

Weather Report, 1990-1995

Helen MacLeod

Introduction

Detailed particulars of the daily weather may be obtained from the meteorological records at the library in the Museum.

The daily readings in Bute, with the exception of the sunshine, are recorded by Mr J Morton in the grounds of Rothesay Academy. These records are used by the Society and are also sent to the Meteorological Office in Edinburgh.

In March 1992 the sunshine recorder had to be moved from the Dhu Loch, because of safety implications. Unfortunately, this meant that the sunshine record for 1992 is incomplete.

Mrs R Speirs kindly agreed to take over the sunshine recording, and the sunshine dial is now sited at Gartnakeilly Farm. There were initial problems in finding the most suitable site, but these have now been overcome and the Meteorological Officer has visited and approved the new base.

General remarks

The years 1990-1994 were notable for higher than average rainfall in all five years, 1990 and 1992 being exceptionally wet, around 30% above average, and the wettest years since 1954. Sunshine was particularly low in 1993 and 1994, and probably also in 1992, though the records for that year are incomplete, as mentioned above. 1993 was remarkably dull, sunshine being more than 20% below average. By contrast, 1995 was the sunniest year since 1977, the annual total exceeding the average by more than 200 hours, while rainfall was below average for the first time in 6 years.

Over the six year period mean temperatures were 0.4 degrees Celsius above the thirty year average (1951-1980), which may be interpreted as slight evidence of global warming, though 1990 was actually the warmest year, on account of mild winter temperatures. 1995 saw higher maxima, with a remarkable figure of 21.7 degrees for August, but this was offset by lower winter temperatures, January, February, March and December all having mean minima below 3 degrees.

The most notable weather-related event was the serious flooding of Rothesay town centre on January 5th 1991, which resulted from a combination of heavy rain and southwesterly gales coinciding with the highest spring tides of the year, and caused extensive damage to property.

Statistical Summary

The tables and graphs on the following pages show mean monthly maximum and minimum temperatures, and monthly rainfall and sunshine totals, along with the 30 year average figures for comparison (1951-1980).

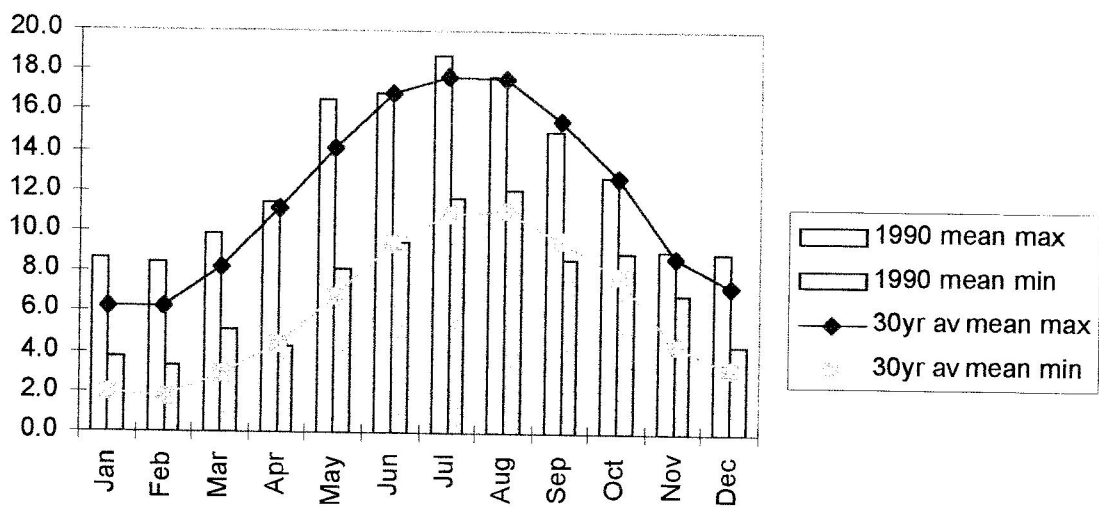
Mean	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	30yr av
Max							
Jan	8.6	5.9	7.7	8.6	7.2	7.0	6.2
Feb	8.4	6.2	8.4	8.2	4.8	7.7	6.3
Mar	9.9	9.8	9.3	9.3	8.7	7.5	8.2
Apr	11.5	11.0	10.4	11.9	11.0	12.0	11.1
May	16.6	14.9	16.2	13.9	14.2	14.5	14.2
Jun	16.9	15.4	18.3	16.9	15.3	18.5	16.9
Jul	18.7	19.9	17.8	16.3	18.7	19.6	17.7
Aug	17.7	18.7	17.0	17.0	17.2	21.7	17.6
Sep	15.0	17.2	15.0	15.9	15.1	17.1	15.5
Oct	12.7	12.1	12.9	11.1	12.4	14.5	12.7
Nov	9.1	9.2	9.5	8.1	11.6	10.8	8.8
Dec	9.0	8.8	7.0	6.9	8.5	5.3	7.3
Mean	12.8	12.4	12.5	12.0	12.0	13.0	11.9
Range	10.3	14.0	11.3	10.0	13.9	16.4	

