

Waterloo Weather Station Monthly Summary - March 2005

This was the kind of March that must have spawned the expression "in like a lion out like a lamb", on the first of the month it never went above freezing and over 5 cm of snow fell while on the last day the high was 17.6 C with a little bit of rain.

Apart from the last 3 days of the month, March was very cold, in fact it was colder in the first half of the month of March than it was in the month of February. Even with those last days of warmer temperatures, the average daily high was a full 2 degrees below the long term average. This is the second coldest March in the 8 year history of the weather station, the coldest being in 2001.

The sharp drop in temperature associated with the flash freeze we experienced on March 7 shows up very well on the graph and slowly but surely the temperature has been rising just a little bit every day since then. It took until the last day of the month before we got warmer than then that day in January (the 13th where the high was 14.9 C).

With the cold temperatures in March there was still lots of snow on the ground until this week, but it could have been much worse as the measured precipitation of 29.1 mm was well below the average of 67.5 mm. However, as both January and February showed above average precipitation, the year-to-date sum of precipitation (182.2 mm) is close to the average (187.5 mm).

Summary for March 2005 :

Maximum Temperature 17.6 C

Minimum Temperature -24.6 C

Average Daily High Temperature 1.4 C (Long term average 3.5 C)

Average Daily Low Temperature -9.6 C (Long term average -5.6 C)

Total Precipitation 29.1 mm (Long term average 67.5 mm)

(Long term averages based on 1970-2000 data for the Waterloo Wellington Airport)