## CLIMATLC

HIGHMIGHTS



## Across the country

## Yukon

Spring has sprung across the Yukon, with the whole Territory averaging above normal, temperature-wise. Whitehorse set a new April record for the warmest mean temperature ever, $3.5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

With a few exceptions, all stations in the Yukon managed to register a double digit maximum temperature this month. The hot spot was Stewart Crossing, $17^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ on the 19th. In contrast, the temperature at Komakuk Beach failed to climb above the freezing mark, while Ogilvie registered the lowest temperature, $\mathrm{a}-27^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ reading on the night of April 5.

For the most part, April showers failed to provide the normal precipitation allotment this month. Six communities, stretching from the north-central to the south-central Yukon, reported no measurable precipitation at all, although at this time of the year, most precipitation still falls as snow. Only two locations collected more precipitation than normal, Beaver Creek and Carcross, both recording 120 percent of the normal April average. Beaver Creek was the location with the greatest monthly total, 16.5 mm . Carcross held second place honours, with just 6.5 mm . The rest of the Territory made do with only one or two millimetres or no precipitation at all.

## Northwest Territories

April in the southern Mackenzie district was mild and dry, with Yellowknife's mean temperature approximately $3^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ above normal. The northem Mackenzie district also experienced some unusually warm weather. Precipitation was less than half the normal value.

Near-normal weather conditions prevailed in the Keewatin district, with plenty of sunshine. Temperatures hovered in the minus twenties and thirties, with the maximum reading never exceeding the freezing mark. Month-end snow depths were significantly above average at Baker Lake, (76 cm of snow on the ground compared to a
normal of 50 cm ) and at Hall Beach ( 57 cm compared to a normal of 43 cm ).

Sunny and cold conditions dominated the high Arctic. Sunshine totals were above average, ranging from 258.6 hours at Baker Lake to 382.1 hours at Eureka. Resolute Bay tallied 48.8 hours more sunshine than during an average April, with a total of 330.1 hours.

## British Columbia

Frequent April showers were the rule for many areas in the southern two thirds of British Columbia. In fact, it seemed that the showery weather would never end.

Mean monthly temperatures were above normal across the entire province, with the extreme north as much as $3^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ above average; but no monthly records were established.

Precipitation was generally well-above normal except in the extreme southeast and northern portions of the province. Smithers received more than three times their normal April precipitation, while the Okanagan and west Kootenays got twice their normal. High precipitation records were established at: Abbotsford, 195.0 mm ( 188.7 mm 1972); Castlegar, $100.3 \mathrm{~mm}(99.5 \mathrm{~mm}$ 1980); Comox, 133.8 ( 122.9 mm 1950); Port Alberni, 197.7 mm (191.4 mm 1984); Smithers, $64.4 \mathrm{~mm}(49.0$ 1953).

The wet weather had some effect on the agricultural sector in the Fraser Valley. There was concern about the fruit trees in the area, as the cool and wet weather was not beneficial for pollinating insects. As well, fields were very wet and soft, restricting the use of heavy farm machinery. As a result, many field crops have not been planted yet.

Some reminders of winter touched northeastern B.C., where snowfall amounts were near 150 percent of the monthly average from Mackenzie to Fort St. John. This tapered off to less than 18 percent of the monthly normal as one went southwards to Prince George, and nil east of Smithers. No monthly records were broken.

Although precipitation was plentiful, mild temperatures did not allow for any substantial improvement in the mountain snowpack, and concern was being ex-


CLIMATIC EXTREMES IN CANADA - APRIL, 1993

## Mean temperature:

| Highest | Abbotsford, B.C. | $10.1^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Coldest | Eureka, N.W.T. | $-24.6^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| Highest temperature: | Dauphin, Man. | $24.2^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| Lowest temperature: | Eureka, N.W.T. | $-39.0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| Heaviest precipitation: | Amphitrite Point, B.C. | 427.1 mm |
| Heaviest snowfall: | Moncton, N.B. | 50.4 cm |
| Deepest snow on the ground <br> on April 30, 1993 | Baker Lake, N.W.T. | 76 cm |
| Greatest number of bright <br> sunshine hours: | Eureka, N.W.T. | 382 hours |

pressed about water shorlages later in the summer.

