

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A WEATHER OBSERVER?

Met Éireann operates a large network of Climatological stations. Measurements are carried out by voluntary observers, some being private individuals, others being attached to the staff of semi-state bodies or other institutions. The data from climatological stations are quality controlled and archived. They are extensively used to provide information to all branches of Met Éireann, to industrial, commercial, agricultural, and legal interests. They are used as a basis for routine climatological publications such as the Monthly weather Bulletin and the Monthly Weather Summary as well as many publications relating to long term averages of the various weather elements and special investigations.

There are two types of climatological stations. **Rainfall** stations numbering around 600 at which daily falls of precipitation are measured. Of these about 80 are classed as **Climate** stations, at which daily measurements are taken not only of precipitation but also of maximum and minimum temperatures and, at some stations, the duration of bright sunshine, earth and soil temperatures and other Meteorological measurements.

Met Éireann would like to increase the number of climatological stations in the country and is currently looking for new observers. The actual task requires a certain commitment although it is neither time consuming nor difficult. Ideally, we would prefer if a climatological station could provide long-term records for a particular area. The four most important requirements, which must be met, are set out below:

- (a) observations must be made each day at 0900 Greenwich Mean Time (9a.m. clock time in winter and 10a.m. clock time during Summer);
- (b) the instruments in use must be of a standard design and where applicable, must be certified by the appropriate body (instruments will normally be supplied by Met Éireann);
- (c) the instruments must be correctly set up on a grass plot which is on generally level ground away from the immediate influence of obstructions such as fences, plants, trees or buildings;
- (d) all data recorded should be returned to Met Éireann on the appropriate forms following the end of each month.

We would prefer if data could be provided over a **long-term** period. If you or anybody you know might be interested in becoming a climatological observer please contact:

Joe Lyons on	01-8064279	087-6736232	(joe.lyons@met.ie) or
Gerard Griffith on	01-8064257	087-2351503	(gerard.griffith@met.ie),

stating clearly your name, address, telephone number and a brief description of the location.