

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AND POTENTIAL EVAPOTRANSPIRATION OVER  
GREAT BRITAIN

SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AT 0900 GMT ON 28 JANUARY 1976

From 14 to 17 January (last issue on 15 January 1976), Great Britain experienced mainly small amounts of rainfall, scattered over England and Wales but more widespread over Scotland. From then on, precipitation over Scotland (mainly as snow) was widespread but central and southern areas were drier during 23rd to 25th. In England and Wales, rainfall was widespread over the south-west during 18th to 20th and over the north-west during 18th to 22nd. From 23rd to 26th, much of England and Wales experienced snowfalls especially in the east. Precipitation was widespread over much of Britain on 26th. In contrast the 27th was mainly dry except over the Hebrides. The largest reported falls were 14mm (Prestwick and Cape Wrath) on 18th, 23mm (Kirkwall) on 19th, 13mm (Eskdalemuir) on 20th, 14mm (Stornoway) on 22nd, 16mm (Lerwick) on 24th and 17mm (Marham) on 25th. It is interesting to note that the period October to December inclusive, 1975, was the driest such period since 1879 over England and Wales, and since 1937 over Scotland.

Since the last bulletin deficits have decreased, especially in eastern parts of Britain. The largest composite deficit, amounting to 58mm, has been calculated for Wittering, Northants. Deficits in the Midlands and parts of eastern and central-southern England are still well above average for late January.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION: £7.50 post free (for 1975-76 season)

Apply to: Director-General  
Meteorological Office, Met O 8  
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Issued on 29 January 1976

FA2

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT (S.M.D.)