Sunshine was also below normal across British Columbia, with the northern half of the province receiving 75 to 85 percent of average. The southern half faired even worse, 60 to 80 percent of the normal in the central sections of the province, dropping to half the normal in the extreme south. Many new low sunshine records were established: Comox, 96.9 hrs (170.5 1988); Penticton, 133.7 hrs ( 153.6 1978); Port Alberni, 81.5 hrs (118.5 1978); Port Hardy, 89.6 hrs ( 94.2 1974); Smithers, 126.0 hrs (141.8 1978); Vancouver, 83.4 hrs (109.7 1969); Victoria, 119.7 hrs (125.6 1917; Williams Lake, 142.7 hrs ( 147.5 1978).

## Alberta

April began on a warm note, with Fort Chipewyan, Cold Lake and Lloydminster all setting new daily high temperature records, in the teens, during the first four days of the month.

On April 5, an intense disturbance moved north along the Alberta-Saskatche-
wan border, with rain changing to snow, as the area of precipitation spread westward. Meanwhile, another weather system brought 3 to 8 centimetres of snow across the Peace River and High Level regions. The two-day snowfall totals across central Alberta ranged between 10 to 20 centimetres, with local amounts up to 30 cm falling between Edmonton and Cold Lake. Schools had to be closed in some counties east of Edmonton.

On Good Friday, the next system brought even more snow to central Alberta, dumping up to 15 cm in the Edmonton area. In contrast, sunny skies and temperatures in the low teens were enjoyed across the southern regions. The remainder of the Easter weekend saw thundershowers roll across the southem two thirds of the province, with hail and intense lightning being reported northwest of Edmonton. Moisure from the previous day's showers, combined with light winds, allowed extensive fog to form early on the 14 th , with visibilities reduced to near zero at a few locations.

More typical April weather was finally enjoyed by mid-month, with sunshine and warm afternoon temperatures prevailing, while afternoon thundershowers developed near the foothills. Overnight temperatures continued to dip below freezing each night.

On April 17 and 18, colder air pushing southwards collided with warm, moist air moving north to produce a band of snow over the central part of the province. Drayton Valley reported 25 cm , while Edmonton City received 10 cm of wet snow. Most of the snow melted as it fell, but several centimetres covered the ground on Sunday morning. Meanwhile, sunshine continued across the north. Cool, damp weather lingered during most of the third week of the month except in the north, where a ridge of high pressure gave sunshine and record high temperatures on the 21st. Later in the week, colder air slipped into northern Alberta, where under clear skies the temperature dropped to record-low values.

A disturbance that tracked across southern Alberta on the 25th, and pushed north along the Alberta-Saskatchewan border, produced a mixed bag of rain and snow in the eastern regions of the province. Lloydminster received a total of 43 mm of mixed rain and snow on April 26 and 27.

Frequent cloudy skies, resulted in the central areas receiving only 75 percent of normal April sunshine. On the other hand, northern and southem regions of the province had near normal sunshine.

## Manitoba and Saskatchewan

Mean temperatures averaged close to normal throughout much of the region, although most areas were slighly warmer than the long term average. The few areas with slightly below normal temperatures were situated near the Hudson Bay coast. The norhwest corner of Manitoba and the northern third of Saskatchewan were above normal by 2 to 3 degrees. Although mean temperatures were, for the most part, above normal, extreme maximum readings for the month were on the cool side. Several areas did not exceed the $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ mark during April, and the highest temperature in the region was only $23.5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ set at Re-
gent, in southwestern Manitoba. Total precipitation amounts were variable, ranging from only a few millimetres or less in the northeast to more than twice the average, over 60 mm , in central Saskatchewan near the Alberta border. Less than half the monthly average was recorded in the northeast quadrant and across the southern agricultural districts. Some communities received less than 10 mm of precipitation during the whole month. The driest area, however, was northeastern Manitoba, where Gillam, Churchill and Island Lake reported only $4.2 \mathrm{~mm}, 0.4 \mathrm{~mm}$ and 0.0 mm , respectively. If not for some significant precipitation toward the end of the month, the January through April period might have been the driest on record in parts of the region.

One of the more significant precipitation events that occurred during the period was a heavy dumping of 20 to 30 centimetres of snow north of Dauphin, Man, on the 27th.

## Ontario

If Ontario residents were anticipating a warm and sunny April, then there must have been a lot of disappointment. Spring did not come easily into Ontario this year. While monthly mean temperatures managed to approach seasonal normals, those enjoyable sunny, warm days that April normally offers as a foretaste of summer, failed to materialize. Moreover, frequent cold rains and snowfalls lingered throughout the month, as winter refused to abandon its hold on the province.

