

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AND POTENTIAL  
EVAPOTRANSPIRATION OVER GREAT BRITAIN

SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AT 0900 GMT ON 23 JUNE 1982



The warm southerly air stream affecting Great Britain at the end of the last period gave way to cooler, more unsettled weather as rain spread north east during the early hours of the 11th. With the exception of Scotland, north of a line approximately from Aberdeen to Tiree, which had much drier weather than the rest of the country, most areas had very unsettled weather for the remainder of the period covered by this bulletin.

Many places again had showers or prolonged periods of heavy rain, sometimes accompanied by thunder, during the period; (Gwennap Head in south western England recorded 51 mm during the 24 hour rainfall day of the 17th) but it was a depression centred off the south west approaches which brought the most significant rainfall of the period to England and Wales, as the associated fronts moved north during the 21st and 22nd, bringing prolonged heavy rain. The 22nd with a general rainfall value of 21.7 mm was the wettest day over England and Wales since 19 September 1981. The largest 2 day total was at Leeming in Yorkshire, where 80 mm was recorded for the period from 0900 GMT on 21st to 0900 GMT on 23rd which could be expected to occur on average about once in 20 years. The wettest day over Scotland was 11 June with a general rainfall value of 11.7 mm.

Apart from Cumbria most parts of England and Wales had more than the average rainfall for the last fortnight while with the exception of the Strathclyde region most of Scotland had less than average. Individual reports received ranged from 2% of average rainfall at Wick (Wick has had less than 1 mm of rain since the beginning of June) to 583% of average over Emley Moor in Yorkshire.

With the exception of Northern Scotland, Eastern Scotland and extreme southeastern England, areal deficits have decreased since the last bulletin. The heavy rain of the last week has brought many high level areas back to field capacity.

Over England and Wales only Kent, Essex, Avon, Dorset, Somerset and some coastal regions of South and West Wales still have deficits above the average, all other areas are now near or below the seasonal normal.

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ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT (S.M.D.) AT 09 GMT ON 23 JUN 1982

RIVER AREA	AREAL LAND USE ESTIMATED S.M.D. mm	CHANGE DURING THE WEEK ENDING 09 GMT ON	
		23 Jun 82 mm	16 Jun 82 mm
NORTHUMBRIAN	53.8	- 19.9	- 5.9
YORKSHIRE	40.9	- 44.3	- 5.4
TRENT	34.1	- 46.0	- 3.1
LINCOLNSHIRE	53.8	- 46.3	- 3.4
WELLAND AND NENE	57.6	- 31.3	- 0.3
GREAT OUSE	67.5	- 15.7	+ 1.9
NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK	80.8	- 12.8	+ 2.5
ESSEX	88.1	- 9.3	+ 2.4
LEE DIVISION	67.6	- 10.4	+ 3.7
THAMES CONSERVANCY	65.3	- 13.1	+ 4.9
LONDON AREA	74.5	- 6.2	+ 8.7
KENT	97.1	- 2.2	+ 1.9
SUSSEX	69.5	- 10.5	- 1.2
HAMPSHIRE	61.2	- 20.3	+ 5.0
ISLE OF WIGHT	55.4	- 26.9	- 3.3
UPPER THAMES	77.7	- 16.1	+ 8.4
AVON AND DORSET	71.6	- 19.3	+ 6.0
DEVON	57.3	- 23.6	- 5.2
CORNWALL	16.8	- 51.6	- 10.0
SOMERSET	73.7	- 17.9	+ 4.5
BRISTOL AVON	73.8	- 19.8	+ 9.3
SEVERN	55.6	- 26.0	+ 0.1
WYE	64.2	- 19.9	- 5.0
USK	58.4	- 19.9	- 9.4
GLAMORGAN	53.9	- 21.3	- 11.4
SOUTH WEST WALES	61.7	- 20.5	- 5.9
GWYNEDD	47.5	- 15.9	- 12.5
DEE AND CLWYD	44.2	- 20.7	- 9.4
MERSEY AND WEAVER	47.1	- 27.5	- 1.1
LANCASHIRE	33.7	- 20.0	- 17.6
CUMBRIA	54.0	- 5.8	- 4.4

NB APART FROM NORMAL CHANGES THESE DIFFERENCES ALSO REFLECT RETROSPECTIVE ADJUSTMENTS AFTER RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL DATA.







