Weather Summary for September 2018.  
  
September was sunny and mainly dry with oscillating periods of warm and cool temperatures. We experienced our first ground frosts of the Autumn as well.  
  
Rainfall was 51.0 mm, which is 6.63 mm below the average. We had 12 days with 0.2 mm or more of rain and 4 with over 5 mm. The most was 16.4 mm on the 20th.  
  
Sunshine was 188.2 hrs which is 44.77 hrs above average. There was only 1 day without sunshine and the most recorded was 11.6 hours on the 2nd.  
  
The mean maximum temperature was warmer than average at 19.0 °C (+0.67°C) and minimum temperature cooler than average at 9.2 °C (-0.69 °C). The highest (daytime) temperature was 24.0 ºC on the 17th and the lowest (night) temperature was 2.0 ºC on the 25th.   
  
There were 5 ground frost recorded.

Weather Summary for October 2018.  
  
October was relatively sunny and dry for the time of year with fluctuating, close to average temperatures.  
  
Rainfall was 71.0 mm which is 10.68 mm below average. We had 18 days with 0.2 mm or more of rain and 3 with over 5.0 mm. The greatest fall was 31.4 mm which fell on the 14th.   
  
Sunshine was above average with 141.1 hrs (average for October is 111.7); the most was 9.7 hours on the 9th. There were 3 days without sunshine.  
  
The October mean maximum temperature was above average at 14.9 ºC (+0.83) and mean minimum was below average at 6.9ºC (-0.21). The highest temperature was 22.8ºC on the 13th and the lowest was -2.6ºC on the 31st.   
  
There were 8 ground frosts.

Weather Summary for November 2018.  
  
November was relatively warm, dry and sunny for the time of year.   
  
Rainfall was 63.8 mm which is 12.83 mm below average. We had 21 days with 0.2 mm or more of rain, and 6 days with over 5 mm. The most was 13 mm on the 10th.  
  
Sunshine was above average with 80.9 hours (+10.11); the most was 8.6 hours on the 2nd. There were 8 days without sunshine.  
  
The maximum and minimum mean air temperatures were both above average with 10.8°C (+1.06) and 4.9°C (+1.13) respectively. The warmest day reached 14.8°C on the 6th and the lowest minimum was -1.9°C on the 22nd.   
  
We had 1 air frost and 7 ground frosts.

Weather Summary for December 2018.  
  
December was very mild for the time of year as well as having above average sunshine and rainfall.   
  
Rainfall was 75.0 mm, which is 5.48 mm above average. We had 21 days where at least 0.2 mm of rain was recorded, 7 of these with at least 5 mm. The most was 10.6 mm on the 18th.  
  
Sunshine was above average with 57.0 hrs. (Average for December is 53.8). The most sunshine was 6.5 hours on the 13th. We had 9 days with no sunshine recorded.  
  
December had above average mean maximum and minimum temperatures. The mean maximum was 9.3°C (+2.38) and the mean minimum was 3.7°C (+2.01). The highest maximum temperature was 13.7°C on the 2nd and the lowest minimum was -2.1°C on the 25th.  
  
We had 5 air frosts and 12 ground frosts.  
  
Note: the average refers to the 30 year means 1981-2010.

Weather Summary for 2018.  
  
Rainfall  
2018 had below average rainfall with 683.3 mm recorded; the annual average is 733.0 mm. It rained (0.2 mm or more) on 192 days. The most on one day was 31.4 mm on 14th of October and the wettest month was March with 78.5 mm. The driest month was June with 3.7 mm. Of the twelve months, six had below average rainfall.  
  
Sunshine  
Total Hours of Sunshine was above average with 1864.7 hours. The average is 1592.3 hours. The ‘sunniest’ month was July with 294.4 hours. 2018 was the second sunniest year recorded at Rothamsted (since 1891)  
  
Temperature  
The overall mean temperature for the year was above average at 10.7°C (The average is 9.80). 2018 ranks as the 4th warmest year on record with only 2002, 2006, 2011 and 2014 being warmer. The mean maximum and minimum temperatures were above average with 14.8ºC (+1.19) and 6.6ºC (+0.67) respectively. The hottest day was the 26th of July reaching 32.4 and the coldest night was the 1st of March which dropped to -6.8ºC. We had 102 ground frosts (107 in 2017).

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