

National Climate Bulletin and the assessment of the SEECOF-14 Climate outlook for **CYPRUS** for winter season DJF 2015-2016

Cyprus Department of Meteorology prepares regular seasonal climate outlooks, based on the products of SEECOF seasonal forecasts. The present outlook concerns the outlook for the three winter months of December 2015, January and February 2016, which is based on the means of the climatological period 1981-2010.

Generally, the area of the east Mediterranean, but specially the area of Cyprus, during winter is characterized by the low mean maximum and minimum normal (1981-201) temperatures. Normal accumulated precipitation is reaching maximum as a result of the frequent barometric systems which are affecting the area.

The assessment is performed bearing in mind the consensus statement of SEECOF14 which was stating that:

1. 2m temperature (the mean) was likely to range below normal with a probability of 20%, around normal with a probability of 30% and above normal with a probability of 50% and,
2. Accumulated precipitation probabilities were for 40% below normal, 40% around normal and 20% above normal.

The table below presents the normal (1981-2010) values (N) versus the recorded (R) values of both temperature (mean max and mean min) and accumulated precipitation for the winter period of December 2015, January and February 2016.

NORMAL MEAN MAXIMUM, MINIMUM TEMPERATURE AND ACCUMULATED PRECIPITATION VALUES (N)																		
BASED ON 1981-2010 CLIMATIC PERIOD AND 2015-2016 RECORDED VALUES (R). All values are rounded.																		
Area Name	MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE (°C)						MEAN DAILY MINIMUM TEMPERATURE (°C)						MEAN MONTHLY ACCUMULATED PRECIPITATION (mm)					
	December		January		February		December		January		February		December		January		February	
	N	R	N	R	N	R	N	R	N	R	N	R	N	R	N	R	N	R
NORTH COAST	18.0	21.2	16.3	17.6	16.3	21.3	9.3	9.4	7.6	7.8	7.3	9.4	93.6	7.4	85.3	95.5	68.5	32.4
WEST COAST*	18.9	20.3	17.1	17.0	17.1	20.4	10.0	10.4	8.3	9.0	8.1	9.7	90.1	47.6	78.8	79.2	59.8	23.2
MOUNTAINOUS AREAS	8.3	8.5	6.3	4.4	6.7	11.4	2.6	1.9	0.7	-2.2	0.5	3.7	157.3	14.1	150.0	178.2	128.7	50.9
INLAND*	17.3	18.2	15.5	15.1	16.0	20.8	7.0	7.4	5.4	5.1	5.3	8.1	57.2	28.8	48.8	22.1	44.5	8.5
SOUTH COAST	18.6	19.0	16.8	16.0	17.0	20.1	9.2	9.5	7.5	6.9	7.1	9.3	79.0	117.1	73.7	51.9	50.3	14.0
EAST COAST**	18.0	18.1	16.3	14.9	16.5	19.5	8.3	7.8	6.6	5.0	6.3	7.9	76.8	37.2	67.3	39.6	50.7	7.8

* West Coast and Inland Normal Values cover the period 1983-2010

** East Coast Temperature Normal Values cover the period 1981-2007

Find also below a table presenting the general anomalies of SEECOF products and extreme events of the recorded winter weather.

Country	Seasonal temperature (DJF)		Seasonal precipitation (DJF)		High Impact Events
	Observed	SEECOF-14 climate outlook for temperature	Observed	SEECOF-14 climate outlook for precipitation	
CYPRUS	<p>DEC Slightly warmer than normal.</p> <p>JAN Slightly colder than Normal.</p> <p>FEB Well above Normal</p>	<p>DEC Generally normal inland while over a narrow coastal zone 1 to 2°C above normal.</p> <p>JAN Normal to Slightly above Normal.</p> <p>FEB Normal to Slightly Above Normal</p>	<p>DEC Relatively dry except the Southeast</p> <p>JAN Inland and southern and eastern coasts well below normal but above to well above normal over all other areas.</p> <p>FEB Well below Normal</p>	<p>DEC Accumulated precipitation for Cyprus would range over west and northwest part from normal up to 125% of normal while over the rest of the island it would be ranging from 50% to normal.</p> <p>JAN Generally 50% to 75% of normal, except the western part where almost up to normal.</p> <p>FEB Below 50% over the southern and eastern part and 50 to 75% over the extreme west part.</p>	<p>DEC: Warmer than the normal with the western and northern coastal zone warmer than the rest of the island. Extremes (deviating by 4°C or more from normal) were recorded. i.e., the recorded maximum of Polis of the 23rd of December 23.9°C (with a normal of 18°C). Extreme maximum temperature lower by 4°C (or more) from normal were recorded during the 31st of December. i.e., Athalassa maximum of 10.6°C (17.3°C normal) and that of Prodromos station maximum of 2.7°C with 8.3°C normal.</p> <p>Larnaka area (Southeast) recorded a total accumulated precipitation of 116mm (37mm above its normal) while the Troodos mountainous range and the western and northern coasts recorded accumulated precipitation well below normal. A Yellow EMMA warning concerning high accumulated precipitation was issued on the 17th.</p> <p>JAN: Extreme low temperatures were recorded i.e., the absolute minimum of -9.7°C over Prodromos (normal 0.7°C), or the minimum of the eastern coasts -2.4°C (the normal being 6.6°C). A Yellow EMMA warning concerning extreme low temperatures for Troodos mountainous range was issued on the 25th. The Yellow EMMA was upgraded to Orange on the same day.</p> <p>Generally January recorded a good accumulated precipitation budget covering almost 158% (mean area average) of normal or 131mm (normal 83mm).</p> <p>FEB: The warmest February of the recent 30 years. i.e., The absolute maximum of February of 28.2°C was recorded at the station of Polis Chrysochous while the normal is</p>

				<p>only 16.3°C, The recorded maximum of 27.8°C was Athalassa's station absolute maximum for February while the normal is only 16.0°C, The recorded maximum 18.9°C, of Troodos station (1720m height) was the absolute maximum of February while the normal is only 4.1°C.</p> <p>Regarding the accumulated precipitation it is suggested that February was a notably dry month covering only 31% of normal i.e., Area average only 21.6mm (normal 69.2mm).</p>
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