April's monthly mean temperature, although much milder than last year, endedup within a half of a degree of the long-term average. Locations near the shores of Lake Superior and Lake Huron, however, were particularly cool, with Thunder Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Sarnia all recording an April mean close to a full degree cooler than normal. Several outbreaks of cold Arctic air towards the end of the month, resulted in many sites recording their lowest temperatures at the end, rather than at the beginning of the month.

Snowfall was relatively abundant during April in all locales except southwestern
and south-central Ontario. Eastern Ontario was victimized the most, as Ottawa's 42 cm of April snow represented the snowiest April in the nation's capital since weather records began in 1938. Also worth noting is that Ottawa recorded a grand total of 341 cm of snow this winter - the second greatest snowfall since 1938; only the winter of 1970/71 exceeded it, with a 441 cm total. Meanwhile, Kingston's 30 cm made it their snowiest April since 1975. Elsewhere, snowfall totals ranged from 15 to 35 centimetres, which is close to the April normal. Exceptions were noted in the Toronto to Windsor corridor, where just 1 to 7 centimetres of snow fell, slightly below the average, and as well in northwestern Ontario, where only 6 cm of snow (normal 27 $\mathrm{cm})$ was recorded.

April 1993 was also a wet month in the province, except in the extreme northwest. Ottawa's 144 mm of total precipitation set a record for their wettest April, while London's 114 mm was the most since 1981. In general, precipitation was above normal by 10 to 110 percent. The following sites also topped 100 mm : Wawa 138 mm , Kingston 116 mm , Gore Bay 122 mm , Sault Ste. Marie 104 mm and Muskoka 101 mm . Pickle Lake recorded by far the least precipitation; their meagre 6 mm total represented the second driest April since 1938.

Sunshine was lacking in April 1993. Most locations reported from 20 to 50 hours less sun than is usual. Kingston's 103 hours of sunshine was their lowest total in 22 years of records.

While the perception that April 1993 was a very cold month cannot be substantiated, the near-normal temperatures when combined with the rain, snow and a persistent cloud cover certainly produced an April with few, if any, redeeming qualities.

## Quebec

April left a bitter taste of winter. The month was wetter and cloudier than average, although temperatures did remain within $2^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ of the normal. The only region that was significantly below average in temperature was the north.

With a few exceptions, precipitation was above normal. The Montreal area re-
ceived between 150 to 175 millimetres of precipitation, including 40 cm of snow, during the course of the month, which represents more than twice the average allotment for the month of April. Strangely enough, Gaspé tallied only 21.1 mm of precipitation or 21 percent of the normal.

New monthly precipitation records were established at: Montreal, 152.2 mm ( 150.0 mm in 1983); and Trois-Rivières, 143.4 mm ( 139.3 mm in 1983). A monthly snowfall record was also set at Montreal, 41.6 cm , breaking the previous record of 33.6 cm set in 1983.

Southern Quebec recorded only 115 to 135 hours of bright sunshine, which is only 60 to 80 percent of the normal for the month.

There were a number of significant weather events this month. A low pressure system, which tracked eastwards and south of the province at the beginning of the month, left between 30 to 40 centimetres of snow in the Ottawa Valley, Montreal and the Eastern Townships on April Fools Day.

A few days later, 20 to 35 millimetres of rain fell north of the St . Lawrence River, from Hull to Roberval, as a low pressure system moved along the Appalachians on April 10 and 11. Winter-like weather struck again on April 22, as a low pressure system, moving along the eastern seaboard produced between 15 and 20 centimetres of snow across southwestern Quebec. The Laurentian Park had to be closed, because of snowfall amounts in excess of 25 cm .

## Maritimes

April was mild, but a little on the cloudy side. It was extremely cool on the 27th, with most locations setting new daily low maximum temperature records. Both Truro and Halifax, broke long-standing records, dating back to 1898 , with low maximums of $1^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and $3^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ degrees, respectively. Normal maximums for this time of year are in the $10^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $13^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ degree range.

