

G E N E R A L C O M M E N T S O N T H E M O N T H .

September was another dry month with only 18% of the normal fall occurring over 7 days, itself well below average. Rain deficits are now quite serious, this being the second driest September in 51 years and the driest since 1959.

Sunshine was marginally above average at 144 hours, with 11.5 hours on the 16th. There were 3 totally sunless days and 5 sunny days (above 9 hours).

Temperatures continued near average, the mean daily of 13.5C (52.3F) being just 0.2C above the 30-year mean. The range was from 22.2C (72F) on the 15th to 1.3C (34.3F) on the 14th. All soil temperatures remain above average, by as much as 1.1C at 5cm depth. Ground frost occurred on 2 nights (14th;24th) though no air frost was recorded.

There was no incidence of thunder or hail during the month.