Mean	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	30yr av
min							
Jan	3.8	1.6	2.8	2.0	1.7	1.5	2.0
Feb	5.1	4.4	4.0	3.3	2.7	1.4	2.9
Mar	5.1	4.4	4.0	3.3	2.7	1.4	2.9
Apr	4.3	4.9	4.7	5.8	3.7	5.5	4.4
May	8.1	7.3	8.0	7.1	6.3	6.7	6.8
Jun	9.5	7.9	10.8	9.7	8.6	9.6	9.4
Jul	11.7	12.9	10.9	10.4	11.7	12.4	10.8
Aug	12.1	12.1	10.6	9.5	10.6	13.0	11.0
Sep	8.6	9.8	8.9	8.7	8.9	9.4	9.6
Oct	9.0	7.3	3.5	5.0	6.6	8.7	7.8
Nov	6.9	7.3	3.9	3.5	7.6	4.1	4.4
Dec	4.4	4.1	2.5	1.7	3.2	1.3	3.2
Mean	7.2	6.9	6.2	5.9	6.0	6.3	6.2
Range	8.8	11.4	8.4	8.7	11.0	11.7	

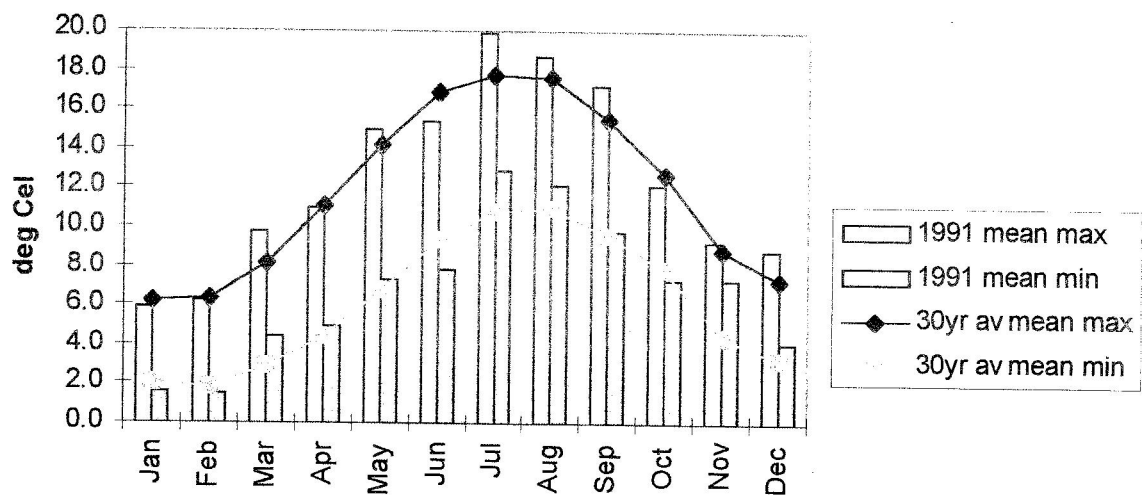
Air frost (days)**Ground Frost (days)**

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Jan	0	5	5	3	1	?	8	18	13	14	23	23
Feb	0	7	2	2	10	0	9	23	7	8	23	13
Mar	1	0	1	3	0	5	6	13	7	?	18	?
Apr	0	1	0	0	0	9	10	6	3	5	17	13
May	0	0	0	0	0	?	1	4	0	5	2	7
Jun	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Jul	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aug	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?
Sep	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	2	0	?
Oct	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	15	9	3	?
Nov	0	1	0	4	0	0	16	11	11	14	1	7
Dec	0	0	6	8	3	5	16	8	19	24	17	25
Total	1	14	14	20	14	?	79	88	75	?	104	?

