



METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AND POTENTIAL
EVAPOTRANSPIRATION OVER GREAT BRITAIN

SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT AT 0900 GMT ON 25 JANUARY 1978

Following the issue of the last bulletin (4 January 1978) the weather over Great Britain has been generally changeable. Snow was reported in many areas between 9th and 11th and between 16th and 19th. Rainfall totals of over 25 mm were reported from counties bordering the Bristol Channel on 10th (33 mm at Filton, Bristol) and falls in excess of 20 mm occurred in parts of the Home Counties on 11th (Gatwick, Surrey 25 mm). A mainly dry spell from 12th to 15th was followed by further unsettled weather from 16th onwards. The wettest day generally was 23rd, with falls of over 10 mm occurring widely (Coltishall, Norfolk and Boulmer, Northumberland 20 mm).

Where deficits still exist they have continued to be reduced. The only remaining short rooted vegetation deficits are in extreme SE Essex (Shoeburyness 4 mm) and no short rooted map has been included with this bulletin. In most districts the composite land use deficits are close to normal but in parts of eastern England they are still somewhat above the average for the time of year.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION: £15.00 for season 1978-79 (post free)

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ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT (S.M.D.)
AT 09 GMT ON 25 JANUARY 1978

River Area	Estimated Areal	Change during the week ending 09 GMT on		
	S.M.D. mm	25 Jan 1978 mm	18 Jan 1978 mm	11 Jan 1978 mm
Northumbrian	3.4	- 2.1	- 0.9	- 1.2
Yorkshire	5.0	- 2.0	- 0.8	- 0.5
Trent	2.8	- 1.5	- 1.2	- 0.1
Lincolnshire	13.4	- 5.0	- 8.4	- 1.3
Welland and Nene	9.3	- 2.9	- 5.6	- 2.1
Great Ouse	4.3	- 1.9	- 3.5	- 1.2
Norfolk and Suffolk	9.7	- 5.4	- 5.0	- 2.0
Essex	14.0	- 3.5	- 6.1	- 2.0
Lee Division	3.8	- 1.2	- 2.9	- 0.5
Thames Conservancy	0.5	- 0.2	0.0	- 0.2
London Area	0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	0.0
Kent	2.2	- 1.3	- 0.9	- 2.0
Sussex	0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	0.0
Hampshire	0.2	0.0	+ 0.2	0.0
Isle of Wight	0.2	0.0	+ 0.2	0.0
Upper Thames	0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	0.0
Avon and Dorset	0.2	0.0	+ 0.2	0.0
Devon	0.1	+ 0.1	0.0	- 0.1
Cornwall	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Somerset	0.1	0.0	+ 0.1	- 1.2
Bristol Avon	0.2	0.0	+ 0.2	- 1.5
Severn	0.1	- 0.1	0.0	- 0.2
Wye	0.1	0.0	+ 0.1	0.0
Usk	0.1	0.0	+ 0.1	0.0
Glamorgan	0.1	+ 0.1	0.0	0.0
South West Wales	0.1	+ 0.1	0.0	0.0
Gwynedd	0.1	+ 0.1	0.0	0.0
Dee and Clwyd	0.6	- 1.1	- 0.2	- 0.5
Mersey and Weaver	0.3	- 0.7	0.0	- 0.6
Lancashire	0.1	+ 0.1	0.0	0.0
Cumbria	0.1	0.0	+ 0.1	0.0

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