Precipitation totals were well-below normal in northeastern New Brunswick, where Charlo reported only 36.4 mm , or 58 percent of the normal for the month of April. Totals in the remaining areas ranged


## SEASONAL TOTAL OF HEATNG DEGREE-DAYS TO END OF APRIL

|  | 1993 | 1992 | NORMAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BRIISH COLUMBIA |  |  |  |
| Kamloops | 3842 | 2908 | 3540 |
| Penticton | 3469 | 2840 | 3267 |
| Port Hardy | 3083 | 2812 | 3222 |
| Vancouver | 2713 | 2366 | 2732 |
| Victoria | 2766 | 2446 | 2789 |
| YUKON TERRITORY |  |  |  |
| Whitehorse | 6211 | 5848 | 6441 |
| NORTHWEST <br> TERRITORIES |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Iqaluit | 9714 | 9184 | 8821 |
| Inuvik | 8517 | 9222 | 9274 |
| Yellowknife | 7241 | 8001 | 7930 |
| ALBERTA |  |  |  |
| Calgary | 4929 | 4062 | 4920 |
| Edmonton Mun. | 4970 | 4468 | 5117 |
| SASKATCHEWAN |  |  |  |
| Estevan | 5354 | 4695 | 5146 |
| Regina | 5429 | 4913 | 5494 |
| Saskatoon | 5642 | 5149 | 5682 |
| MANITOBA |  |  |  |
| Brandon | 5819 | 5635 | 5732 |
| Churchill | 8176 | 5450 | 8203 |
| Dauphin | 5523 | 5483 | 5738 |
| Winnipeg | 5596 | 5506 | 5555 |
| ONTARIO |  |  |  |
| Kapuskasing | 5996 | 6129 | 5930 |
| London | 3930 | 3802 | 3834 |
| Ottawa | 4523 | 4595 | 4411 |
| Sudbury | 5148 | 5185 | 5049 |
| Thunder Bay | 5363 | 5362 | 5295 |
| Toronto | 3914 | 3767 | 3843 |
| Windsor | 3416 | 3337 | 3412 |
| QUEBEC |  |  |  |
| Baie Comeau | 5738 | 5722 | 5471 |
| Montréal | 4452 | 4502 | 4276 |
| Québec | 4955 | 5095 | 4804 |
| Sept-İles | 6035 | 5940 | 5576 |
| Sherbrooke | 4885 | 4938 | 4850 |
| Val d'Or | 5922 | 5993 | 5690 |
| NEW BRUNSWICK |  |  |  |
| Fredericton | 4584 | 4593 | 4370 |
| Moncton | 4643 | 4629 | 4335 |
| NOVA SCOTIA |  |  |  |
| Sydney | 4319 | 4304 | 3996 |
| Yarmouth | 3903 | 3790 | 3637 |
| PRINCE EDWARD |  |  |  |
| ISLAND |  |  |  |
| Charlottetown | 4526 | 4448 | 4218 |
| NEWFOUNDLAND |  |  |  |
| Gander | 5014 | 4924 | 4475 |
| St. John's | 4525 | 4554 | 4188 |

SEASONAL SNOWFALL TOTALS (cm) TO END OF APRIL



## 50-kPa ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION

## April 1993



Mean geopotential heights

- 5 decametre interval -


Normal geopotential heights for the month - 5 decametre interval -


Mean geopotential height anomaly - 5 decametre interval -


Mean heights difference w/r to previous month - 5 decametre interval -

# Great Lakes levels vary with weather and climate 

The constantly changing levels and flows of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River can be a recurring cause of concern for the millions of people who depend on the system for a wide range of purposes.

Whether they live on, or make their living from, Great Lakes - St. Lawrence shorelines; whether they sail the system for pleasure or to transport commercial goods; whether they produce or consume hydroelectricity; or, whether they simply enjoy the lakes for their scenic beauth and abundant plant and animal life, these people are directly or indirectly affected by changing water levels and flows.

Because of their large size and storage capacities, the lakes respond slowly to changes in water supply. Short-term variations in supplies usually have relatively minor effects on water levels. However, periods of six months or longer of consistently high or low supplies can cause noticeable changes in lake levels.

Since last summer, the lower Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River area have received generally heavy precipitation. As a result, the levels of Lakes St. Clair, Erie and Ontario have risen significantly above their long-term (1900-1991) averages.

At 70 centimetres above average at the beginning of May, Lake Ontario has been the most severely affected. Lake Erie began May at 51 centimetres above average, while Lake St. Clair's beginning-of-May
level was 43 centimetres above its average for the time of year.

