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

4 April 2003

MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

THE WEATHER IN MARCH 2003

General Weather Conditions: In March the weather was relatively cool and wet. Unstable weather conditions prevailed during the periods 1-12, 17-19, 21-25 and 29-31 of the month giving rain, hail, thundery showers and snow over the Troodos mountains. The mean air temperature for the month was about 1.5°C below normal, while the area average precipitation was well above normal.

Precipitation: According to preliminary estimates the area average precipitation in March was about 98 mm, i.e. 158% of normal. Precipitation was above normal in most areas and ranged mainly between 120 and 300% of normal. However, precipitation was below normal in isolated parts of the western coastal areas and ranged between 70 and 90% of normal. Hail was recorded in various locations on the 11th, 17th, 19th, 21th, 25th and during the period 29-31 of the month. Snow fell on the Troodos mountains on the 2nd, 5th, 11th, 17th, 19th, 23rd, 24th, 25th and on the 31st of the month.

The cumulative area average precipitation during the period October-March was about 504 mm i.e. 115% of normal. The cumulative precipitation was slightly above normal in most areas and ranged mainly between 100 and 150% of normal.

Temperature: The mean air temperature for the month was about 1.5°C below normal. Mean daily temperatures were below normal almost throughout the month. The greater deviations below normal occurred during the period 21-26 of the month when maximum and minimum temperatures were on the average 4 to 7 °C below normal. Most stations recorded their highest maximum temperature during the period 15-16 of the month and their lowest minimum temperature either on the 1st or on the 25th of the month.

Slight ground frost was recorded in the plain areas. However, air and ground frosts were more frequent in the mountainous areas. Air frost occurred at Prodrornos on 13 occasions, while ground frost occurred on 23 occasions.

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.

METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE

PROVISIONAL PRECIPITATION (mm) FOR THE MONTH MARCH 2003

Station Name	Normal (61-90)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Total (mm)	(%) of Normal
Lefkosia	37.8		1.2	2.9	2.2	19.4	0.7				TR	2.5						9.5	16.5	3.2		1.4	TR	2.7	0.7	2.0				0.1	7.2	72.2	191%	
Peristerona	40.5		4.8	3.6	2.0	3.2	5.3					▲*	58.5					▲*	15.0	9.6	2.0		2.4	2.7		1.2				2.6	7.8	120.7	298%	
Athienou	37.2		TR	3.8	24.0	27.3	10.5	0.5				TR						▲*	15.0	9.0	2.7	2.8		3.7	2.7	1.3				8.0		111.3	299%	
Xylofagou	30.8		1.1	2.9	TR	10.5	1.0			3.4		0.1						▲*	20.4	9.2	6.4		←	14.4	→	5.2						74.6	242%	
Paralimni	35.0		1.4	10.0	0.2	19.0	2.2	TR		0.5	TR	0.1						▲*	23.4	14.5	2.7		←	12.7	→	5.1	0.1		0.1			92.0	263%	
Larnaca(Airport)	39.0		0.5	6.1	0.6	25.8	1.3	0.2		1.4	0.1				0.2			10.0	12.6	0.1			10.6	8.3	5.6			0.1	0.2			83.7	215%	
Limassol	49.1		1.0	5.6	1.1	8.3	0.4				0.1							13.4	3.9	5.3		TR	TR	6.4	3.2	1.5			4.3			54.5	111%	
Pafos (Airport)	49.0		0.3	0.1	1.1	9.9	2.4	1.1	1.0									29.0	15.0	0.1		4.7		3.7	2.2	0.2						70.8	144%	
Asprokremmos	51.0		0.2	0.4	9.6	18.5	3.0	←	2.6	→								27.1	8.5	TR		←	8.0	→	←	1.5	→					79.4	156%	
Polis(Chrysochous)	62.5				1.8	4.7	3.7			2.5		1.0						5.7	8.0	4.0		1.5	5.2	14.3		2.7						55.1	88%	
Agros	83.7		1.6	7.3	1.7	19.0	5.5					1.2	TR					21.0	39.0	5.0		2.5		3.8	7.7	4.3			5.2	4.7	12.0	141.7	169%	
Platania	112.5		1.8	5.5	4.2	30.5	4.4				0.4	7.5	1.8					14.2	33.6	9.0		1.2	0.1	9.8	*	**			0.2	2.7	11.0	167.9	149%	
Prodromos(C.F.C.)	120.4		4.8	1.2	1.6	14.3	4.1		0.9		TR	14.2		TR				▲*	21.3	39.2	13.6	TR	3.2	1.3	17.4	10.0	12.2			TR	14.5	23.6	197.4	164%
Stavros Psokas	116.6		0.7	2.3	3.0	7.7	9.6		1.0	0.5	0.5	6.9						9.4	34.0	12.6		3.5	2.5	24.5	3.0	8.6			4.8			135.1	116%	
Pano Panayia	102.0			1.7	4.8	17.4	3.9	0.8	1.4	0.5		0.8						14.7	21.5	5.6		0.2	0.5	14.1	2.2	0.5			TR	58.8	4.5	153.9	151%	
Koilani	93.6				3.5	17.5	4.0					2.0						▲*	24.5	30.0	5.0		←	10.5	→	**	**		9.5	13.0	10.0	141.8	151%	
Komos	57.9		1.6	16.6	4.8	23.5	11.4				1.5							27.1	15.9	0.8		0.8	3.7	4.0	8.6							120.3	208%	
Lythrodondas	53.0		2.1	2.0	6.1	5.4	24.0	9.0			8.7	3.3						12.2	15.0	1.1		1.5	1.6	2.0	4.9	0.6			0.1			99.6	188%	
Panayia Bridge	51.6		1.0	7.9	9.0	0.8	7.9	3.5			0.2	1.2						9.9	24.3	1.1				3.4	2.0	1.6			1.5	12.7		88.0	171%	
Lefkara Dam	68.0		1.7	6.9	9.4	35.5	10.1	←	3.5	→								14.7	19.2	1.1		←	5.1	→	←	6.7	→		←	4.7	→	0.5	119.1	175%
Akrotiri	42.2		0.2	10.0	0.6	28.6	TR		TR									8.0	8.0	9.0		3.6	0.6	13.0	0.8	TR						82.4	195%	
Kellaki	66.4	TR	0.8	3.8	5.6	18.4	7.0	TR					8.0					▲*	36.6	20.5	2.5		▲*	0.8	4.9	7.5	8.0		2.3	1.4	13.6	141.7	213%	
Mean Precipit. (area under govern. control)	61.9		1.5	4.5	3.0	14.5	4.0				1.5	3.5						16.0	17.5	4.0			11.0		7.0			5.0	4.5	4.5	97.5	158%		

* snow ▲ hail ● rain TR: Traces printed 04/04/2003