

THE AUTUMN OF 1994.

A record breaking warm November resulted in the Autumn of 1994 finishing up barely 4 positions outside being one of the best third of the Autumns since 1956.

Temperatures were all well above the 30-year norms, the mean maximum of 14.2C (58F) being 0.7C up and the mean daily of 10.7C (51F) 0.8C up on the 30-year values. The result was that the 1994 season was the warmest since 1978.

However, rainfall was also well above expectation, the total of 260.5mm (10.24ins) being 69.3mm (2.73ins) or 36% above normal. This resulted from the heaviest September fall on record of 86.5mm (3.41ins) from the 13th to 15th, when it rained non-stop for 42 hours. In contrast both October and November were drier than usual.

Sunshine was also below expectation, by about 9 hours, with November quite dull, the month producing a total of 14 sunless days with a preponderance of anticyclonic gloom at the month's end. Autumn thus ended with 24 sunless days instead of the customary 20.

The season was not unduly windy, only two days seeing gusts in excess of gale force, September 8th and October 24th.

There was no incidence of snow or sleet though thunder was heard on 3 occasions.

Air frost was remarkably absent with only one occurrence instead of a normal 8, whilst ground frost with 10 instances was also half expectation.