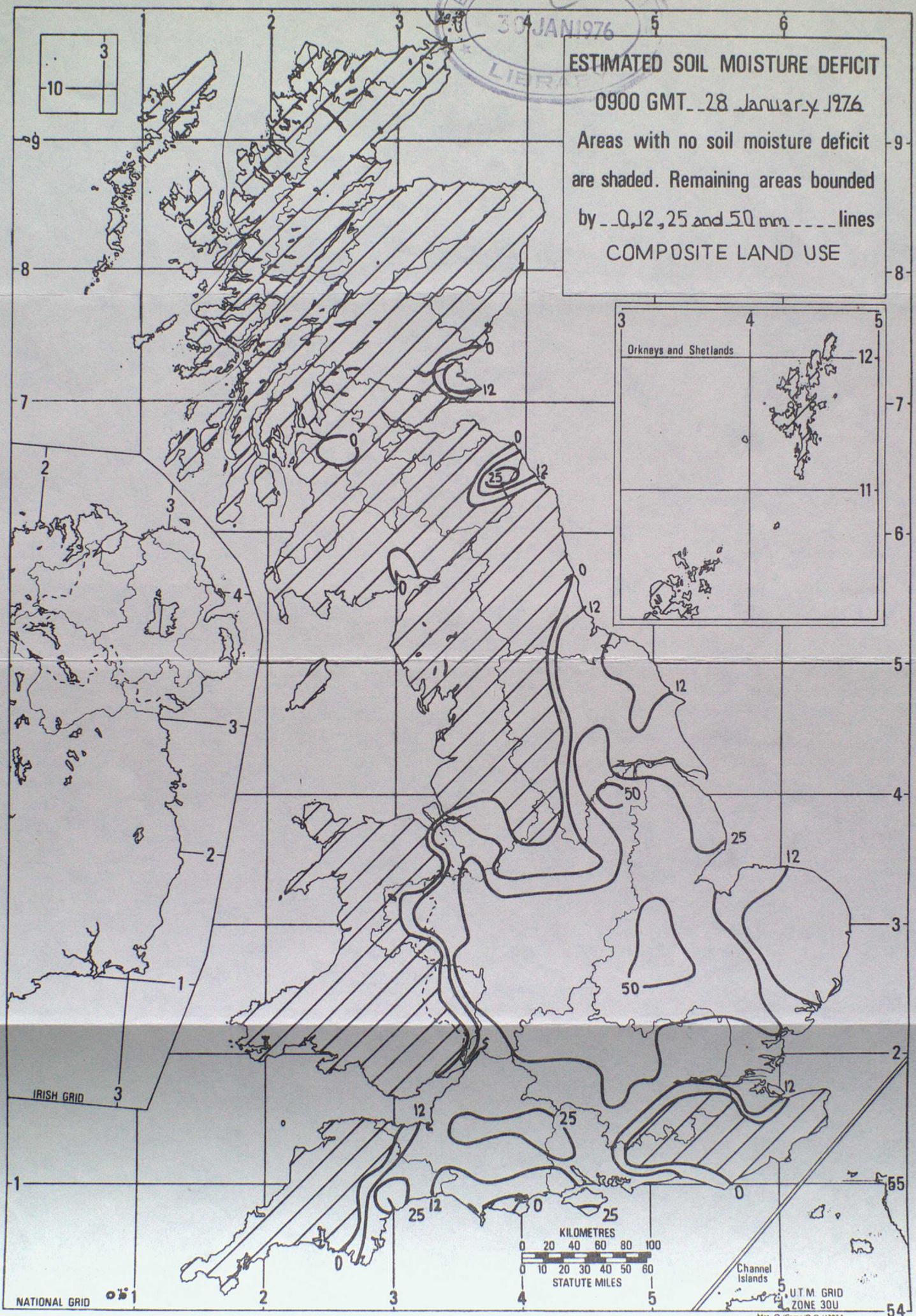
AT 09 GMT ON 28 JAN 1976

RIVER AREA	ESTIMATED AREAL	CHANGE DURING THE WEEK ENDING 09 GMT	
	S.M.D. MM	28 JAN 76 MM	21 JAN 76 MM
Northumbrian	6.5	- 1.7	- 1.6
Yorkshire	11.9	- 2.0	- 0.4
Trent	17.5	- 2.6	- 1.5
Lincolnshire	30.9	- 4.5	- 0.4
Welland and Nene	40.0	- 4.0	+ 1.0
Great Ouse	33.4	- 4.4	+ 0.6
Norfolk and Suffolk	9.6	- 5.1	- 1.1
Essex	22.7	- 3.6	0.0
Lee Division	17.9	- 1.9	+ 0.1
Thames Conservancy	24.2	- 0.6	+ 0.7
London Area	7.3	- 1.3	+ 0.7
Kent	3.7	- 0.5	0.0
Sussex	3.5	- 0.8	+ 0.5
Hampshire	11.0	- 0.5	0.0
Isle of Wight	19.6	- 0.4	- 0.2
Avon and Dorset	16.5	0.0	- 1.0
Devon	10.1	- 0.3	- 1.2
Cornwall	0.0	0.0	- 0.4
Somerset	15.9	- 0.1	- 1.4
Bristol Avon	22.7	0.0	- 0.8
Severn	25.6	- 1.8	- 0.6
Wye	8.5	- 1.0	- 0.4
Usk	0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Glamorgan	0.1	+ 0.1	0.0
South West Wales	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gwynedd	0.1	- 0.4	- 0.2
Dee and Clwyd	3.2	- 1.0	- 0.6
Mersey and Weaver	2.6	- 0.9	- 1.1
Lancashire	0.2	+ 0.2	0.0
Cumbrian	0.3	+ 0.3	0.0

