

THE WEATHER AND AGRICULTURE.

[By D. C. BATES, Director of Meteorological Office.]

DECEMBER.

RAINFALL FOR DECEMBER, 1910.

Departure from Normal for the Month, + above, - below.	Station.	Total Fall.	Number of Days Rain fell.	Maximum Fall, and Date.
<i>North Island.</i>				
In.		In.		In.
+ 0·67	Pakarakā	3·90	12	1·10 on 1st.
- 0·02	Auckland	2·83	19	1·07 " 2nd.
- 0·11	Waituku	3·71	20	0·75 " 25th.
+ 0·96	Waihi	6·20	19	2·26 " 17th.
+ 0·55	Hamilton	4·24	17	1·14 " 16th.
- 0·68	Gisborne	2·10	11	0·58 " 16th.
- 0·50	Meeanee	2·04	13	0·46 " 10th.
+ 2·66	New Plymouth	6·79	18	1·78 " 16th.
- 0·45	Inglewood (Taranaki)	7·22	18	1·38 " 14th.
+ 1·32	Wanganui	3·75	17	0·64 " 14th.
- 0·50	Levin	2·62	16	0·57 " 9th.
+ 0·29	Wellington	3·59	15	1·08 " 9th.
<i>South Island.</i>				
- 0·61	Nelson	2·26	14	0·57 on 9th.
- 0·78	Hokitika	10·20	11	1·92 " 6th.
- 2·14	Okuru	10·50	12	2·72 " 19th.
+ 0·88	Lincoln	2·88	10	1·07 " 8th.
+ 0·82	Kapunatiki	2·88	12	0·94 " 8th.
- 1·22	Oamaru	1·26	6	0·44 " 12th.
- 0·94	Balclutha	1·64	8	0·42 " 30th.
- 0·11	Dipton	3·80	12	0·92 " 11th.
- 1·93	Invercargill	2·39	14	0·50 " 28th.

NOTES.

The sun reaches its southernmost declination and nearest approach to the earth about the 22nd December, and astronomically this would be considered the height of summer in the Southern Hemisphere; but, as the heat of the earth and atmosphere goes on accumulating, the height of summer comes later in a meteorological sense, and summer is roughly taken as only commencing with December as its first month.

This year the weather during the month has been warm and mild. The barometer was below the normal from the 5th to the 27th, and during that period electrical disturbances and frequent showers were much in evidence. Though the rainfall was generally below the average, some returns are