

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AND POTENTIAL

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION OVER GREAT BRITAIN

SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AT 0900 GMT ON 26 MAY 1982



The dry spell which was influencing Great Britain, with the exception of south west England, at the end of the period covered by the last bulletin, continued to affect most areas until the 15th, when showers, some heavy with thunder occurred. This unsettled weather continued in all areas until the 20th although rainfall amounts were small, away from the occasional thunderstorm which mostly occurred over south east England, East Anglia and north east Scotland.

On the 21st and 22nd the showers were more widespread with some places having larger periods of rain and scattered thunderstorms but it was the 23rd which saw the greatest thundery activity of the fortnight, with thunderstorms, sometimes with hail, being reported from most of the eastern half of England, south Wales and south east Scotland. Although the unsettled weather continued to the end of the period in Scotland, northern England and west Wales, the rest of the country was relatively dry on the 24th and 25th.

The wettest day over Great Britain was the 21st with a general value of 7.3 mm over both Scotland and England and Wales.

Most parts of Great Britain had rainfall totals between 50% and 100% of the average during the last fortnight. Extreme south east England and an area through the Scilly Isles, North Devon and Cornwall and the Seven Valley had less than half the normal rain while the Isle of Wight, parts of East Anglia, the north of Scotland and Western Isles had near or above average rainfall. Individual reports so far received range from 11% of average at Hastings to 182% of average at Wick.

In all parts of England and Wales, overall deficits have increased since the last bulletin was issued, but during the second half of the period, the increase has been less marked and in some cases especially in the south and west the deficits have decreased during the last week.

In Scotland, deficits have generally decreased over high ground in the West but remained the same or increased in other areas.

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ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT (S.M.D.) AT 09 GMT ON 26 MAY 1982

RIVER AREA	AREAL LAND USE ESTIMATED S.M.D. MM	CHANGE DURING THE WEEK ENDING 09 GMT ON	
		26 MAY 82	19 MAY 82
		MM	MM
NORTHUMBRIAN	62.7	- 0.8	+ 12.6
YORKSHIRE	80.1	+ 2.7	+ 16.0
TRENT	72.8	+ 3.0	+ 13.5
LINCOLNSHIRE	96.6	+ 5.8	+ 13.5
WELLAND AND NENE	85.2	+ 4.5	+ 12.0
GREAT OUSE	78.4	+ 4.5	+ 13.3
NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK	88.3	+ 5.8	+ 14.0
ESSEX	83.2	+ 4.5	+ 13.3
LEE DIVISION	63.3	+ 3.3	+ 12.6
THAMES CONSERVANCY	61.3	+ 1.0	+ 13.4
LONDON AREA	61.8	+ 2.5	+ 14.3
KENT	79.8	+ 3.1	+ 15.0
SUSSEX	64.6	- 1.4	+ 15.2
HAMPSHIRE	56.9	- 4.5	+ 13.5
ISLE OF WIGHT	55.3	- 6.8	+ 15.2
UPPER THAMES	74.0	+ 4.4	+ 15.0
AVON AND DORSET	64.2	- 1.3	+ 10.0
DEVON	56.7	- 7.9	+ 12.3
CORNWALL	42.7	- 13.8	+ 11.5
SOMERSET	65.2	- 1.2	+ 10.1
BRISTOL AVON	74.3	+ 3.1	+ 13.2
SEVERN	67.2	+ 1.9	+ 10.9
WYE	68.6	+ 1.0	+ 10.8
USK	65.0	- 1.9	+ 9.7
GLAMORGAN	60.2	- 4.3	+ 9.8
SOUTH WEST WALES	58.8	- 7.1	+ 8.5
GWYNEDD	49.6	- 10.3	+ 11.0
DEE AND CLWYD	51.2	- 8.2	+ 10.8
MERSEY AND WEAVER	59.6	- 1.9	+ 13.0
LANCASHIRE	51.7	- 6.7	+ 14.3
CUMBRIA	46.6	- 7.3	+ 15.2

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