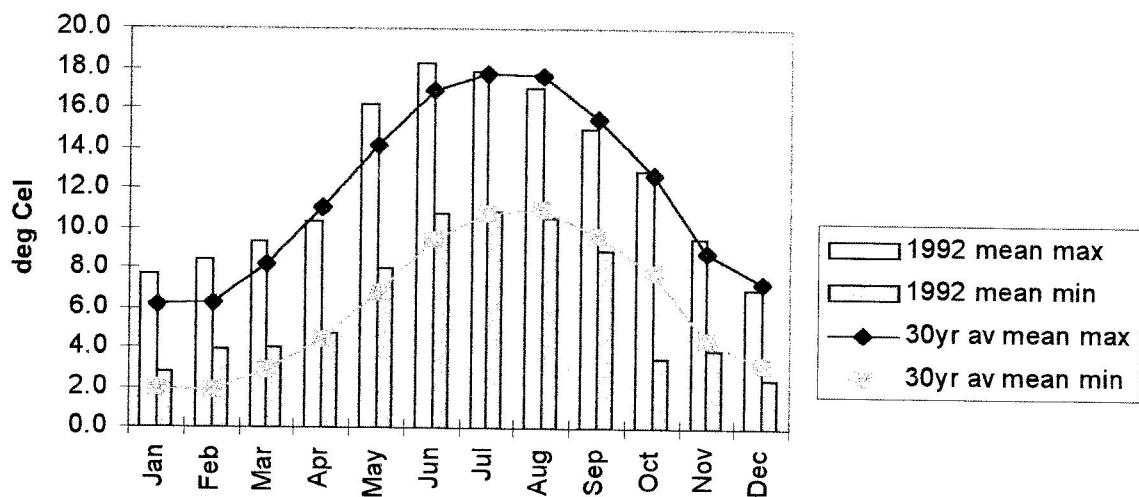
Temperature: 1990

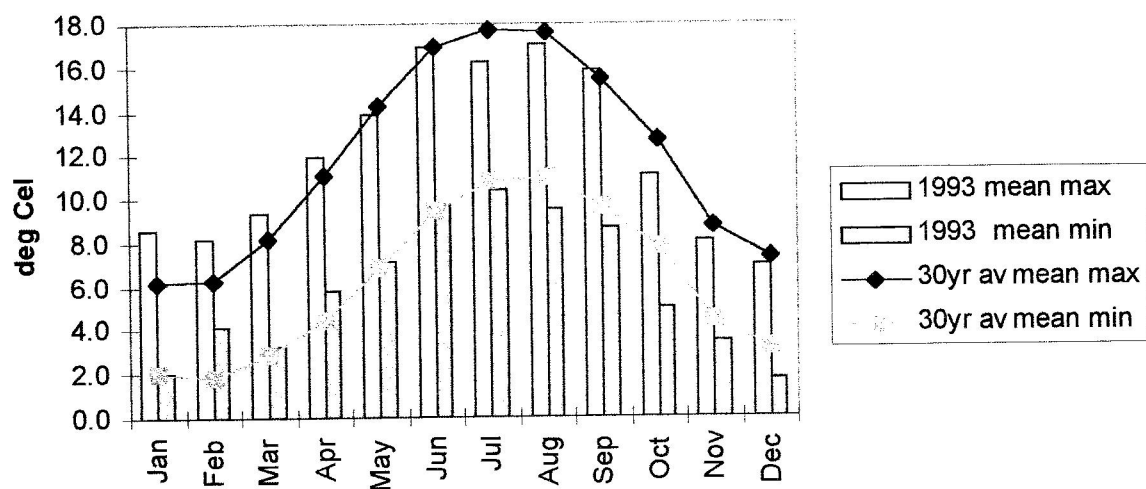
