



SIGNIFICANT WEATHER – May 2006

SUMMARY

Thunderstorms were reported in Queensland, New South Wales, Western Australia and a tornado was reported in South Australia. Flooding continued to ease in Queensland from the rains during April. In Tasmania Liawenee experienced the state's coldest temperature on record of -10.5°C on the 30th.

THUNDERSTORMS/TORNADO

Queensland

On the 28th thunderstorms formed in the south east of the state under a middle level cold pool. Hail of up to 2cm in diameter was reported at Greenbank, south of Brisbane.

New South Wales

On the 22nd at Chatswood a thunderstorm with 2cm hail occurred during the evening. Lightning from the storm caused power blackouts. At Randwick on the same day a thunderstorm with heavy hail covered the ground. At Katoomba a thunderstorm with heavy hail covered the ground to a depth of several centimetres. Some roads were blocked.

South Australia

A tornado was reported at Kingston on the 6th which caused some damage.

Western Australia

On the 23rd thunderstorms associated with the passage of a slow moving cold front caused mainly roof and ceiling damage to a

number of homes, mostly in Port Kennedy south of Perth. On the same day in nearby Warnbro a steel carport flipped over onto a tiled roof causing damage, and a subsequent ceiling collapse due to rain. The strongest wind gust recorded was 65 km/h at Garden Island.

Lightning also caused damage and power blackouts in suburbs across the metropolitan area. Flash flooding occurred in the Port Kennedy area, exacerbated by a number of blocked stormwater drains as this was the first significant rain for some time.

FLOODING

Queensland

Moderate to minor flooding continued to ease in the Georgina River, Eyre Creek, Lower Thomson River and Cooper Creek catchments early in May from rains during April.

WIND

New South Wales

Wind gusts greater than 90 km/h occurred on the following days:

2nd	Thredbo 93 km/h
3rd	Thredbo 105 km/h, Moss Vale 91 km/h, Cabramurra 91 km/h
6th	Thredbo 102 km/h
7th	Thredbo 124 km/h, Cooma 93 km/h, Bombala 91 km/h, Braidwood 91 km/h
9th	Thredbo 91 km/h
10th	Mount Ginini 117 km/h, Thredbo 105 km/h

23rd Montague Island 104 km/h
 29th Montague Island 94 km/h

Victoria

On the 3rd strong westerly winds behind a cold front produced the following wind gusts: Grampians 91 km/h, Mt Hotham 100 km/h, Colac 94 km/h, Wilsons Promontory 124 km/h and Cape Otway 94 km/h.

On the 6th and 7th strong northerly winds ahead of a frontal change produced the following wind gusts: Grampians 100km/h, Lookout Hill 130 km/h, Dunns Hill 104 km/h, Mt Hotham 117 km/h, Mt Buller 107 km/h, Rhyll 91 km/h, Gelantipy 91 km/h, Colac 91 km/h and Wilsons Promontory 115 km/h.

On the 10th strong westerly winds behind a frontal change produced a wind gust of 105 km/h at Wilsons Promontory and 100 km/h at Mt Hotham.

Tasmania

Wind gusts in excess of 110 km/h were reported on the following days:

2nd Mount Wellington 131 km/h,
 Scotts Peak Dam 117 km/h,
 Mount Read 117 km/h
 3rd Hogan Island 139 km/h,
 Cape Grim 135 km/h,
 Maatsuyker Island 128 km/h,
 Flinders Island Airport 113 km/h
 4th Maatsuyker Island 128 km/h
 7th Cape Grim 139 km/h,
 Mount Read 117 km/h,
 Hogan Island 115 km/h
 9th Mount Wellington 128 km/h,
 Maatsuyker Island 120 km/h,
 Cape Grim 117 km/h
 10th Hogan Island 113 km/h
 13th Hartz Mountain 119 km/h,
 Mount Wellington 117 km/h,
 Droughty Hill 111 km/h,
 Maatsuyker Island 113 km/h
 19th Scotts Peak Dam 143 km/h,
 Maatsuyker Island 130 km/h,
 Mount Wellington 119 km/h

South Australia

On the 6th a vigorous cold front moved across South Australia and produced damaging wind gusts in excess of 90 km/h over Kangaroo Island, Yorke Peninsula and the Upper South East.

TEMPERATURE

Tasmania

Liawenee experienced the state's lowest temperature on record with -10.5°C on the 30th. The previous lowest record was -9.7°C in 2001, the year the station opened.

