

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT OF METEOROLOGY
CY-1418 NICOSIA**

11 April 2023

MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

THE WEATHER IN MARCH 2023

General Weather Conditions: In March the weather was relatively dry and warm. Unstable weather conditions prevailed during the periods 5-9, 12-19, 22-25 and 28-29 of the month, giving rain, local thunderstorms, hail, near gale to gale winds and snowfall over Troodos. The mean air temperature was approximately 2.0°C above normal and the area average precipitation was 55.2mm or 89% of normal.

Severe Weather conditions: During the periods 13-14 and 17-19 of the month, heavy rain, thunderstorms and hail affected the whole of Cyprus, mainly areas of Nicosia, Paphos and Limassol (the Nicosia-Limesos and Larnaca-Kofinou motorways), causing problems mainly to the drivers. On the 22nd and 28th of the month, the Argakas and Pomos dams overflowed even though the rain amount generally throughout Cyprus have not been satisfactory since October. Near gale to gale winds, with an intensity of 8 Beaufort prevailed locally throughout Cyprus including the Limassol-Paphos highway on the 28th-29th of the month, causing problems in electricity supply, drivers, transport, property and crops.

Precipitation (normal period: 1961-1990): According to preliminary estimates the average precipitation for March was 55.2mm or 89% of normal. Monthly precipitation was below or near normal in most areas and generally ranged between 29% (Peristerona) and 179% (Argaka) of normal.

Snowfall was recorded on the 19th (Troodos) of the month.

Hail was recorded during the periods 8-9 (Agios Theodoros Agrou), on the 10th (Saittas, Germasogeia), on the 13th Saittas, Troodos) and on the 19th (Pera Chorio, Alethriko) of the month.

The cumulative area average precipitation during the period October 2022 - March 2023 was approximately 387.4mm or 89% of normal. Generally, the cumulative precipitation was below normal to most areas, ranging from 60% (Stroumbi) and 144% (Agia Napa) of normal.

Temperature (normal period: 1981-2010): The mean air temperature for the month was 2.0°C above normal. The mean daily temperatures were above normal throughout the month except for the 9th, 14th, 18th, 20th, 22nd and 29th-31st of the month which were below or around normal. The maximum temperatures in Athalassa exceeded 20°C in 24 cases, in Larnaca and Paphos they exceeded 19 °C in 2 and 5 cases respectively, while in Prodromos they exceeded 10 °C in 19 cases. Most stations recorded their highest maximum temperature during the period 1st-3rd of the month and their lowest minimum temperature during the period 30th-31st of the month.

Air frost occurred in 2 cases in the mountainous areas, while ground frost occurred in 3 cases in the mountains and in 1 case inland and 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.

MARCH 2023

**FIVE DAYS 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	24	6	24	5	22	4	18	8	6
6--10	21	3	21	2	20	1	12	2	2
11--15	22	3	21	2	20	2	11	2	2
16--20	20	1	20	1	19	1	8	-2	0
21--25	22	2	22	2	20	1	13	3	2
26--31	20	-1	20	0	19	-1	11	-2	-1
MONTH	22	2	21	2	20	1	12	2	2

MEAN DAILY MINIMUM									
STATION	ATHALASSA		LARNAKA AIRPORT		PAFOS AIRPORT		PRODROMOS		MEAN DEV.
DATES	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	ACTUAL	DEV.	
1--5	7	1	11	3	11	2	8	5	3
6--10	8	1	9	1	10	2	3	1	1
11--15	8	1	11	3	11	2	4	2	2
16--20	8	1	11	3	11	2	2	-1	1
21--25	10	3	12	4	12	3	5	2	3
26--31	8	0	10	0	11	1	2	-2	0
MONTH	8	1	11	2	11	2	4	1	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	26.9	1	27.3	3	24.5	1	19.5	2
LOWEST MINIMUM	0.9	31	3.7	31	5.7	31	-2.4	30,31