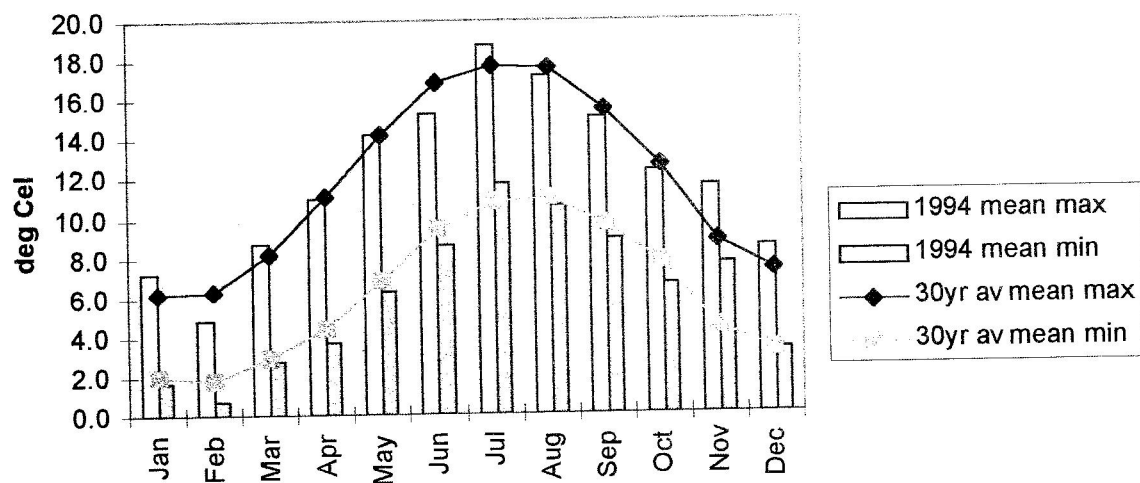
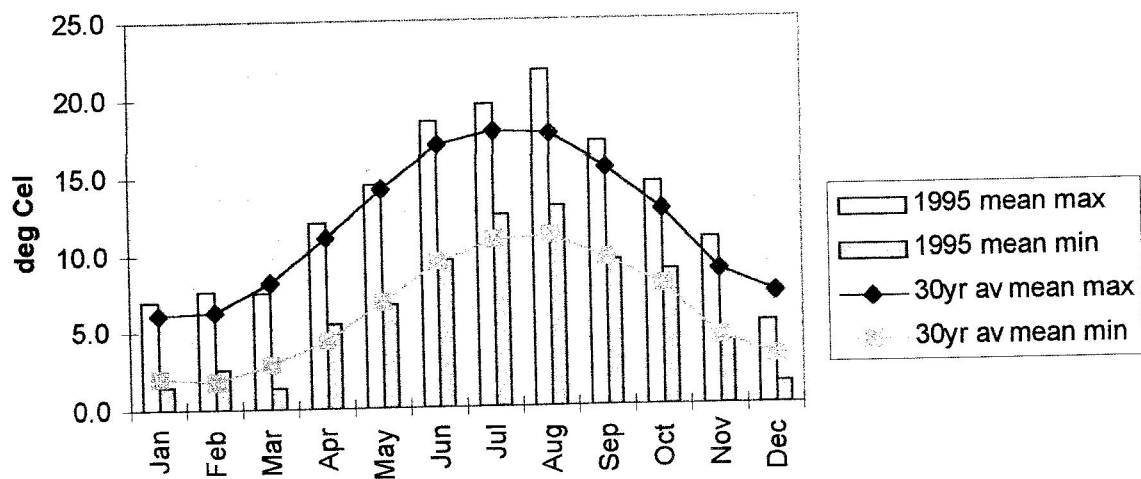


