



METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT OVER GREAT BRITAIN

SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AT 0900 GMT ON 27 OCTOBER 1982

The unsettled spell which dominated the weather of the previous fortnight has continued to affect the country during the period covered by this bulletin. Pressure rises to the south of the British Isles have brought somewhat drier conditions to most parts of England and Wales during the last five days, especially in some southern and central areas.

The wettest day over England and Wales was the 16th with a general value of 10.2 mm, when over 30 mm fell over the hills of South Wales and the moors of S.W. England and over 20 mm was reported from several other places in Southern England.

The wettest day over Scotland was the 17th with a general value of 12.6 mm, when 70.5 mm was reported at Glenlee in Southwestern Scotland and over 30 mm from several other places in Western Scotland. The area around the Moray Firth which had a relatively dry fortnight had no rain at all on this day. The second wettest day over Scotland was the 19th with a general value of 10.0 mm when 30 mm was reported at Fort William and over 20 mm was reported over S.W. Scotland.

Parts of Central and Northeastern England had less than average rainfall for the 14 day period covered by this bulletin, while most other parts of England and Wales had more than the average. Some parts of Southern England had up to 3 times the normal rainfall for the period.

In Scotland an area around the Moray Firth had less than average rainfall for the period while most other parts had more than normal.

Individual reports ranged from 32% of average at Lossiemouth on the Moray Firth to 303% of average at Gatwick Airport.

Areal deficits are now lower, in all areas where they existed, than they were a fortnight ago. All river board areas in England and Wales, with the exception of the Northumbrian, now have deficits below the average for the time of year.

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ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT (S.M.D.) AT 09 GMT ON 27 OCT 1982

River Area	Areal Land Use Estimated S.M.D. mm	Change during the week ending 09 GMT on	
		27 Oct 82 mm	20 Oct 82 mm
Northumbrian	44.6	+ 0.5	- 9.6
Yorkshire	29.6	- 1.7	- 13.3
Trent	28.1	- 3.9	- 4.6
Lincolnshire	47.1	- 10.4	- 2.2
Welland and Nene	39.4	- 15.4	- 3.9
Great Ouse	31.4	- 14.0	- 7.4
Norfolk and Suffolk	20.1	- 14.0	- 5.2
Essex	37.4	- 22.2	- 10.2
Lee Division	18.1	- 19.7	- 14.7
Thames Conservancy	17.7	- 14.6	- 14.8
London Area	16.5	- 16.6	- 17.9
Kent	17.7	- 10.5	- 16.2
Sussex	6.8	- 7.2	- 12.3
Hampshire	6.6	- 7.0	- 15.9
Isle of Wight	10.6	- 7.1	- 20.9
Upper Thames	31.9	- 10.8	- 15.2
Avon and Dorset	12.1	- 5.6	- 16.3
Devon	2.1	- 0.9	- 6.6
Cornwall	0.0	0.0	- 2.1
Somerset	3.3	- 1.7	- 7.3
Bristol Avon	16.1	- 6.1	- 16.3
Severn	13.9	- 5.1	- 11.4
Wye	1.3	- 0.6	- 7.4
Usk	0.0	- 0.3	- 4.6
Glamorgan	0.0	0.0	- 3.5
South West Wales	0.1	+ 0.1	0.0
Gwynedd	0.1	+ 0.1	- 2.7
Dee and Clwyd	9.9	- 1.8	- 6.6
Mersey and Weaver	14.9	- 3.3	- 6.5
Lancashire	0.1	+ 0.1	0.0
Cumbria	0.6	+ 0.6	- 0.1

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



