



METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT OVER GREAT BRITAIN

AT 0900 GMT ON 7 DECEMBER 1977

After the issue of the previous bulletin (23 November 1977) the weather over Great Britain was generally unsettled at first. From 24th onwards it became more settled and remained mainly dry until 5 December, apart from a few showers over eastern districts and some rain over south west England on 3rd and 4th. During the last two days of the period (5 and 6 December) the rain in the South West spread slowly north and east to affect much of England and Wales, although most of northern England and Scotland remained generally dry. The wettest day over Great Britain was 23 November. Falls of 15mm or more occurred at Ringway, Manchester and Eskdalemuir, Dumfries (17mm) on 23 November, Plymouth (15mm) on 5th and Cudrose, Cornwall (16mm) on 6 December.

Where deficits still exist they have continued to be reduced, although these reductions have been generally small. Over much of the eastern half of England composite land use deficits are still well above average for the time of year. The largest deficits are at Finningley, Lincolnshire (67 mm for short rooted vegetation) and Lowestoft (88mm for composite land use).

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

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

AT 09 GMT ON 7 DEC 1977

River Area	Estimated Areal	Change during the Week Ending 09 GMT on	
	S.M.D.	7 Dec 77	30 Nov 77
	MM	MM	MM
Northumbrian	22.1	- 0.7	- 4.3
Yorkshire	22.6	- 0.7	- 6.0
Trent	29.4	- 3.4	- 4.1
Lincolnshire	69.0	- 2.5	- 1.8
Welland and Nene	49.7	- 4.8	- 3.0
Great Ouse	36.5	- 4.7	- 2.9
Norfolk and Suffolk	66.6	- 3.9	- 7.9
Essex	62.3	- 7.2	- 2.6
Lee Division	35.2	- 5.0	- 2.7
Thames Conservancy	10.9	- 2.4	- 0.9
London Area	14.9	- 4.2	- 0.5
Kent	31.2	- 5.9	- 3.7
Sussex	14.3	- 3.0	- 2.7
Hampshire	4.7	- 1.1	+ 0.1
Isle of Wight	22.4	- 2.9	- 0.1
Upper Thames	3.5	- 1.4	- 0.4
Avon and Dorset	0.0	- 0.4	+ 0.2
Devon	6.9	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Cornwall	2.9	- 1.3	- 0.1
Somerset	3.0	- 0.6	0.0
Bristol Avon	3.8	- 0.7	- 0.1
Severn	7.6	- 2.4	- 1.1
Wye	2.0	- 0.7	- 0.5
Usk	0.0	- 0.4	+ 0.2
Glamorgan	0.0	- 0.4	+ 0.1
South West Wales	0.0	- 0.4	+ 0.4
Gwynedd	0.0	- 0.4	+ 0.4
Dee and Clwyd	7.1	- 0.7	- 1.2
Mersey and Weaver	6.7	0.0	- 1.7
Lancashire	2.0	- 0.2	- 0.5
Cumbria	0.2	- 0.1	- 0.3

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







