

14 MAR 1974

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METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AND POTENTIAL
EVAPOTRANSPIRATION OVER GREAT BRITAIN
SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AT 0900 GMT ON 13 MARCH 1974

Since the issue of the last bulletin (20 February 1974) there was sporadic rain over the country lasting until the 22nd. The rest of the month was mainly dry apart from the 28th when there was widespread rain and snow. So far the March rainfall has been well above average in most districts. The 6th was very wet in the south-west of England and heavy snow fell on the 8th and 9th, mainly in eastern districts.

As a result of the above average rainfall in most districts, significant short rooted deficits have yet to appear. However the long-rooted (8") deficits are still greater than 50 mm in south Lincolnshire, south Cambridgeshire, south-east Essex and east Lothian. These long rooted deficits now seem certain to remain through the winter period since potential evapotranspiration increases quickly at this time of year.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION: £4.00 per season (post free)

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ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT (SMD) AT 09 GMT ON 13 MARCH 1974

River Authority Area	Estimated Areal	Change during the week ending 09 GMT on	
	SMD mm	13 Mar 74 mm	6 Mar 74 mm
Northumbrian	2.4	+ 0.6	- 1.5
Yorkshire	0.1	- 0.2	- 1.5
Trent	0.1	- 0.1	- 2.0
Lincolnshire	7.7	- 0.1	- 4.0
Welland and Nene	8.1	+ 1.3	- 3.1
Great Ouse	7.7	+ 1.4	- 2.8
East Suffolk and Norfolk	4.5	+ 0.3	- 3.9
Essex	13.9	- 2.4	- 2.7
Lee Conservancy	5.7	- 2.7	- 1.7
Thames Conservancy	0.8	- 0.6	- 1.8
London Area	4.7	- 2.6	- 1.3
Kent	1.6	- 0.6	- 2.3
Sussex	0.6	- 0.4	- 2.8
Hampshire	0.8	- 0.2	- 1.8
Isle of Wight	2.0	+ 0.6	- 2.4
Avon and Dorset	0.9	0.0	- 1.7
Devon	0.7	+ 0.2	- 2.5
Cornwall	0.7	+ 0.7	- 2.5
Somerset	0.7	- 0.2	- 2.3
Bristol Avon	0.8	- 0.4	- 2.2
Severn	0.6	- 0.1	- 1.4
Wye	0.6	0.0	- 2.1
Usk	0.7	- 0.3	- 2.1
Glamorgan	0.6	- 0.8	- 1.5
South West Wales	0.6	- 0.3	- 1.3
Gwynedd	0.8	+ 0.2	- 1.3
Dee and Clwyd	0.6	- 0.3	- 1.1
Mersey and Weaver	0.4	- 0.5	- 1.1
Lancashire	0.6	- 0.1	- 0.5
Cumberland	1.7	+ 1.1	- 1.2

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