

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AT 0900 GMT

ON 11 AUGUST 1976 OVER GREAT BRITAIN



Between the last issue (29 July 1976) and 3 August most areas (except the south and south-west of England and Wales) had small falls of rain. From then on, Britain has been mainly dry but with occasional small falls mostly over the western and northern Isles and north-west Scotland during 4th to 6th. Thundery showers were reported over parts of East Anglia and eastern England on 3rd. The largest reported falls of rain were 16 mm at Kinloss on 2 August and 19 mm at Marham on 3rd.

Over England and Wales, the 15 month period May 1975 to July 1976 is easily the driest such period since records began in 1727. The rainfall recorded over England and Wales during the first 7 months of 1976 (280 mm) is the lowest for this period since 1784 and the first 10 days of August have brought only 3% of the average rainfall for the month. So far this year less than 125 mm of rain has fallen over much of south-west and central southern England, with less than 100 mm in the London area.

Deficits continue to increase over much of Britain but at a much slower pace over England and Wales due to soil moisture deficits being close to the maximum values. The largest calculated deficits are to be found at Cambridge (145 mm and 151 mm respectively for short rooted and composite land uses). The smallest deficits of about 10 mm exist in north-western parts of Scotland.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION: £9.00 per season (post free)

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Issued on 12 August 1976

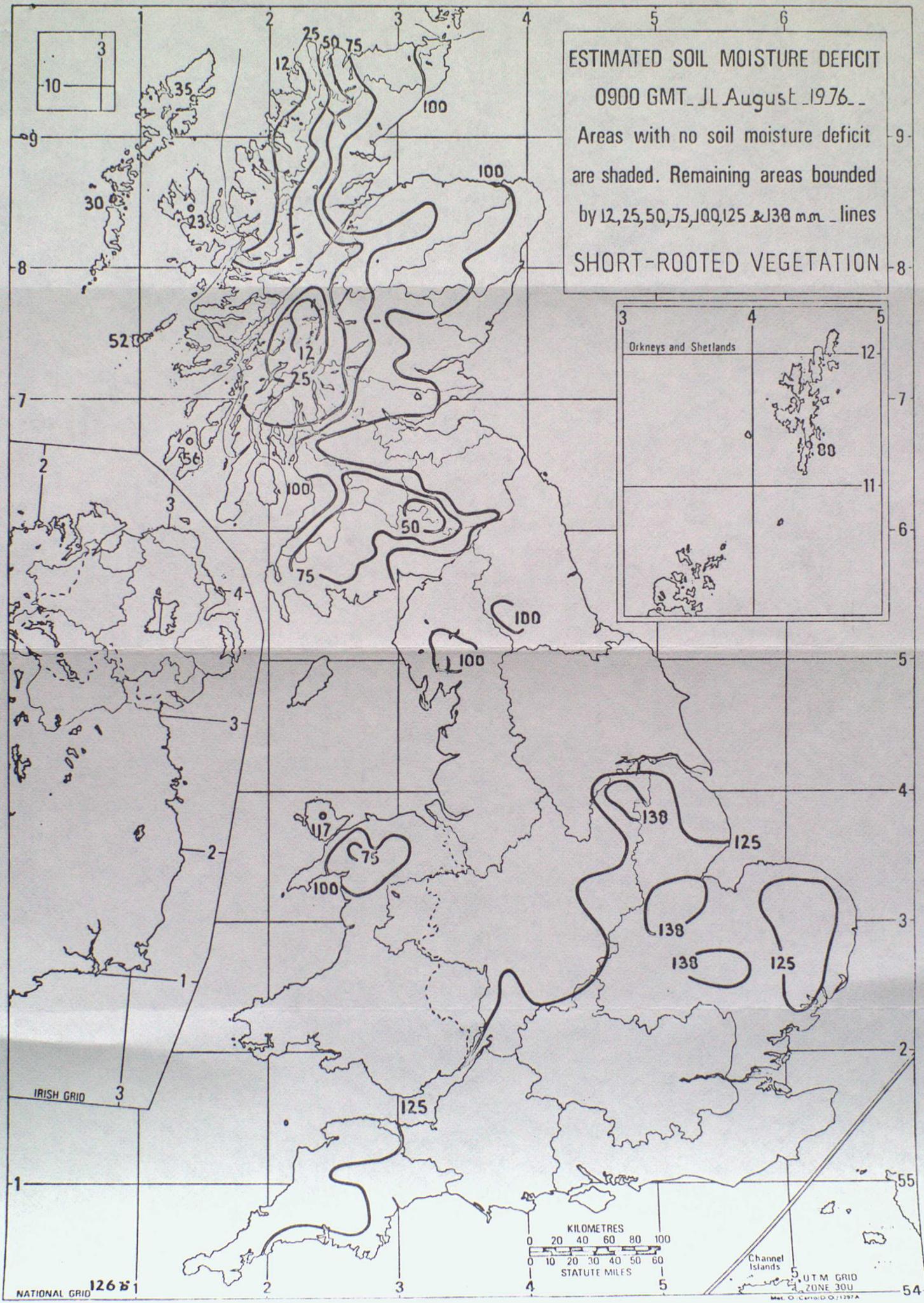
FH 2

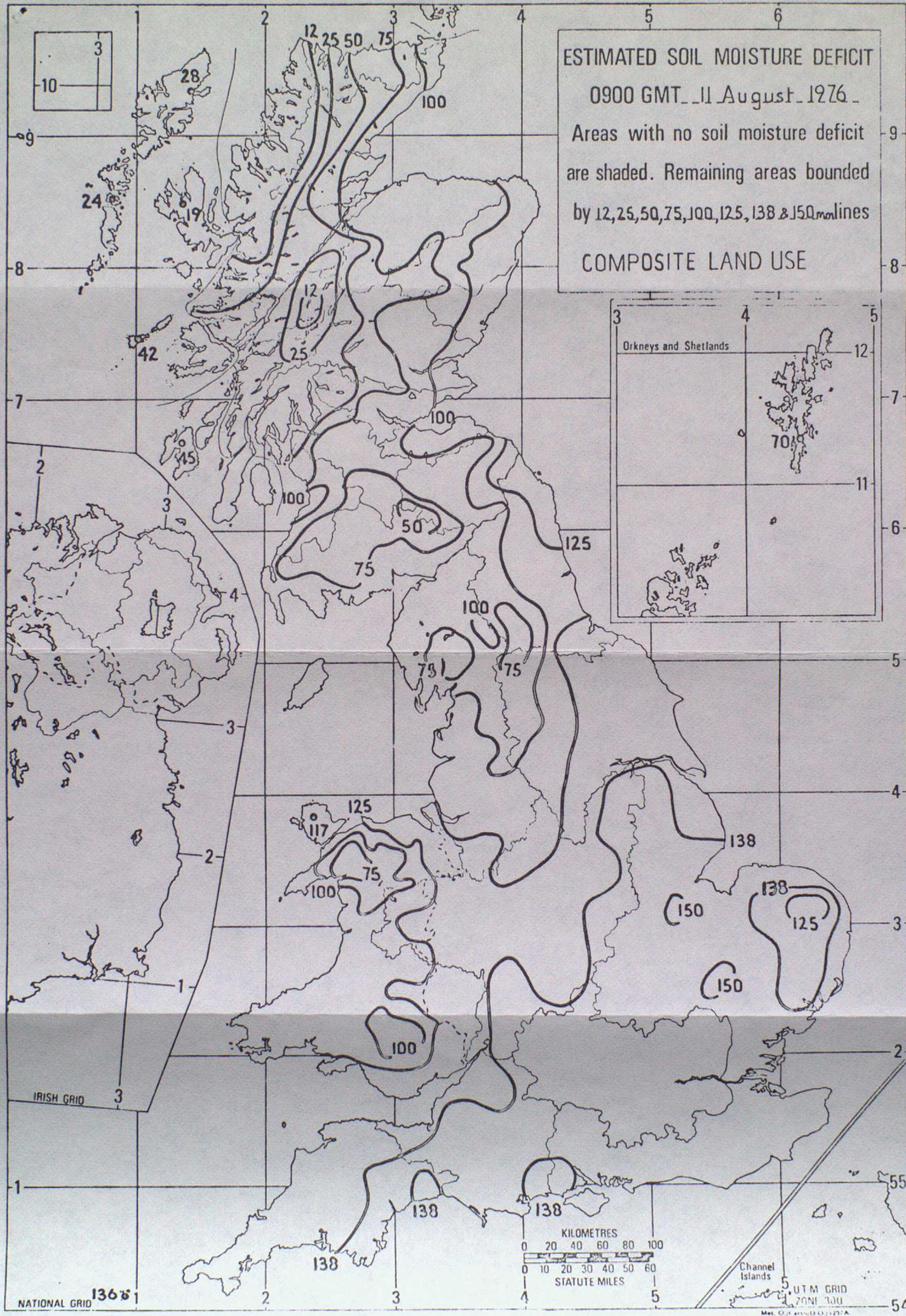
ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT (S.M.D.)

