

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AND POTENTIAL  
EVAPOTRANSPIRATION OVER GREAT BRITAIN

SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AT 0900 GMT ON 21 APRIL 1976

The dry weather over England and Wales has continued since the last issue (1 April 1976), with only 31% of the average rainfall for April falling so far this month, despite widespread rain on 13th and 14th. In contrast, Scotland has experienced near to average rainfall during the first three weeks of April. Most areas of Scotland were mainly dry on 7th to 9th, 14th, 19th and 20th and southern parts were dry during 15th to 18th. The largest reported falls of rain, of 15mm and above, occurred at Lerwick (29mm) on 31 March, Edinburgh (20mm) on 1 April, Stornoway (28mm) on 10th, Carlisle (15mm) on 13th and at Cape Wrath (18mm) on 16th.

The whole of Great Britain now has a deficit, the largest increases occurring mainly in East Anglia and southern parts of England. The largest calculated deficits are to found at Wittering, Northants., with values of 62mm and 83mm under short rooted and composite land use respectively. The smallest composite deficit (2mm) exists at Lerwick. Deficits are above average for April in the Midlands, eastern and southern England.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION: £9.00 (1976-77 season) post free

Apply to:

Director-General  
Meteorological Office, Met O 8  
London Road  
Bracknell  
Berkshire  
RG12 2SZ

Issued on 22 April 1976





ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT (S.M.D.)  
AT 09 GMT ON 21 APR 1976

River Area	Estimated Areal S.M.D.  mm	Change during the Week ending 09 GMT on		
		21 Apr 76 mm	14 Apr 76 mm	7 Apr 76 mm
Northumbrian	12.6	+ 7.8	- 0.3	- 0.6
Yorkshire	22.5	+ 8.3	+ 2.0	- 0.5
Trent	28.8	+ 7.4	+ 3.3	+ 0.9
Lincolnshire	52.6	+ 7.1	+ 3.8	+ 2.9
Welland and Nene	58.3	+ 7.1	+ 4.1	+ 3.4
Great Ouse	54.8	+ 6.1	+ 3.2	+ 5.3
Norfolk and Suffolk	39.3	+ 9.3	+ 1.9	+ 5.8
Essex	57.4	+ 7.8	+ 4.2	+ 8.1
Lee Division	44.8	+ 5.3	+ 4.2	+ 6.7
Thames Conservancy	45.6	+ 8.4	+ 4.3	+ 5.4
London Area	43.3	+ 7.9	+ 5.2	+ 7.2
Kent	40.7	+ 9.7	+ 4.9	+ 7.8
Sussex	38.4	+ 10.7	+ 5.1	+ 7.2
Hampshire	38.7	+ 10.7	+ 5.7	+ 6.2
Isle of Wight	48.9	+ 9.7	+ 7.1	+ 7.5
Avon and Dorset	34.8	+ 11.3	+ 5.7	+ 4.3
Devon	26.2	+ 13.4	+ 3.7	+ 2.9
Cornwall	24.2	+ 14.5	+ 0.8	+ 3.8
Somerset	28.4	+ 11.4	+ 5.5	+ 2.9
Bristol Avon	32.7	+ 10.2	+ 5.3	+ 4.3
Severn	32.3	+ 8.7	+ 3.1	+ 1.7
Wye	22.0	+ 9.8	+ 3.7	+ 0.9
Usk	18.7	+ 10.5	+ 3.6	+ 0.5
Glamorgan	17.4	+ 11.0	+ 2.7	0.0
South West Wales	13.3	+ 10.8	- 0.1	- 1.4
Gwynedd	9.6	+ 9.1	- 1.0	- 2.2
Dee and Clwyd	9.4	+ 8.4	- 1.4	- 1.4
Mersey and Weaver	9.2	+ 7.9	- 0.9	- 0.5
Lancashire	8.9	+ 8.9	- 1.4	- 0.8
Cumbrian	8.2	+ 8.2	- 0.7	+ 0.7

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