N.B. Apart from normal changes these differences also reflect retrospective adjustments after receipt of additional data.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE  
30 JAN 1976  
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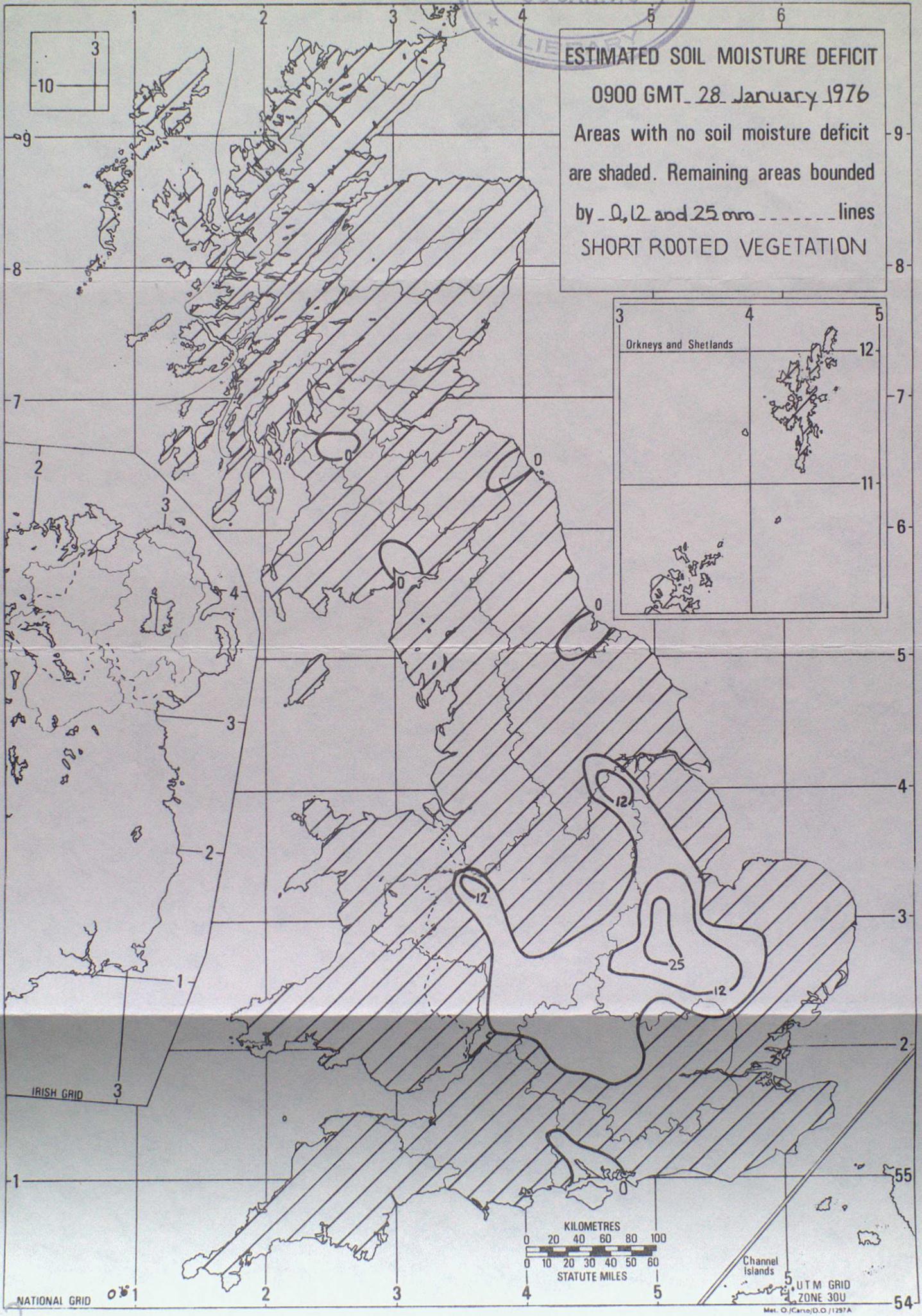
**ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT**  
0900 GMT. 28 January 1976  
Areas with no soil moisture deficit are shaded. Remaining areas bounded by 0, 12, 25 and 50 mm --- lines  
COMPOSITE LAND USE



FH2



ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT  
0900 GMT 28 January 1976  
Areas with no soil moisture deficit  
are shaded. Remaining areas bounded  
by 0, 12 and 25 mm ----- lines  
SHORT ROOTED VEGETATION



FH 2