

THE WEATHER IN NEW ZEALAND IN SEPTEMBER 1986

General—This September it was wetter than normal in some northern regions of the North Island, and in most eastern regions of the country.

Strong winds occurred with only half their normal frequency for September over the north of the North Island. South-westerly winds prevailed with almost twice their normal frequency over the North Island for September. Westerlies prevailed over the South Island, with little variation from normal.

Mean sea level pressures ranged from 2 hPa below normal at Invercargill to almost 5 hPa below normal at New Plymouth.

Many farmers noted that pasture growth was slow this month. There was also a high incidence of lamb losses in Hawkes Bay.

One event of significance this month was that of a small tornado which caused damage to approximately one thousand properties in Auckland City on the afternoon of the 8th.

Rainfall—Rainfall was above normal for September in Whangarei, Gisborne, Hawke Bay (where up to 200 percent of normal rainfall was recorded), Marlborough, Nelson and Canterbury. Heavy rain

NOTE: Amendment to 'The Weather in New Zealand in June 1986'. Due to an error in data, the mention of -12°C at The Hermitage (Mount Cook) on 13 June is now not valid.

occurred at Whangarei Airport in the 48 hours of 9 a.m. on the 21st, when just over 150 mm was recorded.

It was much drier than usual in Otago, where total rainfall was only 30 to 50 percent of normal in most places.

Temperature—Mean daily temperatures for September were near average throughout New Zealand, being slightly colder than usual in inland and east coast regions, and slightly higher than usual in Auckland, Bay of Plenty, Buller and Westland.

Sunshine—Up to 20 percent above normal sunshine for September was recorded in places on the west coast of the North Island from Taranaki to Wellington, and in Nelson, North Canterbury and Southland.

To date this year Kelburn (Wellington) has had 14 percent more sunshine than normal, each month being sunnier than usual.

Hours of bright sunshine were 10 percent below average in the Bay of Plenty.

J. S. HICKMAN, Director.