

The third week really did see a marked change in the predominant weather pattern over the country with a much more "autumnal" feel. Nights became far cooler with the first air frost of the season being recorded overnight on the 18th/19th October when the temperature in the air fell as low as  $-2.5^{\circ}\text{C}/27.5^{\circ}\text{F}$ . Over the same period grass temperatures fell as low as  $-5.0^{\circ}\text{C}/23.0^{\circ}\text{F}$ , black bulb radiation temperatures also paralleling this trend reaching a maximum value of  $43.7^{\circ}\text{C}/110.7^{\circ}\text{F}$  on the 17th. A further 20.5mm/0.81in of rain fell in 14 hours on the 15th, another wet, cool and miserable day. Between the 11th and the 15th 71.2mm/2.80ins of rain has fallen, a little over the normal fall for the whole of October.

The air maximum for the week was  $15.0^{\circ}\text{C}/59.0^{\circ}\text{F}$  on the 21st with the lowest minimum of minus  $2.5^{\circ}\text{C}/27.5^{\circ}\text{F}$  occurring on the 19th, as did the lowest grass temperature that fell to minus  $5.0^{\circ}\text{C}/23.0^{\circ}\text{F}$ . Black bulb radiation temperatures peaked at  $43.7^{\circ}\text{C}/110.7^{\circ}\text{F}$  on the 17th, that day also seeing the maximum radiation level of 0.546 kilowatt per square metre. Rainfall totalled 41.4mm/1.63ins of which 20.5mm/0.81in fell on the 15th. Rainfall duration totalled 35.9 hours over the week with 19 hours of this occurring on the 20th.

Winds were roughly equally divided between westerly and easterly and were generally light though a gust to 36knots/41mph did occur on a cold front on October 15th. Fog occurred once, on the 21st with a visibility of 600 metres and the week saw 4 ground frosts and the first air frost of the autumn, definitely much more seasonable weather.

The end of the month was to see yet further changes in the weather with widespread and severe gales on the 27th causing structural damage and 7 deaths over much of the southern part of the country. The fourth week produced a maximum air temperature of  $16.5^{\circ}\text{C}/61.7^{\circ}\text{F}$  on the 22nd, very reasonable for the season, the night minimum of  $2.3^{\circ}\text{C}/36.1^{\circ}\text{F}$  occurring on the 24th that night also seeing the lowest grass temperature of minus  $1.8^{\circ}\text{C}/28.8^{\circ}\text{F}$ . The black bulb radiation maximum of  $40/8^{\circ}\text{C}/105.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  occurred on the 23rd though the global radiation maximum of 0.602 kilowatt per square metre was not recorded until around noon on the 27th.

#### Rainfall for the week

totalled 20.5mm/0.81in, some 8.4mm/0.33in of this occurring on the 26th, just one day seeing no appreciable rainfall. Over the same period 32.6 hours of sunshine was recorded with 7.9 hours of this coming on the 27th, no day being totally sunless. Winds were predominantly westerly and generally light, the exception being Sunday 27th when north westerly gales ravaged much of the south of the country, the peak gust here reaching 54knots or 62mph, enough to bring down fences, tiles and trees.

The month ended in a totally different vein to that in which it began, damp, dreary and dismal days replacing the brilliant sunshine and high temperatures in which we basked over the first few days. The 29th was particularly dreary with rain and drizzle on and off for most of the day, no sunshine and heavy, cold mist shrouding the Clent Hills and adjacent ground. Day maxima struggled to reach  $10.2^{\circ}\text{C}/50.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  on the 29th, very different to the  $20.5^{\circ}\text{C}/68.9^{\circ}\text{F}$  registered on the 1st! The black bulb maximum was no higher than  $10.6^{\circ}\text{C}/51.1^{\circ}\text{F}$  with a peak radiation level held at 0.041 kilowatt per square metre. November was certainly being heralded here!