



Weather Front

November 2018/1918

Observers Notes 2018.

Ely: A typical damp, gloomy November, albeit temperatures were a little above normal and rainfall was below.

Desford: Remaining very dry for the time of year, and still relatively mild.

Pitsford Hall: Very autumnal, with some cool, grey and damp days.

Mountsorrel: Another month following the pattern, since May, of drier conditions than usual, with High pressure dominating the weather and only short wet and unsettled spells in between.

Mickleover: The driest November since 2011 and the second driest since 2005. November 2018 saw the fewest November ground frosts since 2009.

Middleton: The mildest and dullest November since 2015, and the third consecutive drier than average one. There was a brief period of snow cover early on the 21st, but most had thawed by 0900.

Lowdham: November 2018 saw the lowest number of wet days since 2004.

Coton in the Elms: The mean temperature of 7.7 C made November the warmest since 2015, however the third week was cold!

Derby: Rather mild and rather dry; November 2018 was the fifth mildest on the station record (1952). From the 1st to the 18th maxima were 10 C or above; the longest such run in early to mid-November since 1994.

Saltfleetby: The three ground frosts occurred on the 22nd (-4.0 C), the 23rd (-3.0 C) and the 27th (-1.0 C).

Doddington Park (Lincoln): There were two air frosts noted (18th and 22nd), both were non-instrumental. Heavy rain was noted for much of the day on the 20th.

November 1918.

Damp, Misty and Foggy. ⁱ

Observers Notes.

Burton on Trent/Derby: Most of the local rainfall sites had between 35 and 45 mm of rain, with one at 51.6 mm; a little drier than normal. Maxima were around 13 C or 14 C on the 1st and 4th with minima around -5 C or -6 C on the 7th, 14th and 20th. Depending on location there were 14 to 16 air frosts. November 1918 was a rather cold month overall. ⁱⁱ

Brocklesby: The majority of the air frosts (11 occurred between the 12th and 23rd. ⁱⁱⁱ

The general tone of the month can best be illustrated from notes supplied by some of the observers.

Allan's Green, Northumberland: As a whole the month was fine and dry, but with severe frosts at night after the 10th. There was no snow, and cattle were out in the fields the whole time; but not much ploughing was done.

Kenninghall, Norfolk: The greater part of the month was exceptionally fine and dry, but with considerable frost at night. From the 5th to 27th the wind was light in force.

Weston Turville, Bucks: The first half of the month was very favourable for tillage, but after the break-up of the frosts the ground became sticky, the month closing with a good deal of mist.

Tenbury, Worcester: At the beginning and end of the month the weather was mild and damp, with frost and fog during the middle period. Owing to the wet air there was much surface moisture, which kept the soil wet and heavy, so that sowing of winter grain was much delayed.

Southport, Lancashire: There was a great deficiency of all northerly winds and more than twice the normal number of hours of south-easterly winds. The total evaporation from the 3 ft square tank was 3.5 mm, only half the November normal.

Sheepstor, Devon: From the 8th to 22nd was an extraordinarily fine time for November, with brilliant sunshine and very blue skies. The most remarkable feature was the almost entire absence of Cirrus clouds, which were observed only on the 8th and 12th, an absence associated with a persistence of winds in the upper regions of the air from south of West and East. After the 22nd, when the upper air backed to North-West and West, this type of cloud was rarely absent.

Dublin (City): The month was of an average mean temperature, unsettled at the beginning and also at the close, when South-West or West winds prevailed. The intervening period was fine and quiet, but often dull. Sharp frost occurred on the 19th. High barometer

readings were recorded from the 9th to the 21st, and there were very low readings on the 1st, 2nd and 4th. Snow, sleet and hail were entirely absent.

Carrigoran, Co. Clare: The first nine days of the month and the last eight were wet and gloomy; but the intervening days were quite dry and unusually clear, with severe night frosts occasionally. The dry spell enabled farmers to secure the potato crop, and also to clear off arrears of work in hay and harvest.

Hurdlestown, Co Clare: The month's rainfall was 3 mm above the normal, and the 'rain days' one below. As a whole the month was fairly fine, but with severe night frosts on three occasions.^{iv}

Temperatures, except in southern Ireland, were generally slightly below average, ranging from [-0.9 C] in eastern Scotland to [-0.1 C] in northern Scotland. The highest temperatures were recorded on the 1st or 2nd, with maxima of [16 C] being noted at a number of stations. Several stations recorded high minima on the 2nd, particularly at Portsmouth and Worthing where minimum temperatures of [13 C] were noted. Generally, the lowest temperatures occurred about the 18th to 20th with ground frosts, around this time, being particularly severe. There were also some very low minima, with [-2 C] being noted at Scaleby (Carlisle) on the 18th and [-3 C] at Mayfield (Staffordshire) on the 20th. The lowest temperature noted was [-9 C] at Balmoral, Braemar and Eskdalemuir on the morning of the 19th.

Rainfall, apart from western Scotland (109%), was below average, ranging from 63% in north-west England to 98% in Northern Ireland; the Midland Counties received 72% of average. Most of the high monthly totals were recorded in Scotland, as were the high daily totals. South of the border Beddgelert recorded 54 mm on the 10th and Ashburton 52 mm on the 4th. At Copper Mill and Intake, both in Snowdonia, 343 mm and 271 mm respectively were recorded.

Generally, mean daily amounts of sunshine were above average, ranging from +1.40 hours in northern Scotland to +3.11 hours at the English Channel stations.^v

Central England Data: November 1918.

Mean Maximum Temperature: 8.8 C, Average: 9.0 C.

Mean Minimum Temperature: 2.2 C, Average: 3.5 C.

Mean Temperature: 5.5 C, Average: 6.3 C.

England and Wales Rainfall: 66.3 mm, Average: 87.7 mm.

Midlands Data: November 1918.

Midlands Mean Maximum Temperature: 8.3 C.

Midlands Mean Minimum Temperature: 1.1 C.

Midlands Mean Temperature: 4.7 C.

Midlands Rainfall: 51.1 mm.

ⁱ Monthly Weather Report, Headline, Summary page, November 1918, HMSO, 1919,

ⁱⁱ D J Stanier, by email, 1/12/2018.

ⁱⁱⁱ Lincoln Record Office, YARB 14/2.

^{iv} MWR, Summary, November 1918, HMSO, 1919.

^v MWR, Summary, November 1918, HMSO, 1919.