

# Monthly Weather Report

## OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

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

Volume 81 Number 9

Published by HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

© Crown Copyright 1965

### September 1964 — *Sunny and dry except in north and west Scotland.*

Apart from the third week, when the country was under the influence of a rather complex low pressure area, weather during September was predominantly anticyclonic in character, although small disturbances from the Atlantic brought changeable cyclonic weather to northern districts on the 5th-11th and to northern and western districts on the 24th-26th.

The first two days were warm and sunny as a large anticyclone over the North Sea drifted slowly eastwards. Winds were mainly south-easterly reaching gale force at times along the English Channel coasts on the 1st. On the 3rd winds became light and variable but there was little change in the general weather apart from the formation of fairly extensive fog patches in some coastal areas; afternoon temperatures exceeded 25°C at places as far apart as Ellbridge, Cornwall and Stirling on the 4th.

Rain from an Atlantic trough reached Western Scotland early on the 5th; it spread to all areas by the evening becoming heavy at times in the west and north, but amounts were small in the south-east where in some areas it was the first measureable rain for 17 days. After a day of scattered showers in a north-westerly airstream rain was again widespread on the 7th as a depression skirted the north of Scotland; amounts were generally small especially in south-east England. During the next three to four days a series of troughs and ridges from the west brought variable cloud and rain at times to Scotland; some places had over an inch on the 9th. High pressure over France, however, maintained generally warm sunny weather over south-east England where afternoon temperatures exceeded 26°C locally on both the 10th and 11th.

The fine warm weather spread to the whole country on the 12th as an anticyclone moved east-south-east across the British Isles, and most of southern England had 8-10 hours of sunshine on the 13th.

Widespread and locally heavy rain on the 14th and for much of the 15th heralded a week of cooler more changeable weather. Winds increased to gale force in many districts on the 16th as a depression previously south of Iceland became complex while moving steadily eastwards across the British Isles. An unstable airstream from high latitudes on the western flank of the disturbance brought frequent showers and scattered thunderstorms to most districts. The showers gradually became less frequent during the next two days as the depression moved away north-eastwards. Another trough from the Atlantic brought rain to the whole country on the night of the 18th/19th, but the rain gave place to fair periods and showers in a north-westerly airstream on the 19th and 20th, the showers being largely confined to Wales, England north of the Wash and to Scotland.

Another spell of fine sunny weather began over the southern half of the British Isles on the 21st as an anticyclone from the Bay of Biscay moved slowly north-east. Nights were clear and cold—the 20th/21st was the coldest night of the month with fairly widespread air frost over northern and central England—but day temperatures increased progressively reaching 25°C in parts of Lincolnshire and East Anglia on the 25th. In the north, however, the cool changeable weather continued. A deep depression moving northward off the coast of Ireland brought gales to south-west England and to Wales on the 24th and to western Scotland on the 25th.

An anticyclone spread over southern England on the 27th and westerly winds round its northern flank brought rather cooler weather to most southern districts after the clearance of early morning fog patches.

Another ridge from the west brought brighter weather to Scotland on the 29th, and the month ended fine and sunny nearly everywhere with afternoon temperatures well above average.

**Pressure and Wind** — Mean pressure at 9hr was below the 1921-50 average in the north-west but above in the south-east, the deviation ranging from -1.0 mb at Tiree to +2.1 mb at Gorleston. Surface winds were mainly south-easterly at first, light and variable on the 3rd-5th becoming predominantly westerly from then until the 20th, after which they were mainly southerly on the 21st-25th, south-westerly on the 26th-28th becoming light and variable during the last two days of the month. Winds reached gale force in Scotland on 11 days and in England and Wales on the 1st, 14th-17th, 24th and 25th (7 days). Gales were widespread on the 16th. A gust of 74 kt was recorded at the high level station of Lowther Hill (2412 ft) on the 24th and one of 63 kt at Stornoway on the 25th.

