

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICEESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT OVER GREAT BRITAINSOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AT 0900 GMT ON 25 NOVEMBER 1981

While Scotland remained unsettled throughout the whole period especially in the west where many places had rain on every day, the majority of England and Wales had a drier spell until the 16th; about 5 mm fell over hilly districts on the 11th and 15th and rain fell south of a line from the Bristol Channel to the Wash on the 16th. Heavy rain fell over the hills of Wales and the Northwest on the 17th (43 mm over Snowdonia) and rain became more widespread on the 18th and 19th with more than 20 mm being reported on both days over the hills of South Wales and southwest England. This was followed by another drier spell over England and Wales from the 20th to the 22nd although there were still some outbreaks of rain over hilly districts. The 23rd and 24th saw more wintry type precipitation with many places reporting sleet or snow although amounts were mainly small.

Over all river divisions of England and Wales with the exception of Norfolk and Suffolk mean deficits for Areal land use have remained nearly the same or have been reduced during the last fortnight. They are now above average down the east coast as far as Essex but below average everywhere else.

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ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT (S.M.D.) AT 09 GMT ON 25 NOVEMBER 1981

RIVER AREA	AREAL LAND USE ESTIMATED S.M.D. MM	CHANGE DURING THE WEEK ENDING 09 GMT ON	
		25 NOV 81 MM	18 NOV 81 MM
Northumbrian	13.9	- 4.6	+ 0.2
Yorkshire	26.4	- 3.1	+ 3.6
Trent	25.0	- 5.3	+ 1.6
Lincolnshire	74.9	- 5.0	+ 4.1
Welland and Nene	45.0	- 4.1	0.0
Great Ouse	42.5	- 7.7	+ 2.4
Norfolk and Suffolk	58.1	- 5.1	+ 7.3
Essex	51.5	- 9.9	+ 0.3
Lee Division	25.5	- 8.9	- 2.9
Thames Conservancy	17.2	- 5.1	- 3.3
London Area	10.3	- 5.0	- 7.2
Kent	13.5	- 2.8	- 1.1
Sussex	0.1	+ 0.1	- 1.6
Hampshire	6.7	- 1.8	- 2.6
Isle of Wight	11.3	- 3.8	- 4.2
Upper Thames	20.1	- 5.5	- 2.7
Avon and Dorset	6.7	- 3.5	- 3.1
Devon	4.6	- 1.5	- 2.1
Cornwall	0.0	0.0	- 1.3
Somerset	7.5	- 3.8	- 2.9
Bristol Avon	7.1	- 5.5	- 3.2
Severn	13.4	- 2.3	- 1.0
Wye	3.5	- 1.0	+ 0.1
Usk	0.0	0.0	- 1.2
Glamorgan	0.0	0.0	- 1.1
South West Wales	0.0	0.0	- 0.5
Gwynedd	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dee and Clwyd	0.0	0.0	- 0.5
Mersey and Weaver	0.0	0.0	- 0.4
Lancashire	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cumbria	0.0	0.0	0.0

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



