

WATER AND AIR TEMPERATURES AT LESINA

	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER	AUTUMN	YEAR	RANGE
Air	9.2°	14.8°	24.4°	17.9°	16.6°	15.2°
Surface water . .	13.5	15.0	22.0	19.5	17.5	8.5
Water at 10 meters	13.9	14.7	20.3	18.4	16.8	6.4

According to Schott the variation of surface temperature of the open ocean over the whole globe is never less than 1° nor more than 15° . Such variations are slight on the equator, larger in the region of the trade winds, less again in the northern and southern seas.¹ The surface temperature extends only a short distance into the water, thus constituting a warm surface layer. It has indeed been known since the time of Aristotle that the depths of the sea are cold. In the open ocean the temperature increases steadily as the depth increases, but more rapidly near the surface, more slowly at greater depths. The bottom water at great depth varies from a temperature of 2° in the tropics to about -2° in the polar waters. Such low temperature of the depths of the tropical oceans is almost certainly due to the inflow of cold water from high latitudes.

¹ Arrhenius, *l.c.*