**Temperature** — In Scotland the first three or four days of the month were the warmest though night temperatures were below the average. Night temperatures were 3-5°C above the average over most of the country around the 9th/10th. In south-east England day temperatures were mainly above the average except during the third week; night temperatures were mostly below the average after the 19th. The 25th was the warmest September day in the London area for 15 years.

Extremes included: (England and Wales) 27.8°C at Gillingham on the 11th, -2.8°C at Kielder Castle on the 21st. (Scotland) 25.0°C at Stirling and at Mertoun on the 4th, -4.4°C at Glentress on the 21st. (Northern Ireland) 22.2°C at Armagh on the 3rd, 0.0°C at Lisnafillan and at Lough Bradan on the 21st.

**Rainfall** — In Scotland rainfall was 50 per cent above the average in parts of the west and in the extreme north-east and below average in some eastern coastal areas south of Aberdeen. In England and Wales rainfall was generally below the average being less than 25 per cent of the average over much of East Anglia, Kent, Montgomery, Warwickshire, Leicestershire and Lincolnshire.

Thunder was heard on 11 days in Scotland and on the 1st, 3rd, 6th, 14th-17th, 20th, 25th and 26th (12 days) in England and Wales. Thunderstorms were fairly widespread on the 14th and 16th.

Sleet was reported over high ground in Scotland on the 20th.

**Sunshine** — In Scotland sunshine was below the average in the north and over the Western Isles, but most other parts reported an excess. Stornoway had its dullest September since 1895. In England and Wales sunshine was everywhere above the average being more than 60 per cent above over parts of the midlands and London area where amounts were more than during the unusually sunny September of 1959. At Worthing it was the sunniest September for 36 years.

**Fog** — In Scotland fog was observed at 9hr at one place or another on 21 days, and in England and Wales on 13 days; it was fairly extensive in the Midlands and north-east England on the 3rd-5th and in south-east England on the 27th, 29th and 30th.

**Miscellaneous Phenomena** — The aurora was visible in Scotland on 10 nights.

TABLE I—DISTRICT VALUES— SEPTEMBER.

DISTRICTS	AIR TEMPERATURE					EARTH TEMP.		RAIN DAYS	RAIN-FALL	SUN-SHINE
	Highest Max.	Lowest Min.	Max.	Min.	Mean	Mean 1 ft.	Mean 4 ft.			
			Difference from Average							
0 SCOTLAND, N.	23.3	-2.8	-0.6	-1.1	-0.8	-	-	+1	134	92
1 SCOTLAND, E.	25.0	-4.4	0.0	-0.5	-0.2	-	-	+1	90	109
2 ENGLAND, N.E.	25.0	-2.8	+0.8	-0.4	+0.2	0.0	+0.1	-4	41	123
3 ENGLAND, E.	27.2	-1.7	+1.2	-0.7	+0.3	-0.4	0.0	-7	23	136
4 MIDLANDS	25.6	-1.7	+1.3	-0.6	+0.4	0.0	+0.2	-6	29	146
5 ENGLAND, S.E.	27.8	0.6	+1.6	-0.2	+0.7	+0.2	+0.1	-5	32	145
6 SCOTLAND, W.	25.0	-4.4	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	-0.3	+1	128	116

1964

(1908, revised 1928, 1941, 1956 and 1964)

DISTRICTS	AIR TEMPERATURE					EARTH TEMP.		RAIN DAYS	RAIN-FALL	SUN-SHINE
	Highest Max.	Lowest Min.	Max.	Min.	Mean	Mean 1 ft.	Mean 4 ft.			
			Difference from Average							
7 ENGLAND, N.W. and N. Wales	24.4	-2.2	+0.7	-0.1	+0.3	-0.3	0.0	-2	59	127
8 ENGLAND, S.W. and S. Wales	26.1	-1.7	+1.1	-0.2	+0.4	+0.4	+0.4	-6	45	135
N. IRELAND	22.2	0.0	+0.4	-0.2	+0.1	-	-	+1	89	119
SCOTLAND	25.0	-4.4	-0.2	-0.5	-0.3	-	-	+1	116	106
ENG. and WALES	27.8	-2.8	+1.1	-0.4	+0.4	-	-	-5	43	135