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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE
CY-1418 NICOSIA

5 February 2003

MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

THE WEATHER IN JANUARY 2003

General Weather Conditions: In January the weather was relatively warm and dry. Unstable weather conditions prevailed during the periods 1-4, 14-15 and 17-30 of the month giving rain, hail, thundery showers and snow over the Troodos mountains. The mean air temperature for the month was about 2,5 °C above normal, while the area average precipitation was well below normal.

Abnormal Weather Conditions: Severe thunderstorms accompanied by strong tornadoes occurred in Limassol in the morning of the 27th of January 2003, causing severe damages to properties. The tornadoes were observed originally as a number of funnel clouds (water spouts) in the sea, and then crossed Limassol area between 09.30 to 09.40 a.m., causing damages to properties in the suburbs of Zakaki, Polemidhia and Omonia.

On the same day a second tornado struck Kiti-Pervolia area in Larnaka district. The tornado was recorded between 10.00 and 11.00 a.m. causing again damages to properties.

Precipitation: According to preliminary estimates the area average precipitation in January was about 62 mm, i.e. 60% of normal. Precipitation was below normal in most areas and ranged mainly between 40 and 80% of normal. Hail was recorded in various locations on the 23rd, 27th and 29th of the month. Snow fell on the Troodos mountains on the 14th, 15th, 19th and 20th of the month.

The cumulative area average precipitation during the period October-January was about 250 mm i.e. 85% of normal. The cumulative precipitation was below normal in most areas and ranged mainly between 75 and 95% of normal.

Temperature: The mean air temperature for the month was about 2,5 °C above normal. Mean daily temperatures were above normal during most of the month. The greater deviations above normal occurred during the period 5-13 of the month when maximum and minimum temperatures were on the average 4 °C above normal. Most stations recorded their highest maximum temperature on the 11th of the month and their lowest minimum temperature on the 16th of the month. Slight air and ground frost was recorded on the high mountainous areas.

The 5-day averages of air temperature and their differences from normal at various places are shown in Table 1 and the extreme temperatures are shown in Table 2.

JANUARY 2003

FIVE-DAY TEMPERATURES AND DIFFERENCES FROM NORMAL (C)
(Preliminary Data)

M E A N M A X I M U M									
STATION	LEFCOSIA		LARNAKA A/P		PAFOS A/P		PRODRAMOS		MEAN
DATES	ACTUAL	DIF/NCE	ACTUAL	DIF/NCE	ACTUAL	DIF/NCE	ACTUAL	DIF/NCE	DIF/NCE
1- 5	18	3	19	2	19	2	7	1	2
6-10	20	4	20	4	20	3	13	7	4
11-15	18	3	20	3	20	3	12	6	4
16-20	15	0	18	1	17	0	5	0	0
21-25	16	1	17	1	18	2	8	2	1
26-31	18	2	19	3	19	2	7	1	2
MONTH	17	2	19	2	19	2	9	3	2

M E A N M I N I M U M									
STATION	LEFCOSIA		LARNAKA A/P		PAFOS A/P		PRODRAMOS		MEAN
DATES	ACTUAL	DIF/NCE	ACTUAL	DIF/NCE	ACTUAL	DIF/NCE	ACTUAL	DIF/NCE	DIF/NCE
1- 5	10	4	11	3	13	4	3	2	3
6-10	9	3	12	4	11	2	6	5	4
11-15	10	4	11	3	12	4	5	4	4
16-20	8	2	8	1	9	2	1	1	1
21-25	9	4	10	2	10	2	2	2	3
26-31	7	2	9	2	10	2	2	2	2
MONTH	9	3	10	2	11	3	3	3	3

Table No. 1

STATION	EXTREME TEMPERATURES							
	LEFCOSIA		LARNAKA A/P		PAFOS A/P		PRODRAMOS	
	C	DATE	C	DATE	C	DATE	C	DATE
HIGHEST	21,3	6	21,6	13	24,0	11	19,0	11
MAXIMUM								
LOWEST	5,4	19	7,0	16	5,8	16	0,0	16
MINIMUM								

Table No. 2