

## **Meteorological conditions of the 2011-2012 winter season in the Republic of Moldova**

The 2011-2012 winter season in the Republic of Moldova was slightly colder than in previous years and with precipitations. **The average air temperature during the season constituted in the territory -2..-4°C, that is generally up to 0,5-1,3°C bellow the norm.**

According to the thermal regime, the winter season was various. In December, the average monthly temperature exceeded the norm by 3-4°C that is observed in average once in 10 years. Starting with 26 January, a cold temperature regime had established on the territory of the country and it had maintained until the end of the season.

During the first two decades of February in the republic there were observed an abnormal cold weather. The average air temperature for this period was 7-12°C bellow the norm. Such figures are observed for the third time since the beginning of instrumental observations.

There was especially cold on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of February, when in some areas of the northern part republic the average daily temperature decreased up to -21,5..-24,1°C, that, for this month, is observed for the first time in the last 50 years. The average air temperature in February was 5-7°C bellow the norm that is in the Republic of Moldova in average once in 15 years.

The minimum air temperature during the winter season constituted -32,0°C (12 February, MS Balti), ranking on the 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the range of minimums since the beginning of instrumental observations. The maximum of the air temperature during the season was +17°C (December, MS Cahul).

The number of days with the minimum air temperature  $\leq -15^{\circ}\text{C}$  during the season on the territory of the country constituted 10-17 days (the norm is 4-11 days), that is observed once in 5-10 years (analogue season is 1984-85). The number of days with the minimum air temperature  $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$  was 2-10 days (the norm is 1-4 days), that is observed in average once in 5-15 years.

The number of days with the minimum air temperature  $\leq -25^{\circ}\text{C}$  constituted 1-4 days (the norm is one day), that is observed once in 15 years. The number of days with the minimum air temperature  $\leq -30^{\circ}\text{C}$  was one day (the norm is one day), that is observed once in 20 years.

**The quantity of precipitations fallen during the season on 90% of the territory constituted 75-145 mm or 80-150% of the norm. Only in some central areas of the republic their sum was up to 50-70 mm (55-75% of the norm).**