

## Weather Summary for January 2015.

January was relatively mild and sunny but with above average rainfall. There were some light snow and sleet showers during the second half of the month.

Rainfall was above average with 81.9 mm (+11.93 mm). We had 25 days with 0.2 mm or more of rain and 6 had more than 5.0 mm. The most on one day was 13.6 mm on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Some of the precipitation fell as snow or sleet on the afternoons of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> as well as the mornings of 17<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Sunshine was above average with 90.6 hours (+28.51); the most was 7.5 hours on the 24<sup>th</sup>. We had 5 days with no sunshine at all.

January mean maximum temperature was above average at 7.5°C (+0.8) and the minimum was below average at 0.9°C (-0.3). The highest day temperature was 14.0°C on the 9<sup>th</sup>. The lowest minimum was -5.5°C on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We had 13 air frosts and 17 ground frosts.

N.B. 30 year averages now 1981-2010. (Previously 1971-2000)

## Weather Summary for February 2015.

February had above average rainfall and sunshine but below average temperatures.

Rainfall was above average at 54.6 mm (+4.42). We had 21 days with over 0.2 mm, and 5 days exceeded 5.0 mm. The most amount of rainfall was 11.1 mm on 19th.

Sunshine was above average with 85.6 hrs. (+5.31). We had 4 days without any sunshine; the most was 9.1 hrs. on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

The mean maximum and the mean minimum temperatures were below average with 6.7°C (-0.21) and 0.8°C (-0.17) respectively. The lowest minimum was -3.2°C on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the highest maximum was 11.1°C on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

We had 9 air frosts and 18 ground frosts.

Note: the average refers to the 30 year means 1981-2010.

## Weather Summary for March 2015.

March was relatively dry, sunny and warm for the time of year.

Rainfall was below average with 26.1 mm recorded, (-24.67 mm). We had 16 days with 0.2 mm or more of rain, and 1 day with more than 5 mm. The most recorded was 7.4 mm on the 25<sup>th</sup>. There was a shower of hail on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Sunshine was above average with 158.9 hrs (average for March is 114.9); the most recorded was 9.7 hours on the 10<sup>th</sup>. There was only 1 day when the sun didn't shine at all.

The mean maximum and minimum temperatures were above average with 10.2°C (+0.27) and 2.9°C (+0.27) respectively. The highest maximum temperature was 14.9°C on the 7<sup>th</sup> and the lowest minimum was -1.3°C on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We had 4 air frosts and 15 ground frosts.

Note: the average refers to the 30 year means 1981-2010.

## Weather Summary for April 2015.

April continues with last month's theme by remaining relatively sunny, dry and warm for the time of year.

Rainfall was 31.0 mm, 24.05 mm below average. We had 14 days with 0.2 mm or more of rain, and 1 day with more than 5mm. The wettest day was the 25<sup>th</sup> with 9.4 mm.

Sunshine was above average with 231.7 hours (+70.5); the most was 13.3 hours on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There was sunshine recorded on every day and April 2015 was the 7<sup>th</sup> sunniest at Rothamsted since records began in 1891.

The average maximum temperature was above average at 14.5 °C (+1.85) and the mean minimum a little below average at 4.0 °C (-0.04). The warmest day was the 15<sup>th</sup> which reached 22.2 °C, and the coldest night was the 7<sup>th</sup> when it dropped to 0.3°C

We had no air frosts but 15 ground frosts.

Note: the average refers to the 30 year means 1981-2010.

## Weather Summary for May 2015.

May was relatively sunny and wet with just below average air temperature.

Rainfall was 68.4 mm, which is 13.75 mm above the mean. We had 19 days with 0.2 mm or more of rain and 4 days with more than 5.0 mm. The most was 15.8 mm on the 14<sup>th</sup> May.

Sunshine was above average with 203.4 hrs. (+8.79 hrs.); the most was 12.4 hours on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Sunshine was recorded on every day in May.

The average maximum temperature for May was below average at 15.5°C (-0.53°C) and the average minimum was above average at 7.0°C (+0.12°C). The highest temperature was 20.1°C on the 11<sup>th</sup>; the lowest temperature was 2.1°C on the night of the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We had 6 ground frosts and no air frosts.

## Weather Summary for June 2015.

June 2015 was relatively dry and sunny but with overall temperatures a little below average.

Rainfall was 26.7 mm, which is 26.55 mm below the mean. We had 12 days with 0.2 mm or more of rain, of which two days had more than 5.0 mm. The most was 11.5 mm on both the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Sunshine was above average with 227.9 hours (average for June is 198.2 hours); the most was 15.0 hours on the 11<sup>th</sup> and the sun shone on all but 1 day.

The mean maximum temperature was above average with 19.5 °C (+0.33°C) and the mean minimum was below with 9.2°C (-0.58°C). The highest maximum recorded was 28.5°C on the 30<sup>th</sup> and the lowest minimum was 4.8°C on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

There were 3 ground frosts.

Note: the average refers to the 30 year means 1981-2010.

## Weather Summary for July 2015.

July's rainfall was especially high with most of this being recorded on 4 days. One night in particular (the 16<sup>th</sup>) was most memorable due to the high intensity which was accompanied by an electrical storm. July was relatively sunny with temperatures just below average, even with the hottest July day ever recorded at Rothamsted.

Rainfall was well above average, with 132.6 mm, which is 82.7 mm above the mean. We had 17 days with 0.2mm or more of rain, and 4 of these had more than 5 mm. The greatest rainfall was 57.1 mm recorded on the 16<sup>th</sup>. It was the 6<sup>th</sup> wettest July since records began in 1853.

