

CLIMATOLOGICAL TABLE—Summary of the Records of Temperature, Rainfall, and Sunshine for December 1978—continued
LATE RETURNS AND CORRECTIONS—continued

Station	Height of Station Above M.S.L.	Air Temperatures in Degrees Celsius								Rainfall in Millimetres					Bright Sunshine
		Means of		Mean of A and B	Difference From Normal	Absolute Maximum and Minimum				Total Fall	No. of Rain Days	Difference From Normal	Maximum Fall		
		A Max.	B Min.			Maximum	Date	Minimum	Date				Amount	Date	
	Metres	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C		°C		mm		mm	mm		Hrs
Portland Island, November 1978	78	17.5	12.5	15.0	−0.1	22.3	23	8.6	17	14	9	−29	8	11	..
Kapiti Island, October 1978	16	15.4	8.9	12.2	−0.3	18.1	29	6.0	2	113	13	+14	39	19	..
Wharite Peak, November 1978	814	11.9	4.8	8.4	+0.2	18.7	30	0.6	5	183	15	+20	96	11	..
Kairanga, Palmerston North November 1978	15	18.7	8.5	13.6	−0.2	25.5	30	0.0	5	70	11	..	33	11	227
Taita, Lower Hutt, November 1978	65	17.4	10.1	13.8	+0.2	24.6	30	1.3	6	103	9	−1	44	10	235
Somes Island, November 1978	43	16.6	10.5	13.6	..	24.5	30	4.0	6	68	9	..	21	10	..
Cape Egmont, November 1978	8	17.9	11.1	14.5	+0.2	20.9	29	2.3	6	65	12	−37	22	11	..
Kahui, Taihape, November 1978	518	18.2	8.0	13.1	+0.3	25.7	29	0.9	6	78	12	..	27	11	..
Karamea, November 1978	5	16.4	10.0	13.2	..	19.3	21	6.6	26	132	..	..	23	14	..
Totara Flat, November 1978	77	18.3	8.0	13.2	+0.3	26.0	30	2.4	6	161	17	−27	30	23	..
Hari Hari, November 1978	45	16.6	7.8	12.2	+0.0	22.0	30	0.5	16	279	18	−140	33	14	..
Puysegur Point, November 1978	43	13.9	..	..	..	20.9	9	..	..	181	25	−22	67	22	..
The Hermitage, Mount Cook November 1978	765	16.1	5.6	10.9	+0.5	26.1	27	−1.2	16	381	13	−18	70	14	171
Craigieburn Forest, November 1978	914	16.2	3.7	10.0	+0.5	25.8	30	−4.3	27	112	17	−28	29	14	..
Waipara, November 1978	64	20.1	8.8	14.5	..	29.5	28	2.5	15	25	7	..	10	15	..
Rangiora, November 1978	46	19.7	7.2	13.5	+0.1	30.2	20	0.5	6	31	6	−17	9	15	..
Lincoln, November 1978 ..	11	19.1	7.7	13.4	+0.3	29.4	28	1.6	6	37	8	−16	13	15	227
Adair, November 1978 ..	85	18.8	8.0	13.4	+0.7	27.4	28	3.0	16	28	6	−28	13	12	..
Tara Hills, Omarama, November 1978	488	18.9	5.9	12.4	+0.5	28.9	27	0.8	25	49	8	+1	12	14	258
Herbert Forest, November 1978	61	19.0	5.8	12.4	+0.9	26.5	19	2.5	16	25	6	−62	11	12	..
Ophir, November 1978 ..	305	19.3	5.4	12.4	+0.0	28.3	30	−0.3	5	25	5	−13	8	14	..
Moa Creek, September 1978	427	12.4	−0.8	5.8	−0.2	16.0	22	−6.1	4	50	..	+27	..	..	..
Moa Creek, October 1978 ..	427	15.8	2.3	9.1	+0.1	22.0	28	−3.0	24	90	..	+54	64	13	..
Moa Creek, November 1978	427	18.8	4.1	11.5	+0.7	29.0	30	−1.4	15	24	5	−14	7	1	..
Alexandra, November 1978	141	20.9	8.1	14.5	+0.7	30.9	30	1.8	15	25	11	−8	8	22	257
Mahinerangi Dam, November 1978	396	16.0	5.1	10.6	+0.5	25.8	27	−1.6	15	38	12	−51	9	15	..
Nugget Point, November 1978	129	15.3	6.8	11.1	+0.4	25.3	19	2.1	16	59	15	−20	10	15	..
Tautuku, November 1978	61	16.9	7.0	12.0	..	25.3	20	2.8	2	96	..	..	15	3	..
Waitangi, Chatham Island, November 1978	44	14.2	8.7	11.5	−0.1	18.3	21	3.5	4	21	14	−40	6	12	134
Campbell Island, November 1978	15	9.9	4.8	7.4	+0.2	13.9	20	−0.3	15	120	24	+13	21	29	60
Nandi Airport, Fiji, November 1978	15	30.5	20.5	25.5	−0.5	33.8	16	17.7	11	76	13	..	47	24	246
Totokoitu, Rarotonga, November 1978	9	25.9	22.0	24.0	..	29.0	1	20.0	16	637	21	..	151	5	..

The "normal" refers to the present site of the instruments. Standard period for normals is 1941–1970. No normals are available for stations with only short records.

*Indicates that the sunshine recorder is not located at the station but is in the near vicinity.

A rain day is a day with rainfall equal to or greater than 0.1 mm.

Where the extremes of temperature and rainfall have occurred more than once during the month, the date of the first occurrence is given

WEATHER NOTES FOR DECEMBER 1978

General—December was the first month since July with pressures below normal over the whole of New Zealand. Winds were predominantly westerly during the month, with a period of strong northwest winds on the 21st and 22nd. Most of the country experienced warm, dry, sunny conditions, but some areas in the South Island were slightly wetter than usual. Some rain early in the month produced good grass growth in most areas, but towards the end of the month farmers reported that conditions were becoming dry. Haymaking was delayed by wet weather but progressed well towards the end of the month, with good crops in most areas. Stock was reported to be in good condition, with dairy production above average.

Rainfall—The only areas with rainfall appreciably above normal were Canterbury, Otago and parts of Southland. Parts of Poverty Bay and Hawke's Bay had less than 50 percent of their normal month's rainfall. In Canterbury and Otago some districts had

more than double the usual December total. The highest totals were in Christchurch and Banks Peninsula area. Christchurch Airport recorded their highest December total since the station began in 1943.

On the 10th heavy rain caused flooding in parts of South Canterbury and North Otago. Snow was reported in Central Otago down to 1300 m. At Naseby snow was lying to a depth of 7.5 cm. Roads south of Timaru were flooded when 28 mm of rain fell in the period from 1 p.m. on the 10th to 5 a.m. on the 11th. Areas of Canterbury had a severe thunderstorm on the afternoon of the 10th during which 13 mm was recorded in 10 minutes at Christchurch Airport.

Between noon and 1 p.m. on the 10th a severe thunderstorm passed over the Wellington area, and 16 mm was recorded at Kelburn in this period. A 10-minute fall of more than 12 mm was measured, which has only been exceeded once before since the station began in 1928, and this occurred in 1935.