Temperature: 1991



Temperature: 1992



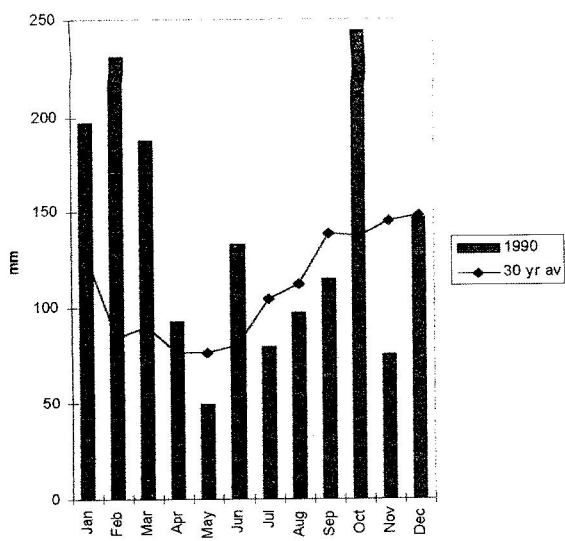
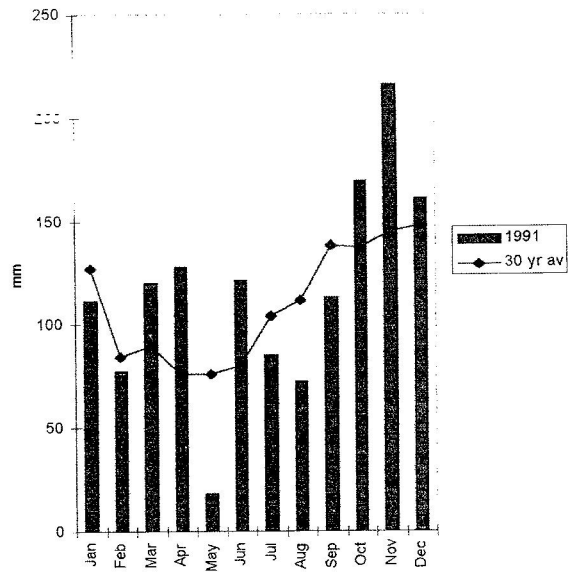
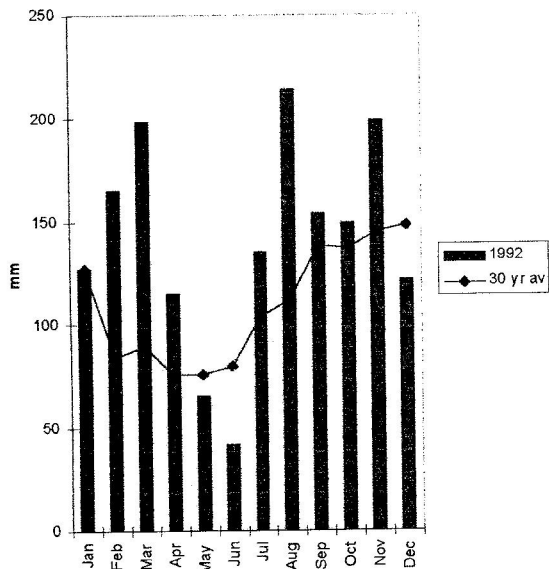
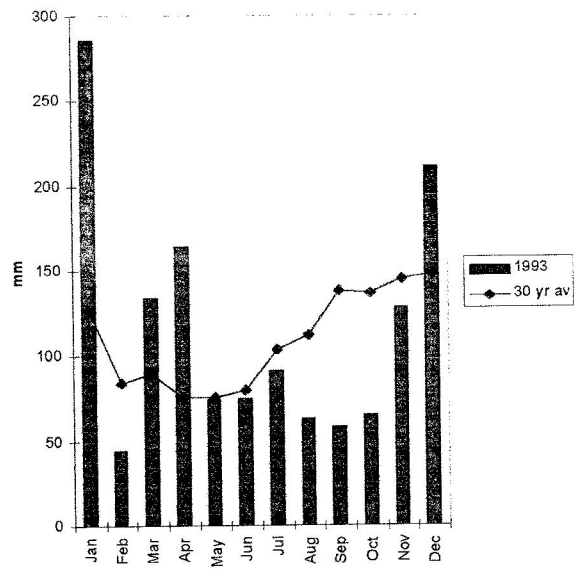
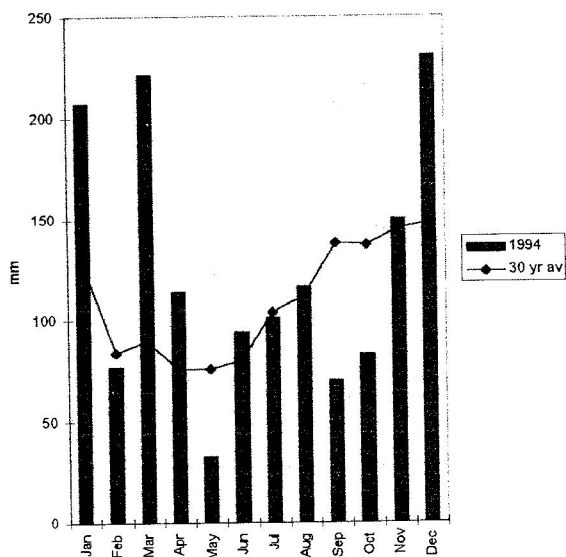
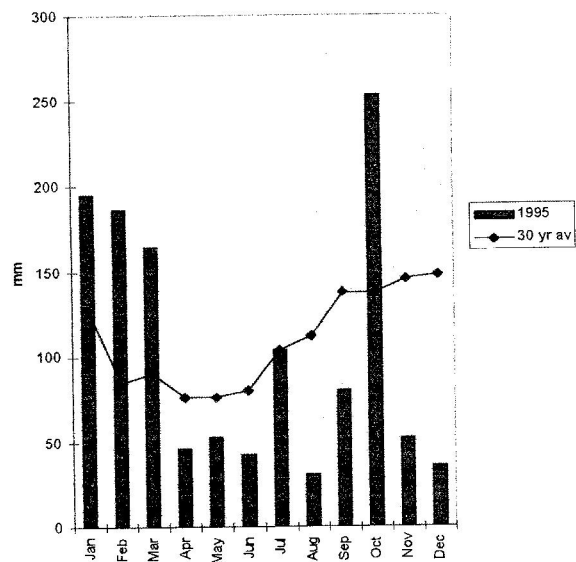
Temperature: 1993**Temperature: 1994****Temperature: 1995**