The accumulated effects of the heavy precipitation of the past summer and winter, severe ice and snow conditions in the St. Lawrence River, and record high water supplies in April combined to push Lake Ontario's level to the highest it had been since 1973. The early May level was within 10 centimetres of the record for the century that was set in 1952.

High water levels can cause problems such as flooding and accelerated erosion to shoreline properties, decreased clearances for boats passing under bridges or other structures, flooding of docks, nearshore navigation hazards, increased velocities in shipping channels and spilling of excess water that hydropower plants do not have the capacity to use.

Water levels can also reach extreme lows due to dry conditions. The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River have seen several periods of both highs and lows this century. The last period of extremely high water levels was in 1985-86, when all of the lakes except Lake Ontario reached record high levels for the century. Subsequently, a period of drought in 1987-88 caused the levels to fall dramatically, raising concems about the effects of very low levels.

The latest period of higher-than-average water levels for Lakes St. Clair, Erie and Ontario is a further demonstration of the variability of water levels and flows in the world's largest system of fresh water reservoirs.

While high water levels continue to be an immediate concern, a recent International Joint Commission study of Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River water levels and flows points out that the effects of global climate change could substantially reduce the supply of water to the system. The March 31, 1993, report of the Levels Reference Study Board notes:
"The most advanced computer models currently predict that water supplies to the Great lakes and St. Lawrence River will be dramatically reduced over the next century - possibly to the extent that Lake Superior's level could drop by one third of a metre...and the other lakes could be reduced between 1.2 and 1.5 metres... St. Lawrence River flows at Montreal could be reduced by as much as $40 \%$. The effects of the reduced water supply are more dramatic farther downstream in the system, because they accumulate as the effects of reduced water supplies are carried through the system."

The report to the Commission goes on to note that these projections are estimates only and cannot be considered as precise predictions.

The Study Board recommends that future management of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River resource take into account the potential for reduced water supplies due to climate change. In recognition that modelling of the potential effects of global warming is still in the developing stages, the Board recommends that refinement of global climate models be continued in order to improve their predictive capacity and use as a planning tool. The Board also recommends continuation of efforts to develop a binational assessment of the poten-
tial impacts of climate change on the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River system, and of efforts to coordinate responses to expected changes in climatic conditions.

The purpose of the report is to provide advice to the Canadian and U.S. Governments on how to deal with the changing levels of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence

River. It also contains recommendations for land use and shoreline management initiatives to help reduce the risks associated with living on the shorelines, and it recommends against additional regulation of lake levels and flows. The International Joint Commission will review the report before making its own report to the Governments. For further information: Great Lakes

Water Level Communication Centre Inland Waters Directorate - Ontario Region

For futher information contact: Great Lakes Water Level Communications Centre
Inland Waters Directorate
Ontario Region
Tel: (416) 336-4581

## LAKE ONTARIO AT KINGSTON



# Forecast almost as good as observations? 

Total forecast precipitation for April 1993. (RFE model, $24-48$ hour forecast)

This map has been produced by the Canadian Meteorological Center (CMC) in Montreal, using an experimental version of their Regional Finite Element (RFE) forecast model. It represents the monthly total of the 24 -hour precipitation amount forecast by the regional numerical model, a day ahead of the events, that is to say, from the 24-48 hour part of theforecast. This is pre-
sented to compare with the total precipitation amount observed for the month.

Although the RFE model slighlty overforecast accumulated precipitation amounts on the west coast and in eastern Canada, the model results are excellent elsewhere. The total precipitation forecast by this model could be used as an estimate of monthly precipitation in data spase areas, particularly in the north.

Readers should also be aware that the analysis appearing in Climatic Perspectives is of observed or measured precipitation, which has not been generally corrected for gauge "undercatch" due to wind. This measurement error can be very significant, particularly during snowfall events associated with high winds.

It should be noted that this model's output is not yet a regular CMC product, and is still a developmental tool.

