

Monthly Weather Summary

The Weather of November 2006

Becoming wet after dry start; mild and sunny

High pressure over Ireland during the early part of November gave dry and sunny conditions with light winds, but deep depressions tracking northwest of the country during the remainder of the month brought some heavy rain and gales at times. Mean air temperatures for the month were around one degree higher than normal generally, despite a relatively cold first week; clear weather during this time allowed a rapid fall in temperatures at night, with air and ground frost developing in many areas. There was another short spell of cool weather just after mid-month, when wintry showers of hail or snow were recorded. Coastal stations recorded a total of between 1 and 7 ground frosts during the month, while there were between 12 and 16 ground frosts in most inland areas. These values are within the normal range for November, but Kilkenny measured a total of 23 ground frosts compared with its average value of 14. Rainfall totals for the month were above normal everywhere. Little or no rain was measured between the 1st and 6th, but some rainfall was recorded on each day thereafter. The wettest days of the month were the 15th and 30th; falls of between 15 and 40mm were widely recorded on the 15th and Kilkenny's value of 40.6mm on this day was its highest daily fall on record for November. The number of wetdays (days with 1mm or more rainfall) during the month was close to the normal range for November, with between 13 and 15 wetdays at most eastern and southern stations, while 20 to 23 wetdays were recorded in the west and southwest. Sunshine totals were well above normal almost everywhere and it was the sunniest November on record at Birr, Cork Airport and Dublin Airport. The first week was particularly sunny and Dublin recorded almost 9 hours of sunshine on the 1st, its highest November daily value on record and the highest for November at any station since 1968.

1st to 6th: An anticyclone over Ireland brought dry and settled weather with light variable winds. Very little cloud over southern and eastern areas throughout the period gave sunny days and clear, cold nights with widespread ground frost, but western and northern areas were cloudier at times and frost was not so extensive. Fog became widespread later in the period.

7th to 14th: As high pressure moved away southwards, bands of rain or showers crossed over the country, but amounts of rain were generally small except in some northern and western areas at times. Mild and mostly cloudy weather with mainly southwesterly winds, becoming strong in places by the end of the period.

15th to 30th: A spell of very unsettled weather, with heavy rain and strong winds at times. Heavy falls in many places on the 15th brought flooding locally, particularly in the southeast, while winds gusted over 75km/hour in most areas on the 19th, 26th/27th and 30th. A cool westerly airstream at first was replaced by milder south to southwesterly winds for the remainder of the period.

Wind and elements: Mean windspeeds for the month of between 7 and 12 knots (13 and 22km/hour) at most stations were above normal generally; Malin Head's mean of 20 knots (37 km/hour) was its highest for November since 1992. Belmullet measured the highest gust of the month, 72 knots (133 km/hour) on the 19th. Hail showers were fairly widespread in the period 17th to 21st, while there were snow showers in places between the 16th and 18th. Thunder was recorded in the periods 17th to 18th and 23rd to 25th, mainly in the southwest, but it was widespread on the 27th. Fog was most widespread on the 5th and 6th.

Extreme values

Rainfall Highest total: 228mm at Valentia Observatory

Lowest total: 69mm at Dublin Airport

Highest daily rainfall: 52.4mm at Valentia Observatory on 30th (its highest November daily value since 1984)

Temperature Highest mean monthly temperature: 9.6°C at Valentia Observatory and Rosslare

Lowest mean monthly temperature: 6.3°C at Knock Airport Highest temperature: 14.9°C at Shannon Airport on 7th

Lowest air temperature: -4.0°C at Mullingar on 3rd (its lowest November value since 1996)

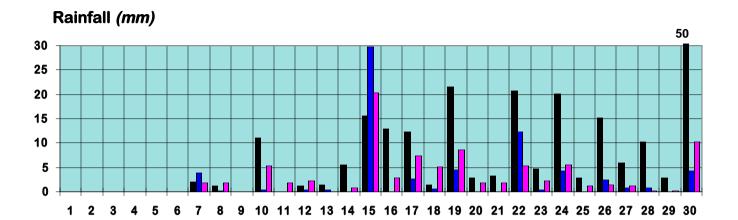
Lowest grass minimum temperature: -9.4°C at Birr on 2nd and 3rd (its lowest November value since 1995)

Sunshine Highest monthly total: 108 hours at Rosslare (its sunniest November since records began there in 1956)

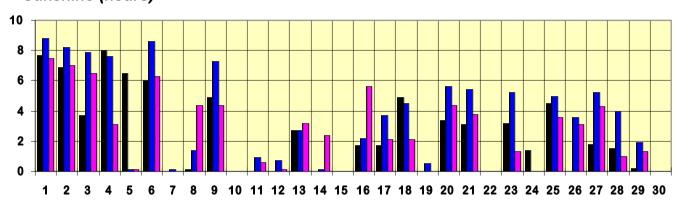
Lowest monthly total: 51 hours at Malin Head

Highest daily sunshine: 8.8 hours at Dublin Airport on 1st (its sunniest November day since records began there in 1941)

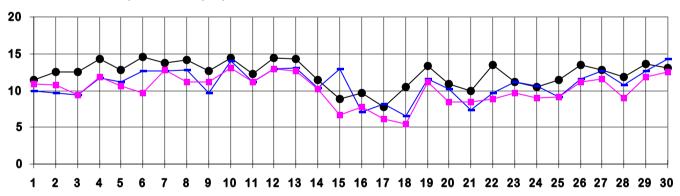
November 2006 Daily values at selected synoptic stations



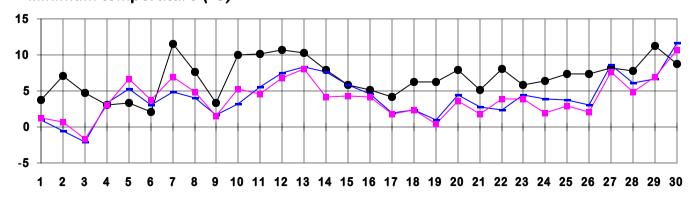
Sunshine (hours)



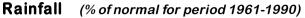
Maximum temperature (°C)

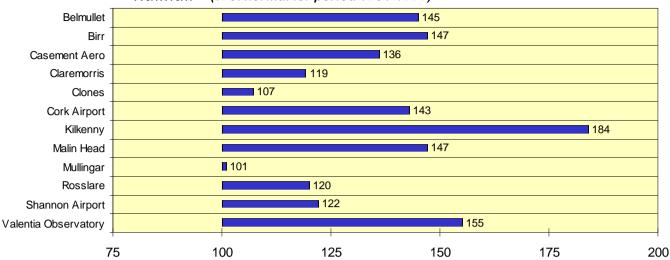


Minimum temperature (°C)

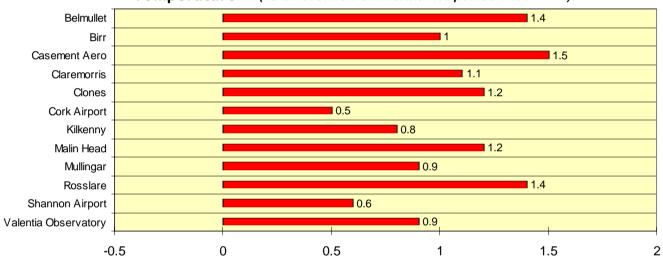


November 2006 Percentage / Difference from 1961-90 monthly normals





Temperature (°C difference from normal for period 1961-1990)



Sunshine (% of normal for period 1961-1990)