Rainfall and Sunshine Monthly Totals

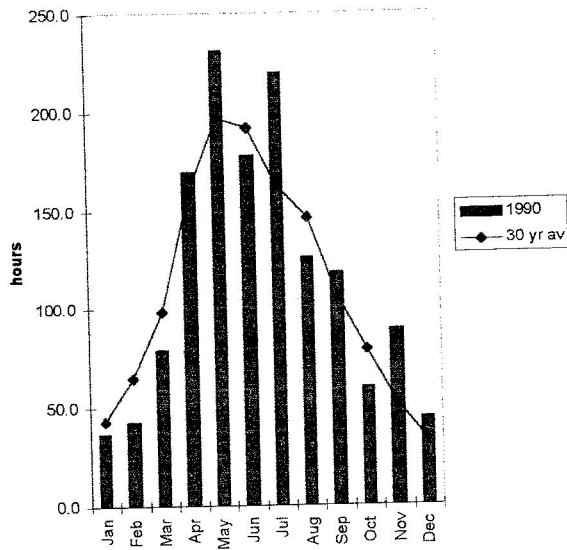
(1990 to 1995)

Rainfall (mm)	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	30 yr av
Jan	197	111	127	285	207	195	127
Feb	231	77	165	44	77	186	84
Mar	187	120	198	134	221	164	90
Apr	92	128	115	164	114	46	76
May	49	18	65	74	33	53	76
Jun	133	121	42	75	94	43	80
Jul	79	85	135	91	101	104	104
Aug	97	72	214	63	116	31	112
Sep	114	113	154	58	70	80	138
Oct	244	169	149	65	83	253	137
Nov	75	216	199	128	150	52	145
Dec	146	161	121	211	230	36	148
Total	1644	1391	1684	1392	1496	1243	1317

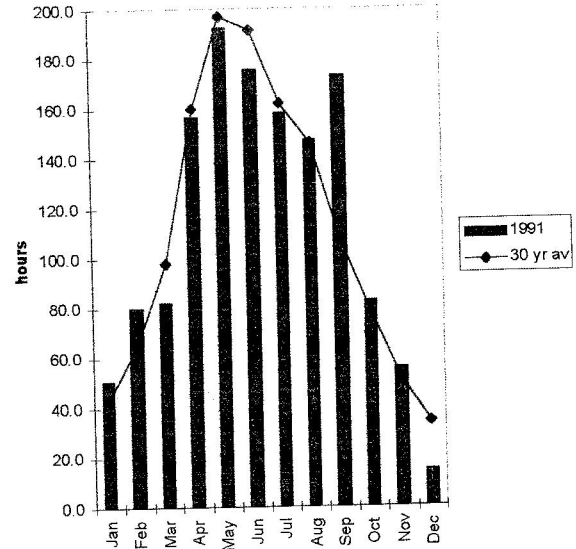
Sunshine (hrs)	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	30 yr av
Jan	36.7	50.7	46.4	7.5	38.5	45.4	42.9
Feb	42.3	80.0	53.1	29.7	52.6	52.5	64.5
Mar	78.8	82.1		90.4	80.9	81.5	98.2
Apr	169.3	156.6		107.3	135.3	153.4	160.0
May	231.1	192.4	191.2	145.2	181.6	175.3	197.0
Jun	177.4	175.7		110.5	112.0	283.5	191.4
Jul	219.6	158.1		103.2	129.9	182.2	162.2
Aug	125.5	146.8	136.7	154.6	147.1	262.9	146.2
Sep	118.0	173.2	80.5	117.7	119.1	139.1	106.9
Oct	59.5	82.4	106.1	106.9	57.9	59.8	78.4
Nov	88.6	55.3	18.0	51.5	39.2	51.5	51.7
Dec	44.2	14.6	4.0	25.4	24.8	51.6	33.9
Total	1391.0	1367.9		1049.9	1118.9	1538.7	1333.3

