

# 2018, A summer of Heat Waves and Droughts

Tuesday 04 September 2018

*This is a preliminary report, based on the data from our Synoptic stations.*

The weather included thunderstorms, heat waves, named storms and droughts. The following report is a summary of the weather for summer 2018.

## Summer Summary 2018

The summer of 2018 will be remembered for heat wave and drought conditions that affected many parts of the country. Intense thunderstorms were also a feature at the start of the meteorological season. Temperatures were above normal and rainfall amounts were below normal at most stations. Large blocking high pressure systems were the dominant feature of the summer. This kept the north Atlantic jet stream to the north of Ireland. The periods through the summer where high pressure dominated were the first two weeks in June, ending temporarily with the arrival of Storm Hector on 14th June. High pressure to the north stretched from the Azores to Scandinavia at times between the 21st June and the 14th July. This gave slack winds and very warm mainly dry conditions. In between these dry settled spells and especially during August a weak jet stream moved south over Ireland, with frontal troughs and showers crossing the country from time to time. However most of the rain fell in the north and west of the country.

## Summer Records

32.0°C recorded at Shannon Airport, Co Clare on the 28<sup>th</sup>, the highest temperature ever recorded at a synoptic station in Ireland.

109.5mm, total summer rainfall for Cork Airport, driest summer on record (record length 56 years).

[Monthly and seasonal reports available here.](#)

## Summer Heat Waves

There were heat wave conditions recorded at 15 stations at various times between the 24<sup>th</sup> June and the 4<sup>th</sup> July.

## Summer Absolute Droughts

There were absolute drought conditions recorded at 21 stations at various times between the 22<sup>nd</sup> May and the 14<sup>th</sup> July.

## Summer Partial Droughts

There were partial conditions recorded at 10 stations at various times between the 28<sup>th</sup> May and the 25<sup>th</sup> July.

## Summer Dry Spells

There were dry spells recorded at 5 stations at various times between the 18<sup>th</sup> June and the 14<sup>th</sup> July.

FIGURE 1. METEOSAT VISIBLE SATELLITE 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

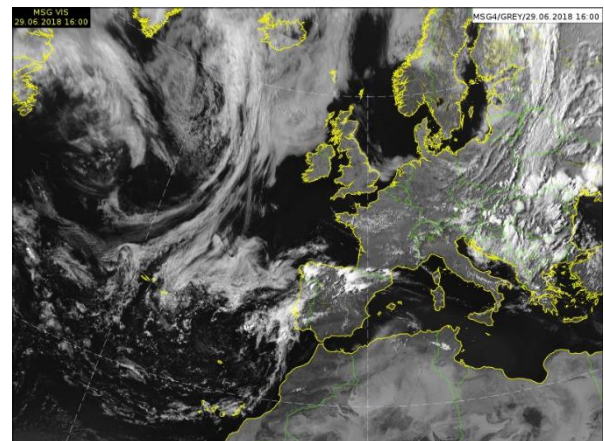


FIGURE 2. METEOSAT VISIBLE SATELLITE 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