Highest Mean Maximum Temperature for May

Station	Actual °C	Previous Highest °C	Year	Years of Record
Queensland				
Archerfield A/P	25.1	25.0	1994	33
Western Australia				
Kalbarri	28.2	28.1	2005	31

Highest Mean Minimum Temperature for May

Station	Actual °C	Previous Highest °C	Year	Years of Record
Queensland				
Musgrave	19.9	19.4	2000	38
South Johnstone Exp Stn	20.6	20.5	1990	52

Lowest Mean Maximum Temperature for May

Station	Actual °C	Previous Lowest °C	Year	Years of Record
Queensland				
Croydon Township	29.1	29.3	1983	82
Kowanyama A/P	30.2	30.8	1981	37
Tasmania				
Strathgordon Village	10.1	10.4	2004	37
Marrawah	13.4	13.5	1979	35
Northern Territory				
Brunette Downs	26.8	26.9	1959	39
Larrimah	29.0	29.5	2000	38
Gove Airport	28.4	28.9	1972	27
Timber Creek	30.1	30.2	2000	25
Mango Farm	30.3	30.4	2000	23
Wollogorang	28.9	29.9	1977	23
McArthur River Mine	30.1	30.7	1977	22

Lowest Mean Minimum Temperature for May

Station	Actual °C	Previous		Year	Years of Record
		Lowest °C	Year		
Queensland					
Amberley AMO	6.1	6.5	1994	1994	65
Oakey Aero	4.3	4.7	1994	1994	34
New South Wales					
Cobar MO	5.9	7.2	2001	2001	43
Collarenebri	4.3	5.1	1994	1994	99
Peak Hill	5.7	6.3	1982	1982	40
Baradine Forestry	2.8	3.1	1954	1954	62
Barraba	-0.8	1.2	1984	1984	40
Pindari Dam	2.0	3.6	2004	2004	34
Woolbrook	-2.9	-1.8	1994	1994	36
Inverell Research	3.8	4.2	1994	1994	57
Tenterfield	-0.4	1.5	2004	2004	99
Grafton	8.6	8.7	1994	1994	39
Murrurundi	0.7	1.5	2004	2004	99
Gulgong	1.9	3.8	1982	1982	36
Bathurst Ag.	-0.8	-0.2	1976	1976	97
Orange	0.7	1.5	1976	1976	37
Orange Ag.	1.9	3.2	1976	1976	30
Dunedoo	2.6	3.0	1982	1982	60
Prospect Dam	8.1	8.2	2004	2004	41
Wollongong	10.0	10.3	2004	2004	35
Quandialla	2.4	2.6	1976	1976	60
Narrandera	3.7	4.1	1976	1976	36
Tasmania					
Marrawah	7.5	7.7	1977	1977	35
Bicheno (Council Depot)	6.5	7.0	1968	1968	32

Highest Daily Minimum Temperature for May

Station	Actual °C	Date	Previous		Year	Years of Record
			Highest °C	Year		
Western Australia						
Kuri Bay	28.0	01	27.8	1997	1997	34

Lowest Daily Maximum Temperature for May

Station	Actual °C	Date	Previous		Year	Years of Record
			Lowest °C	Year		
New South Wales						
Nelson Bay	14.5	27	15.0	2002	2002	36
Moruya Heads	12.0	23	12.2	1962	1962	49

Lowest Daily Minimum Temperature for May

Station	Actual °C	Date	Previous		Year	Years of Record
			Lowest °C	Year		
Queensland						
Burketown PO	4.9	29	5.7	1925	1925	108
Brigalow Res Stn	-0.4	25	2.0	2001	2001	37
Amberley AMO	-3.1	31	-1.3	2004	2004	65
University of Qld Gatton	-0.2	31	0.5	2003	2003	41
Gympie	-0.9	25	0.6	2005	2005	42
Brian Pastures	-0.3	25	0.7	1970	1970	38
Stanthorpe Leslie Parade	-6.8	31	-6.1	1965	1965	44

