshine, well below the 11.6 hours recorded on March 29th 1965.

It was a windy month with gusts above 40 knots on 2 days and a total of 7 days with gusts above gale force (34 knots). The mean hourly speed of 10.4 knots was well above expectation.

Air frost occurred on 2 nights and ground frosts on 15, both down on average.