TOTAL FORECAST PRECIPITATION (MM) ( $24-48 \mathrm{H}$ )



|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & n \\ & \underset{3}{3} \\ & \stackrel{0}{2} \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\stackrel{\omega}{-}$ |  | ¢unton | ＋¢ 心～N |  |  |  | gunfut | Nき心品品 | Mean |  |
| －Oodio | $\bigcirc$ |  |  | －¢0\％ |  |  |  | Joñon |  | Difference from Normal |  |
| － | $\stackrel{\sim}{0}$ | －『～～が ivinim． |  | $\underset{\sim}{\sim}$ |  |  | がすご $\vec{\Phi}$ bininai |  |  vinivai | Maximum |  |
|  | $\stackrel{1}{10}$ | が向的べonio |  | $\underset{\infty}{\operatorname{don}} \frac{1}{\omega} \frac{1}{0}$ |  |  |  |  |  | Minimum |  |
| ¢0． | 0 | Nomo | $\stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{\text { a }}$ | Oón |  | $\stackrel{\omega}{0}$ |  | －がうが <br> Nưo No | さんペ゙ั <br>  | Snowfoll（cm） |  |
| ～总の寺 | ＊ |  | ＊$\omega$－${ }^{\text {co }}$ | －苓 |  |  |  | いいすらす | ¢N్ర్ర． | \％of Normal Snowfoll |  |
| $\xrightarrow[\text { A A }]{\text { A }}$ | $\stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{i}$ | －NTN～ －inaina |  |  |  | － |  in $\rightarrow \infty$ |  |  | Total Precipitation（mm） |  |
|  | む |  | － 0.8 ロらす | ～ |  |  |  | －－A | ＋ | \％of Normal Precipitation |  |
| － 0 \％ | $\bigcirc$ | 00000 | 00000 | 000 |  |  | 00000 | 00000 | ＊ 0000 | Snow on ground at end of month（cm） |  |
| －0000 | － | いいのいこ | ＋んののロ | waw |  |  | covorus． | vUn＋m | ＊$\times$ いいの | No．of doys with Precip 1.0 mm or more |  |
| － ® $_{\text {－}}^{\text {Num }}$ | $\cong$ |  |  | N－ |  | －${ }^{\sim}$ | 三＊＊＊ | ำัํNN్ |  | Bright Sunshine（hours） |  |
| －ロ － | $\stackrel{\sim}{\sim}$ |  | －${ }_{\text {O．}}$ |  |  |  | び＊＊＊ | 云＊\％© | －～～．ロ®u | \％of Normol Bright Sunshine |  |
|  | $\stackrel{+}{+}$ |  |  | ＂じゃ |  |  |  |  |  | Degree Days below 18 C |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & n \\ & \underset{3}{3} \\ & \stackrel{1}{2} \end{aligned}$ |  |
|  | \％0\％ | $\cdots$ | 二0inois | 0 | $\stackrel{\substack{\dot{\omega} \\ \dot{\omega} \\ \hline}}{ }$ | now |  |  | $\vec{\infty} \quad \vec{a} \dot{\omega} \dot{\omega}$ | Meon |  |
|  | － | －号号 | i－OiNo | 0 | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | ㅇ．$\stackrel{\vdots}{i}$ |  | $\stackrel{-\infty}{\infty}$ | Difference from Normal |  |
| Nच च int－ 0000 om | $\stackrel{\sim}{\sim}$ | $\underset{\omega}{\sim} \quad \underset{\sim}{\sim} \underset{i}{N}$ | $\underset{\sim}{\overrightarrow{0}} \underset{\sim}{\vec{N}} \underset{\sim}{\sim}$ | $\underset{i}{\underset{\omega}{\sim}}$ | $\underset{\dot{\omega}}{\stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{\omega}}$ | $\stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{0}$ |  |  |  | Maximum |  |
|  | －1 |  | ${ }_{\frac{1}{7}}^{\frac{1}{0}}$ | 1 | 交京 | 尔家家 |  |  |  | Minimum |  |
| $\underset{\sim}{\omega \sim}$ | $\stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{\mathbf{\omega}} \stackrel{\omega}{\circ}$ | －No No |  | $\stackrel{\sim}{\square}$ | $\stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{\Phi} \stackrel{0}{0}$ |  |  |  | $\overrightarrow{\vec{i}} \stackrel{\vec{\infty}}{\stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{i}}$ | Snowfoll（cm） |  |
|  | ＊ | $\stackrel{\text { coun }}{\text { ¢ }}$ | 言 | 可 | 思 | ＋ | जu．${ }_{\text {\％}}^{\text {\％}}$ |  | 尔＊＊＊ | \％of Normal Snowfoll |  |
|  | － |  | Oun | $\begin{gathered} \stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{0} \\ -\infty \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  | जّ | Total Precipitation（mm） |  |
|  |  | ごい ज゙ミが | 隹＝ָ̃？ | ¢ ${ }_{\text {¢ }}^{\text {¢ }}$ | あ玉 | ज्ञw | 言い ${ }_{\text {a }}^{\text {－}}$ |  | 可－9＊ | \％of Normal Precipitation |  |
| 00＊0000 | 00 | 00000 | ． 0000 | 0 O | $\bigcirc$ | ONO | 000 0＊0 | 0 00 | 0 0－＊ | Snow on ground ot end of month（cm） |  |
| －こニズすこ | －0 | つん $\quad=0$ | い $\omega$ い $=$ | ぶ | $\sim \stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{\omega}$ | F＋ | ニ＝へan |  | －WN＊ | No．of days with Precip 1.0 mm or more |  |
| －的 | ．． |  | ミ | ぶす | Ф ${ }_{\text {¢ }}$ |  | －${ }^{\text {a }}$ ． |  | O－${ }^{\text {N }}$ | Bright Sunshine（hours） |  |
| ＊ 0 ．．．．．． | ＊＊ |  | －＊＊＊ | ＋ | 㖇 | $\underline{\sim}$ | －＊ | 윤 | －「 + － | \％of Normal Bright Sunshine |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Now } \\ & \text { inion } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | い |  |  |  | Degree Days below 18 C |  |