AT 09 GMT ON 11 AUG 1976

River Area	Estimated Areal S.M.D. MM	Change during the Week Ending 11 Aug 76 MM	09 GMT on 4 Aug 76 MM
Northumbrian	108.2	+ 1.3	+ 4.8
Yorkshire	124.9	+ 3.5	+ 2.9
Trent	132.3	+ 2.6	+ 2.2
Lincolnshire	140.4	+ 2.6	0.0
Welland and Nene	141.3	+ 2.2	+ 0.5
Great Ouse	141.3	+ 3.7	- 0.9
Norfolk and Suffolk	135.5	+ 1.5	- 3.0
Essex	142.7	+ 1.5	+ 0.9
Lee Division	141.0	+ 1.7	+ 2.7
Thames Conservancy	139.6	+ 1.7	+ 1.8
London Area	141.2	+ 1.8	+ 1.6
Kent	141.2	+ 1.9	+ 1.5
Sussex	140.5	+ 1.9	+ 1.8
Hampshire	139.6	+ 2.0	+ 1.7
Isle of Wight	145.9	+ 2.1	+ 2.3
Avon and Dorset	138.9	+ 1.9	+ 1.7
Devon	135.6	+ 3.7	+ 4.3
Cornwall	132.7	+ 4.4	+ 4.9
Somerset	137.3	+ 2.3	+ 2.8
Bristol Avon	137.8	+ 1.6	+ 1.8
Severn	131.6	+ 2.7	+ 2.8
Wye	131.6	+ 3.7	+ 4.9
Usk	123.8	+ 5.5	+ 7.5
Glamorgan	117.8	+ 7.6	+ 9.1
South West Wales	121.0	+ 8.0	+ 6.8
Gwynedd	106.9	+ 4.7	+ 6.5
Dee and Clwyd	109.3	+ 5.8	+ 6.6
Mersey and Weaver	117.3	+ 6.9	+ 6.0
Lancashire	100.9	+ 7.6	+ 5.3
Cumbrian	88.0	+ 8.4	+ 6.2

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



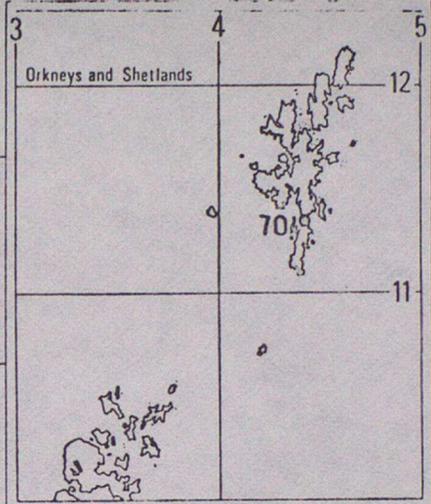


ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT

0900 GMT 11 August 1976

Areas with no soil moisture deficit are shaded. Remaining areas bounded by 12, 25, 50, 75, 100, 125, 138 & 150 mm lines

COMPOSITE LAND USE



IRISH GRID  
NATIONAL GRID 136 1

Channel Islands  
UTM GRID  
20N 30U  
Met. Off. 4000/0/77A