

Observed Weather conditions in Winter Season in Azerbaijan Republic

December 2009: Generally, in December the weather was warmer than normal as it was predicted.

Mean temperature anomaly in December was 1-3⁰ above normal, in a few days anomalies were 4-4.5⁰ above normal, precipitations were near normal.

January 2010:

The weather conditions in January during whole month were about normal moderate. The mean temperature was 2-3⁰ above normal, only in the beginning of January the temperature peaked its maximum and was 7-8⁰ above normal. The maximum temperature in Baku was 19.2⁰, while absolute maximum for this day is 22⁰ C, in Astara city –part of subtropical zone maximum temperature was registered at 26.6⁰, but absolute maximum is 24⁰. This situation for the other regions was the same in this period. Precipitation was also near normal and in some parts of the country a little above normal.

The end of January was characterized by extremely weather as a result of ultrapolar low pressure pattern passing. Cool and wet period were observed with snow and heavy rains. Gusts of northern wind peaked 28-30 m/s, in the some places 33 m/s. The wave height in the Oil Rocks station of the Caspian Sea was till 7.3 m in that period, this height of wave is observing in seldom cases. The record for the height of wave in the open part of the Caspian sea was 10-11 m during the observation of many years.

February 2010:

The first part of February was cold with heavy precipitations, negative temperatures and strong wind (25-30 m/s). Cold cyclone coming from the Mediterranean Sea and also coming cold anticyclone from the Central Russia led to cold and wet period again. The temperature anomaly in this period was 7⁰ below normal.

Anomaly warm weather was observed in second part of February due to south-west hot winds. Mean temperature was 8.0-8.6⁰ above normal, in Baku, for example the maximum temperature was 21.1⁰. Precipitation amount was above normal, in some parts of the country near normal.

Conclusion:

First part of Winter season was warm and near normal, as it was predicted, except the end of January and beginning of February. As a result of heavy precipitation landslides were observed in some parts of the country, especially in mountain areas.

Forecast of winter month were based on analogue method and on information from European centre.