Applethorpe	-4.0	24	-3.9	1970	37
Oakey Aero	-4.1	24	-3.9	1987	34
Quilpie Airport	1.0	25	1.4	2000	50
New South Wales					
Wilcannia	-2.5	26	-0.4	2004	49
Menindee	-1.6	24	0.7	1979	47
Brewarrina	-0.8	31	-0.6	1965	41
Collarenebri	-1.8	31	-1.2	2004	41
Coonamble	-2.3	31	-1.7	1965	41
Trangie	-1.7	30	-1.2	1982	37
Pindari Dam	-3.3	24	-2.8	2004	34
Woolbrook	-11.0	30	-9.3	1982	36
Inverell Research	-3.5	24	-1.9	1987	41
Tenterfield	-8.8	31	-7.1	1995	41
Parkes	-1.5	30	-1.1	1999	49
Narrandera	-2.6	30	-2.5	1999	36
Hay	-2.2	30	-1.6	1999	49
Griffith	-2.0	21	-1.0	2001	34
Western Australia					
Pemberton	2.0	26	2.5	1975	46
Pingelly	0.6	30	0.9	1993	34
Wyndham	10.5	31	12.8	2001	38
Northern Territory					
Larrimah	4.5	30	5.8	1967	38
Victoria River Downs	4.5	30	5.0	2002	37
Timber Creek	7.6	31	9.5	1994	25

RAINFALL

Highest Monthly Rainfall on Record for May

Station	Actual mm	Previous		Year	Years of Record
		Highest mm	Year		
New South Wales					
Montague Island	254.0	253.4	2003	2003	50
Queensland					
Highbury Station	138.8	54.0	1983	1983	37
Merluna	121.8	81.8	1977	1977	50
Heathlands National Park	227.1	213.0	1985	1985	32

Lowest Monthly Rainfall on Record for May

Station	Actual mm	Previous		Year	Years of Record
		Lowest mm	Year		
Queensland					
Bundaberg Aero	9.4	9.8	1979	1979	48
Dunollie	0.1	0.4	1975	1975	57
Eumerella South	0.0	0.2	1975	1975	34
New South Wales					
Quirindi	0.0	0.3	1934	1934	122
Woolbrook	0.4	6.8	1976	1976	47
Lower Creek	1.4	3.2	2004	2004	44
Tabulam	13.2	13.6	2004	2004	35
Murrurundi PO	0.8	0.9	1994	1994	135
Murrurundi (Timor)	1.2	8.0	1975	1975	45
Kurrajong Heights	2.2	2.3	1957	1957	139
Peakhurst	0.0	2.0	1982	1982	36
Wagga Wagga	4.4	4.6	2005	2005	64
Narrandera	1.5	5.0	1994	1994	36
Griffith A/P	1.2	2.0	2005	2005	47

Western Australia

<i>Bridgetown Comp.</i>	29.8	31.9	1948	119
<i>Cape Leeuwin</i>	35.0	43.2	1949	109
<i>Cape Naturaliste</i>	33.8	35.4	1959	102
<i>Cardup</i>	23.2	47.6	1983	35
<i>Crendon</i>	11.2	50.2	2000	33
<i>Denbarker</i>	36.0	36.8	2002	33
<i>Ferguson Valley</i>	23.6	27.2	2000	33
<i>Frankland</i>	20.6	22.6	1943	56
<i>Glenmore</i>	37.6	57.3	1983	41
<i>Hillview Farm</i>	25.6	34.2	2000	35
<i>Karragullen</i>	41.6	44.4	2000	33
<i>Kirup</i>	21.9	29.2	1976	64
<i>Little Chorkerup</i>	40.5	41.7	1983	30
<i>Margaret River</i>	41.8	52.2	1959	76
<i>Marriwood</i>	16.2	26.0	2000	49
<i>Mosman Park</i>	26.2	29.0	1983	35
<i>Roelands Village</i>	27.2	33.5	2000	70
<i>Roleystone</i>	41.0	41.4	2000	38
<i>Springdale</i>	40.6	42.6	2000	33
<i>Victoria Dam</i>	27.0	42.3	1983	37
<i>Warner Glen</i>	48.8	52.6	1968	56
<i>Waroona</i>	27.0	28.4	1949	67
<i>Wilga</i>	9.2	20.0	2000	46
<i>Yoongarillup</i>	24.4	25.0	2000	49

Highest Daily Rainfall on Record for May

<i>Station</i>	<i>Actual Date</i> <i>mm</i>	<i>Previous</i> <i>Highest</i> <i>mm</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Years of</i> <i>Record</i>
Queensland				
<i>Aurukun Shire</i>	68.0 02	55.9	1917	89
<i>Council</i>				
<i>Highbury Station</i>	57.2 02	36.0	1983	37
<i>Wrotham Park</i>	76.2 02	61.2	1977	46
<i>Pinnacle</i>	55.6 03	55.0	1977	37
<i>Upper Barron</i>	73.2 02	72.0	1977	34

Note: Some statistical records mentioned in this report are based on data that have yet to be fully validated