Sunshine was above average with 210.4 hrs. 5.2 mm above the average. The most was 13.1 hours on the 9<sup>th</sup> and there was sunshine recorded all but one day.

The average maximum and minimum temperatures were below average with 21.4° C (-0.40) and 11.7°C (-0.15) respectively. The warmest day reached 33.4°C on the 1<sup>st</sup>. The lowest minimum temperature was 6.51°C on the 31<sup>st</sup>. July's highest temperature was the highest July maximum since Rothamsted records began in 1878.

We had no air or ground frosts.

Note: the average refers to the 30 year means 1981-2010.

## Weather Summary for August 2015.

August was relatively cool, cloudy and wet for the time of year.

Rainfall was above average with 83.2 mm (+19.49mm). We had 15 days with 0.2mm or more of rain, 6 of which had more than 5.0 mm; the most was 19.0 mm on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

The mean maximum temperatures was below average at 20.5°C (-1.10) and the mean minimum above at 12.1°C (+0.29). The highest temperature was 28.3°C on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the lowest was 7.1°C on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Sunshine was below average with 141.2 hours which is 55 hours below average. The sun shone on 28 days and the sunniest day was the 2<sup>nd</sup> with 11.7 hours.

There were no frosts.

Note: the average refers to the 30 year means 1981-2010.



## Weather Summary for September 2015.

September was relatively cool, dry and sunny for the time of year.

Rainfall was 45.5 mm, which is 12.18 mm below average. We had 20 days with 0.2 mm or more of rain and 2 with over 5 mm. The most was 15.2 mm on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

Sunshine was 154.4 hrs which is 10.96 hrs above average. The sun shone on every day and the most recorded was 10.8 hours on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

The mean maximum and minimum temperatures were below average with 16.9°C (-1.38) and 8.5°C (-1.47) respectively. The highest (daytime) temperature was 19.9°C on the 11<sup>th</sup> and the lowest (night) temperature was 3.7°C on the 6<sup>th</sup>.

4 ground frosts were recorded.

Note: the average refers to the 30 year means 1981-2010.

## Weather Summary for October 2015.

October was warmer, drier and cloudier than average.

Rainfall was 64.6 mm which is 17.04 mm below average. We had 21 days with 0.2 mm or more of rain and 5 with over 5.0 mm. The greatest fall was 15.2 mm which fell on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Sunshine was below average with 94.2 hrs; (average for October is 111.7) the most was 9.1 hours on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. There were 4 days with no sunshine.

October temperatures were above average with the mean maximum and minimums being recorded as 14.2°C (+0.16) and 7.8°C (+0.71) respectively. The highest temperature was 18.2°C on the 6<sup>th</sup> and the lowest was 2.0°C also on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

There were 5 ground frosts.

Note: the average refers to the 30 year means 1981-2010.

## Weather Summary for November 2015.

November was notably warm for the time of year. It was also cloudier and wetter than average.

Rainfall was 84 mm, which is 7.40 mm above average. We had 26 days with 0.2 mm or more of rain, and 8 days with over 5 mm. The most was 7.7 mm on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Sunshine was below average with 46.4 hours (-24.30); the most was 7.9 hours on the 1<sup>st</sup>. We had 4 days with no sun at all.

The maximum and minimum mean air temperatures were both above average with 12.3°C (+2.57) and 6.6°C (+2.79) respectively. The warmest day reached 16.9°C on the 1<sup>st</sup>. The lowest minimum was -2.3°C on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The overall average air temperature was the second highest we have recorded, as were the average max and min temperatures. Records for temperature began in 1878

We had 3 air frosts and 5 ground frosts.

Note: the average refers to the 30 year means 1981-2010.

## Weather Summary for December 2015.

December was notably warm for the time of year with record breaking high December temperatures for the second year running. Rainfall was above average and sunshine was below average.

Rainfall was 81.8 mm, which is 12.29 mm above average. We had 24 days where at least 0.2 mm was recorded, 5 of these with at least 5 mm. The most was 15.4 mm on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Sunshine was below average with 48.2 hrs. (Average for December is 53.8). The most sunshine was 6.6 hours on the 9<sup>th</sup>. We had 6 days without any sun at all.

December had above average mean maximum and minimum temperatures. The mean maximum was 12.5°C (+5.56) and the mean minimum was 7.3°C (+5.66). The highest maximum temperature was 15.3°C on the 19<sup>th</sup> and the coldest night (lowest minimum) dropped to 1.6°C on the 25<sup>th</sup>. This was the warmest December on record with maximum, minimum and overall average temperature, all being the highest ever recorded at Rothamsted (records began in 1878).

We had no air frosts and 3 ground frosts.

Note: the average refers to the 30 year means 1981-2010.

## Weather Summary for 2015

### *Rainfall*

2015 had above average rainfall with 780.5 mm recorded; the annual average is 733.0 mm. It rained (0.2 mm or more) on 230 days. The most on one day was 57.1 mm on 16<sup>th</sup> of July and the wettest month was July with 132.6 mm. The driest month was March with 26.1mm. Of the twelve months, five had below average rainfall.

### *Sunshine*

Total Hours of Sunshine was above average with 1692.9 hours. The average is 1592.3 hours. The 'sunniest' month was June with 227.9 hours.

### *Temperature*

The overall mean temperature for the year was above average at 10.5°C (The average is 9.80). The mean maximum and minimum temperatures were above average with 14.3°C (+0.7) and 6.6°C (+0.6) respectively. The hottest day was the 1<sup>st</sup> of July reaching 33.4°C and the coldest night was the 23rd of January dropping to -5.5°C. We had 91 ground frosts (69 in 2014).

Note: the average refers to the 30 year means 1981-2010.