

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
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CY-1418 NICOSIA

02 March 2023

MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

THE WEATHER IN JANUARY 2023

General Weather Conditions: In January the weather was dry and hot. Unstable weather conditions prevailed during the periods 6-7, 10-17 and 27-31 of the month, giving rain, local thunderstorms, strong winds, hail and snowfall over mountainous areas. The mean air temperature was about 2.5°C above normal and the area average precipitation was 82.5mm i.e 81% of normal.

Severe Weather conditions: On the 10-17th of the month, prolonged torrential rains affected almost the whole of Cyprus, causing unprecedented flooding in the Famagusta district, which turned into a Venice-flooded state. (On 13/1 there was 147.7 mm of rain in Cape Greko and 110 in Ayia Napa). The intense and prolonged precipitation caused heavy flooding and, therefore, great damage to roads, houses, hotels, shops, plantations and crops mainly in free Famagusta - in Ayia Napa, Protaras, Paralimni. Some houses and roads were also flooded in Dromolaxia - Meneu. The severe weather caused problems in the electricity supply and the road network. Human lives put at risk as they were trapped in the flooded roads in Famagusta area in at least 35 cases. There were landslides mainly in the mountainous areas of Limassol and Paphos and in parts of the highway. On the 12th of the month, a waterspout was observed in the sea of Kapparis and in Protaras. On the 13th of the month, the Serrachis river started to flow in Peristerona.

Precipitation (normal period: 1961-1990): According to preliminary estimates the area average precipitation in January was 82.5mm i.e 81% of normal. Monthly precipitation generally varied between 33% (Stroumbi) and 318% (Ayia Napa) of normal.

Snowfall occurred on the 12th and 29-31st (Amiantos), 12-14th and 29-31st (Troodos, Pedoulas, Prodromos, Ag. Theodoros Agrou) of the month.

Hail occurred on the 11th (Troodos, Platania) and 12th (Stavrovoni) of the month.

The cumulative area average precipitation during the period October 2022-January 2023 was about 268.5mm, i.e 91% of normal. The cumulative precipitation varied between 60% (Kannaviou) and 164% (Ayia Napa) of normal.

Temperature (normal period: 1981-2010): The mean air temperature for the month was about 2.5°C above normal. The mean daily temperatures were below normal during the periods 10-11 and 30-31 of the month, whereas the rest of the month mean daily temperatures were above or around normal. Maximum temperatures exceeded 16°C at Athalassa and Larnaka Airport in 26 and 129 occasions respectively. In Paphos they exceeded 17°C in 29 occasions. At Prodromos they exceeded 6°C in 25 occasions. Most stations recorded their highest maximum temperature during the period 4,6 and 23 of the month and their lowest minimum temperature on the 10,18 and 31 of the month.

Air frost was not recorded, whereas ground frost was recorded in 16 occasions over the mountainous areas in 13 occasions inland and zero in the coastal areas.

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

JANUARY 2023

FIVE - DAY TEMPERATURES AND DEVIATIONS FROM NORMAL (° C)

PRELIMINARY DATA

Table 1

MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM									
STATION	ATHALASSA		LARNAKA AIRPORT		PAFOS AIRPORT		PRODROMOS		MEAN DEV.
DATES	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	
1--5	21	5	21	4	21	3	10	3	4
6--10	20	4	19	2	20	2	9	3	3
11--15	15	-1	17	1	17	0	6	0	0
16--20	19	3	19	3	20	3	9	3	3
21--25	21	6	21	4	21	4	11	6	5
26-31	18	3	19	3	19	2	8	2	2
MONTH	19	3	19	3	19	2	9	3	3

MEAN DAILY MINIMUM									
STATION	ATHALASSA		LARNAKA AIRPORT		PAFOS AIRPORT		PRODROMOS		MEAN DEV.
DATES	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	
1--5	5	-1	11	3	9	0	4	2	1
6--10	4	-1	9	2	10	2	3	2	1
11--15	9	3	12	5	12	3	2	2	3
16--20	6	1	10	3	9	1	1	1	1
21--25	5	0	10	2	9	1	4	3	2
26-31	5	0	9	2	10	2	2	2	1
MONTH	6	0	10	3	10	2	3	2	2

Normal Period For Temperature = 1981 - 2010

Table 2

EXTREME TEMPERATURES								
STATION	ATHALASSA		LARNAKA AIRPORT		PAFOS AIRPORT		PRODROMOS	
TEMPERAT.	(° C)	DATE	(° C)	DATE	(° C)	DATE	(° C)	DATE
HIGHEST MAXIMUM	21.8	6	22.5	4	21.9	4	13.3	23
LOWEST MINIMUM	1.6	10	6.1	31	8.1	10	-0.3	18