

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AND POTENTIAL  
EVAPOTRANSPIRATION OVER GREAT BRITAIN

SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AT 0900 GMT ON 27 APRIL 1977

Since the issue of the last bulletin (13 April 1977) through to 18 April, the weather was relatively dry over England and Wales. From 19th onwards it became generally unsettled with rain or showers occurring widely on most days for the rest of the period. The wettest day was 26 April. Over Scotland the weather was generally unsettled throughout the period with the precipitation often wintry during the first week. The only mainly dry day was 18th and the wettest days were 15th, 21st and 22nd. The largest falls (taken as 15 mm and above) occurred at Cape Wrath (21 mm) on 15th, Brawdy (16 mm) on 18th and Abbotsinch (18 mm) on 21 April.

Up to 20 April, deficits were increasing steadily, but recent rainfall has halted this increase and in parts of the western half of Britain deficits have been reduced since the last issue with the area at field capacity being enlarged. Over Wales, South West and North West England composite land use deficits are generally well below average for the end of April, whilst the rest of England has deficits near or a little below average. The largest deficits are at Leuchars, Fife (39 and 31 mm respectively for short rooted and composite land uses).

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION: £10.00 per season (post free)

Apply to:

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

Issued on 28 April 1977



ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT (S.M.D.)  
AT 09 GMT ON 27 APRIL 1977

River Area	Estimated Areal	Change during the week ending 09 GMT on	
	S.M.D. mm	27 April 1977 mm	20 April 1977 mm
Northumbrian	12.1	+ 0.9	+ 5.9
Yorkshire	10.2	- 5.9	+ 11.1
Trent	8.1	- 7.6	+ 9.9
Lincolnshire	15.7	- 2.2	+ 10.8
Welland and Nene	16.0	- 3.0	+ 9.9
Great Ouse	16.6	- 1.9	+ 10.1
Norfolk and Suffolk	15.8	+ 0.7	+ 10.9
Essex	24.6	+ 2.0	+ 11.3
Lee Division	22.1	- 0.4	+ 11.5
Thames Conservancy	17.2	- 4.7	+ 11.2
London Area	22.6	- 1.4	+ 12.1
Kent	19.8	+ 1.1	+ 10.9
Sussex	19.6	- 2.0	+ 11.5
Hampshire	22.3	- 2.3	+ 12.8
Isle of Wight	24.8	- 0.5	+ 13.4
Avon and Dorset	20.7	- 3.9	+ 12.8
Devon	12.1	- 7.5	+ 9.7
Cornwall	2.7	- 7.4	+ 6.7
Somerset	18.2	- 6.2	+ 11.9
Bristol Avon	16.2	- 7.0	+ 11.7
Severn	6.6	- 8.9	+ 8.0
Wye	1.3	- 14.0	+ 7.6
Usk	3.9	- 11.9	+ 6.9
Glamorgan	6.0	- 9.5	+ 5.8
South West Wales	1.3	- 9.1	+ 3.7
Gwynedd	1.0	- 3.4	+ 2.5
Dee and Clwyd	1.6	- 5.9	+ 4.2
Mersey and Weaver	1.2	- 11.0	+ 8.0
Lancashire	1.6	- 8.7	+ 6.9
Cumbrian	1.8	- 7.5	+ 4.4

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





ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT

0900 GMT 27 April 1977

Areas with no soil moisture deficit are shaded. Remaining areas bounded by 0, 12 & 25 mm lines  
SHORT ROOTED VEGETATION





