

Monthly Weather Report

OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

Summary of observations compiled from returns of official stations and voluntary observers

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July 1967 — Unsettled in the north, mainly fine in the south

Anticyclones dominated the weather in the south and south-west of the British Isles until the 12th, otherwise weather was mainly cyclonic in character, especially in the north.

During the first three days of the month a depression was centred between Scotland and Ireland and, although there was a little thundery rain in the north, weather was mainly sunny and dry, apart from a few scattered showers. The 4th was cloudier as a weak trough moved across the country, but on the 5th a centre of high pressure formed over the English Channel and weather was again sunny nearly everywhere. The sunny and dry weather continued in the south on the 6th, but there was some rain in the north. This rain became heavy in places during the next day as troughs, associated with a depression near Iceland, moved across the country; a fall of 61 mm of rain was recorded at the Isle of Rhum on the 7th. The frontal rain cleared most districts on the morning of the 8th and behind it north-westerly winds brought a short interval of cooler weather with scattered showers.

An anticyclone spreading over southern England from the region of the Azores on the 9th marked the beginning of a warm spell and, although thundery depressions subsequently spread northwards over England from France, warm and mainly sunny weather, broken from time to time by heavy thunderstorms, continued until the 21st. Thunderstorms began in southern England during the afternoon of the 13th as a shallow depression moved northwards from north-west France. The storms, often with heavy rain, moved to northern England during the night; a fall of 64 mm recorded at Ness Gardens, Cheshire, and one of 71 mm at Hillsborough, Co. Down, caused widespread flooding. Thunderstorms continued in northern England throughout the 14th, but the next day a deep depression approached Northern Ireland and belts of frontal rain associated with it moved across the country on the 15th and 16th. The next day was very warm in south-east England and the east Midlands where day maximum temperatures as high as 30°C were reported from places as far apart as London Airport and Finningley. In Scotland and in the extreme north of England weather was rather dull with, at times, heavy thundery rain which spread slowly south-eastwards the following day, reaching southern England during the evening. By the 19th the main depression was centred to the north of Scotland and cooler weather spread eastwards across the country in the general airstream. The 20th and 21st were sunny and dry, apart from a few scattered showers mainly confined to northern districts. Pressure was high over southern England during these two days.

On the 22nd a depression moved eastwards along the north coast of France; there were heavy thunderstorms along the south coast of England and these persisted throughout the night in the south-east. Rainfall exceeded 50 mm at some places and Ramsgate, Eastbourne and Worthing had their first measurable rain for 27 days.

During the remainder of the month a succession of rain-belts, associated with depressions between Scotland and Iceland, crossed the country in a general westerly airstream. The 23rd was mainly dry and sunny, apart from thundery rain in the extreme east of England. On the 24th scattered showers gave place to rain which spread from the north-west later in the day. The 27th and 29th were dull, wet days and the month ended with two days of thundery rain or showers in most areas.

Pressure and Wind — Mean pressure was above the 1931-60 average almost everywhere except in the Hebrides, the deviation from average at 0900 GMT ranging from +3.9 mb at Kilnsea to -0.4 mb at Benbecula. Surface winds, mainly westerly at first, became southerly on the 6th, north-westerly on the 8th and then light and variable until the 23rd, except for a period of southerly winds from the 15th until the 19th. During the last 8 days of the month south-west to west winds predominated. Winds reached gale force in Scotland on the 24th, 25th and 26th, and in the extreme south-west of England on the 7th and 22nd. A gust of 48 kt was recorded at Lossiemouth on the 24th and one of 46 kt at the Lizard on the 22nd.

Temperature — It was a warm month in east and south-east England, but mean temperatures elsewhere were about average or a little below. Although temperature was generally below average in Scotland there were several warmer spells, notably around the 12th and 17th, when temperature in many places exceeded 24°C. Over much of southern England temperature was well above the average during the second and third weeks, the 17th being the warmest day; at Ross-on-Wye this was the warmest July day since 1959 and also the warmest of any day in their records since early September 1961.

Extremes included: (England and Wales) 30.2°C at Watnall on the 17th, 1.1°C at Moor House on the 22nd; (Scotland) 26.1°C at Dinnet on the 5th, 1.1°C at Cairngorm on 2nd, 8th and 9th and at Dundee on the 23rd; (Northern Ireland) 25.0°C at Ballykelly on the 12th, 1.1°C at Loughermore Forest on the 22nd.

Rainfall — In Scotland most eastern districts had less than average rainfall, but elsewhere amounts approached or exceeded the average. In England and Wales rainfall was above the average north of an approximate line from Speke to Redcar, over most of Wales and also in parts of Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire. It was less than 25 per cent of the average over most of Sussex and Kent.

Thunder was heard in England and Wales on 12 days, thunderstorms being fairly widespread in the north and Midlands on the 13th, 14th, 17th and 18th, and in the south-east on the 22nd and 23rd. In Scotland thunderstorms were reported on 13 days and were most widespread around mid-month.

Sunshine — In Scotland sunshine was below the average except in the east and north. Some places in the east recorded excesses of 25 hours, but over a large area in the west deficits reached 60 hours, some places having their lowest July sunshine for more than 50 years. In England and Wales it was a sunny month generally, especially in east and south-east England and the east Midlands. Percentage of average sunshine ranged from 140 at Skegness to 81 at Scilly.

Fog — Morning fog occurred in Scotland at a few places in the west and north mainly during the third and last weeks. In England and Wales fog was reported at one place or another at 0900 GMT on 9 days and was fairly widespread in south-west coastal districts on the 30th.

Miscellaneous Phenomena — There were no reports of aurora displays during the month.

TABLE I—DISTRICT VALUES, JULY, 1967

DISTRICTS	AIR TEMPERATURE °C					EARTH TEMP. °C		RAIN DAYS	RAIN-FALL	SUNSHINE
	*Highest Max.	*Lowest Min.	Max.	Min.	Mean	Mean 30 cm.	Mean 122 cm.			
	Difference from Average									
0 SCOTLAND, N.	(22.8)	4.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.8	-0.8	+1	82	85
1 SCOTLAND, E.	25.0	6.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.7	-0.4	-3	62	105
2 ENGLAND, N.E.	28.6	6.1	+0.7	+0.4	+0.5	+0.5	+0.2	-5	59	115
3 ENGLAND, E.	28.3	6.1	+1.1	+0.9	+1.0	+0.7	+0.1	-5	67	113
4 MIDLANDS	29.4	6.7	+0.9	+0.7	+0.8	+0.8	+0.4	-2	67	121
5 ENGLAND, S.E.	29.3	4.5	+1.2	+0.5	+0.9	+0.4	+0.1	-5	48	119
6 SCOTLAND, W.	23.9	2.4	-1.4	-0.2	-0.8	-0.5	-0.4	+2	115	76
7 ENGLAND, N.W. and N. Wales	26.5	5.0	+0.3	+0.3	+0.3	-0.1	+0.1	0	116	105
8 ENGLAND, S.W. and S. Wales	27.8	6.7	+0.5	0.0	+0.2	-0.5	-0.3	-1	99	102
N. IRELAND	23.3	2.5	+0.2	-0.1	+0.1	-	-	+1	90	75
SCOTLAND	25.0	2.4	-0.6	-0.2	-0.4	-	-	0	85	89
ENG. and WALES	29.4	4.5	+0.8	+0.5	+0.6	-	-	-3	79	113

*Highest Max. and Lowest Min. of the District Value Stations.