Rainfall 1990**Rainfall 1991****Rainfall 1992****Rainfall 1993****Rainfall 1994****Rainfall: 1995**

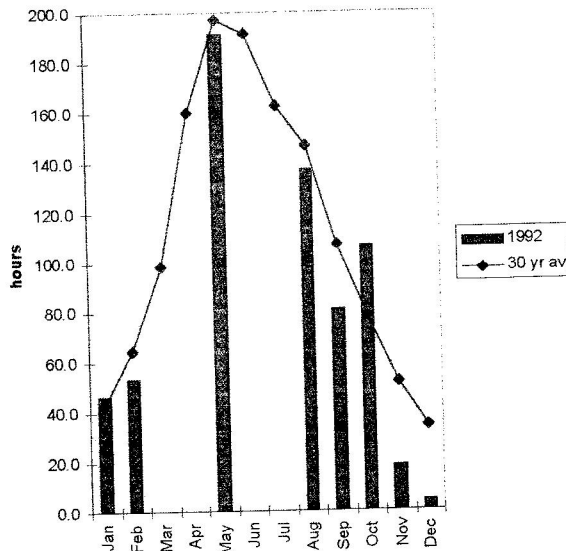
Sunshine: 1990



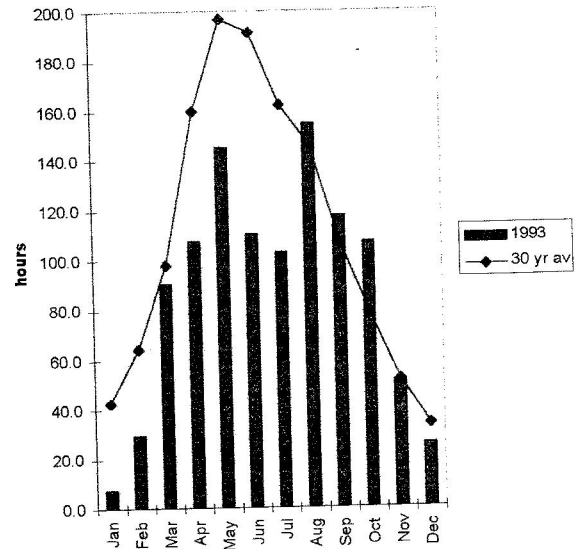
Sunshine: 1991



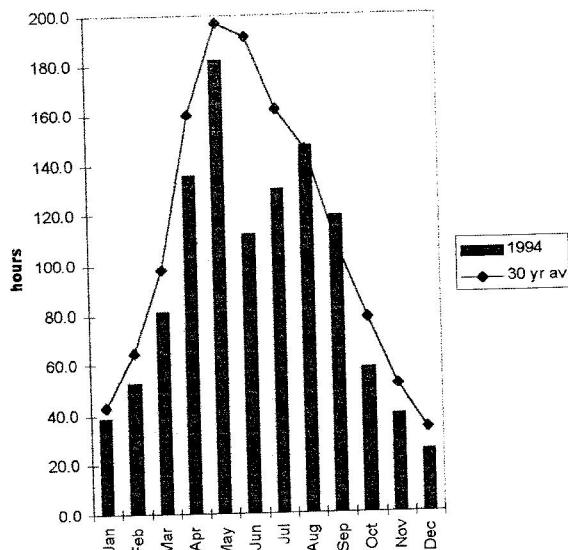
Sunshine: 1992 (incomplete)



Sunshine: 1993



Sunshine: 1994



Sunshine: 1995