AGROCLIMATOLOGICAL STATIONS APRIL 1993


Courtesy of Aariculture Conodo

## ...continued from page 5

from 28 percent above normal at Sable Island, to 32 percent above normal at Halifax.

Snowfall totals were well-below normal in northerm New Brunswick. Both Charlo and St. Leonard N.B., reported snowfall totals of less than 10 cm . In Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, on the other hand, snowfall was generally above average, with two snowfall events, one near the beginning and the other at the end of the month accounting for most of this month's totals.

Sunshine hours were generally below normal with the exception of Sable Island.

The month began with a couple of slow moving disturbances tracking south of Nova Scotia, which produced some snow, freezing rain and rain. Shearwater, N.S. received 14.4 cm of snow during the first four days of the month, which is 0.2 cm above their April normal. Moncton, N.B. received 27.4 cm in the first three days. Lots of freezing precipitation was also reported, and on the 3rd the highway from Saint John to St. Stephen, N.B. had to be closed, when hydro towers supporting high-voltage power lines collapsed due to a heavy ice buildup caused by the freezing precipitation.

Ice jams along the Saint John River and its tributaries caused flooding in some low
lying areas of New Brunswick early in the month. On the 12 th, some roads were reported washed out and some highways were closed. One of the hardest hit areas was at Perth-Andover, where about 230 people were evacuated.

Just when it seemed that spring had arrived, a winter-like storm dumped a mixture of snow, freezing rain, ice pellets and rain over the southern areas of the Maritimes on the 27 hh . Greenwood, N.S., reported 18 cm of snow. There were a number of weather related accidents, including three deaths. Early on the 28th, a transport truck carrying hazardous chemicals overturned near Shubenacadie, N.S. forcing the evacuation of local residents and a school. The highway from Halifax to Truro was closed for approximately 12 hours.

## Newfoundland and Labrador

Near-normal temperatures and below-normal snowfall prevailed across the Island in April. In the first two weeks of the month, double digit highs were recorded on several days. The highest temperature for the month was reported at Deer Lake, with a $16.4^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ reading. At the other extreme, St. Anthony reported $-13.6^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, as the lowest temperature.

There was less snow and more rain this month, especially along the south coast and portion of the west coast. Stephenville recorded 37.2 mm of rain on the twentythird.

All stations in the province reported above-normal hours of bright sunshine, except St. John's, where there was 11 hours less sunshine than average. The areal extent of the ice pack was greater than normal for this time of year, although the prevailing wind direction from the west was favourable in keeping the pack ice offshore.

Temperatures averaged near normal across most of Labrador, except in the western regions, where temperatures were as much as $2^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ above normal. Goose Bay reported a maximum reading of $16.9^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ on the 12 th. In contrast, a $-22.4^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ reading was recorded at Nain, as the lowest value this month.

While snowfall in Labrador during April was below normal, hours of bright sunshine were above normal. Mary's Harbour had 44 cm less snow than the average, while Goose Bay reported 60.2 hours more sunshine than normal in April. By the end of the month there was still a very large area of sea ice lying off the coast of Labrador.


Environment Canada Environnement
CLIMATIC PERSFECTIVES (MONTHLY REVIEW)
Vol: 15 Date: 930400

