

Mostly dry and sunny, but thundery at times

Low pressure was centred to the west of the British Isles for the first few days of the month. The north and west of Scotland came under the influence of a high pressure area building southwards from Iceland on the 5th, while the rest of the British Isles was affected by a small low centred to the south of Ireland, and, again on the 9th, by a shallow low centred over north-west England. This low disappeared by late evening on the 9th, leaving a ridge of high pressure over the whole of the British Isles. However, fronts associated with a gradually encroaching area of low pressure to the west affected western and northern areas on the 11th/12th, while southern and eastern areas remained under control of the anticyclone, which reasserted itself over the whole of the British Isles during the 14th and 15th. During the 21st and 22nd depressions, together with their associated fronts, moved across northern Scotland, later affecting most of the United Kingdom. During the last week of the month northern areas were still crossed by fronts, but southern areas remained under the influence of the anticyclone centred to the west of the British Isles.

Weather

The month began cold and unsettled. During the first five days many places in the United Kingdom, with the exception of northern and western Scotland, reported thunderstorms. Over the next two weeks most parts of the United Kingdom had a good deal of dry weather with some places in South Wales and south-west England remaining completely dry. There were, however, showers or thunderstorms in places, notably in Northern Ireland and north-east England on the 6th, South Wales on the 7th and south-east England on the 10th. On the 16th most places became very warm and isolated thunderstorms developed during the afternoon and evening from central England northwards. On the next day thunderstorms affected southern and eastern England. There were reports of hail, and in St Albans, Hertfordshire two boys were killed by lightning. After two days of hot, humid weather further thunderstorms occurred over central and eastern England on the 20th. In East Anglia there was considerable flooding for a time and damage due to lightning. During the last week the north had occasional rain, while the south remained mostly dry although fairly cloudy from time to time.

Wind

It was a generally quiet month with mostly light winds, although occasionally they were fresh or strong, notably on the 4th, on the 7th in the east, on the 13th, on the 21st in the evening, on the 28th in the north and later on the 29th. Winds were strong on the 12th. Generally at low level stations there were no gales reported and there were no gusts over 50 kn south of Sheffield. The maximum for the month was 70 kn at Cairngorm on the 12th. Directions started off southerly or easterly before becoming north-westerly on the 14th. For the rest of the month directions were mostly westerly apart from a few periods of variable winds. Sea breezes developed occasionally in coastal areas.

Temperature

Temperatures were around or just above the average for June in most parts of the United

Kingdom. Parts of eastern Scotland, Northern Ireland and the west of England were 1 °C above average and Princetown, Devon was over 1.5 °C above average. Many southern and eastern coastal areas, together with western Scotland, were just below average.

June began cold and remained so until the 5th, when many places began to warm up. By the 7th it had become generally warmer and by the 10th most places were very warm. However, coastal districts were kept cool throughout this period by fog patches or northerly winds. The 11th was a much cloudier day with much lower temperatures; this was especially apparent in the south-east where the afternoon maximum fell from 5 °C above to 3 °C below normal. On the 16th most places again became very warm and by the 20th it was hot and humid. The maxima over the three days up to the 20th were 28.7 °C at Yeovilton, Somerset on the 18th, 27.8 °C and 27.9 °C on the 19th and 20th respectively at Liphook, Hampshire. For the rest of the month it was generally less warm apart from the 25th and 27th when it was again very warm.

Rainfall

Over much of the United Kingdom this was a dry month and south-west Wales, south-west England, parts of central southern England and the Channel Isles had less than half the monthly average. In the far south-west, Penzance, Cornwall recorded less than 4 mm during the whole month and had 25 consecutive dry days. Rainfall totals were above average in some scattered areas, mainly because of thunderstorms bringing heavy rain in the latter part of the month.

On the 6th rain affected all parts of the United Kingdom except for northern and western areas of Scotland, west Wales and south-west England. Further rain came to all areas except south-east England during the 12th and 13th. In most places amounts were small, but there were moderate falls over the Scottish Highlands on the 12th and

moderate or heavy falls over high ground in northern England and North Wales on the 13th. There was occasional rain up to the 16th, mostly in northern areas. On the 17th thunderstorms developed quite widely over south-eastern England and East Anglia, giving some moderate falls. By the afternoon of the 20th some heavy thunderstorms had developed over central and eastern England from North Yorkshire to Berkshire. At Honington, Suffolk 36 mm of rain fell in less than one hour, out of a day's total of 48 mm. There were falls of 65 mm at Wixoe and 47 mm at Broom's Barn, both in Suffolk, and 35 mm at Sutton Bonington, Nottinghamshire. For the rest of the month it was dry in the south but there was some rain in the north.

Sunshine

Sunshine totals were above average almost everywhere south of a line from North Yorkshire to Mid Glamorgan. The exceptions were the Isles of Scilly and parts of the north Cornish coast, together with a large part of East Anglia, all of which had below average sunshine. Totals were above average in parts of eastern and south-western Scotland and in parts of Co. Down, Northern Ireland. In contrast most parts of northern and western Scotland were dull. The brightest area with around 140 per cent of average was around Torbay and Exeter, Devon

Fog

Fog patches formed quite frequently overnight throughout the month, mostly in western districts. Fog occurred extensively over high ground in northern Scotland and the Northern Isles on the 4th and 5th and again on the 18th and 19th. There was hill fog in the south west between the 7th and 9th, the 16th and 17th, the 21st and 22nd, and on the 25th. There were occasional fog patches in western coastal areas between the 10th and 20th.

Miscellaneous Phenomena

None reported.

Table 1 District values

District	air temperature °C					mean 30 cm soil temp°C	rain- days	rainfall	sun- shine
	Highest Max*	Lowest Min*	max.	min.	mean				
						difference from average			
0 Scotland N	25.4	0.0	−0.3	+0.5	+0.1	+0.4	+1	68	71
1 Scotland E	25.8	0.6	+0.3	+0.8	+0.6	+0.2	0	77	89
2 England E & NE	28.0	0.2	0.0	+0.6	+0.2	+0.3	−3	80	94
3 East Anglia	27.2	4.0	−0.2	−0.1	−0.2	−0.3	−1	103	97
4 Midland Counties	27.7	2.3	+0.6	+0.3	+0.4	+0.4	−3	75	111
5 England SE & Central S	27.0	4.5	+0.9	+0.1	+0.5	+0.5	−5	51	117
6 Scotland W	25.5	−0.7	−0.1	+0.8	+0.3	+0.6	0	79	83
7 England NW & Wales N	26.3	1.7	+0.1	+0.3	+0.2	+0.2	−2	79	89
8 England SW & Wales S	28.7	1.0	+0.7	+0.2	+0.4	+0.9	−6	43	116
N Ireland	24.7	0.0	+0.6	+1.1	+0.8	+0.4	−3	77	85
Scotland	25.8	−0.7	0.0	+0.7	+0.3	+0.4	0	75	81
England & Wales	28.7	0.2	+0.3	+0.2	+0.3	+0.3	−3	69	104

*Highest maximum and lowest minimum of District Value Stations