

MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT

COMPILED FROM RETURNS OF OFFICIAL AND VOLUNTARY OBSERVERS

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Cool, wet and dull in most places

A ridge of high pressure over the north moved slowly southwards during the 1st. With pressure remaining high to the west of the British Isles a succession of weak fronts crossed Northern Ireland and Scotland during the period until the 8th and 9th, when a more active cold front moved southwards across all parts. Low pressure was now centred just to the north-east of Scotland, and remained there until the 11th.

A ridge of high pressure moved eastwards across England on the 12th, followed by an active depression on the 13th and 14th. The fronts of the main depression to the west of Ireland then moved north-eastwards across the whole of the United Kingdom on the 15th and 16th, followed on the 17th by a weak ridge of high pressure. Another active depression moved across Northern Ireland and into north Wales on the 18th, and across England on the 19th, leaving the British Isles in a north-westerly airstream on the 20th and 21st. With pressure high to the south-west, weak fronts moved fairly quickly eastwards over Britain during the next few days, but the final cold front in the sequence was slow to clear south-east England on the 24th.

After a brief respite, an active frontal system moved rapidly eastwards across Northern Ireland, Wales and much of England during the night of the 26th/27th. The main low centre became slow-moving over Scotland on the 27th and 28th, whilst the associated cold front lay almost stationary over extreme southern counties. On the 29th a complex depression developed to the north-west of Britain, and by the 30th this had carried an active cold front south-eastwards into the Netherlands. The month ended with a westerly airstream over the British Isles, as further fronts approached western Scotland.

Weather

The 1st was a largely dry day, apart from a few outbreaks of light rain or drizzle in the Western Isles. Between the 2nd and the 7th dry weather persisted generally over England and Wales, though later on the 4th there were scattered showers in northern England and North Wales, whilst on the 5th there were a few spots of rain in south-east England around dawn. Throughout this period Scotland and Northern Ireland, especially the west and north, continued to have patchy light rain or drizzle at times.

On the 8th a band of occasionally heavy rain edged south-eastwards across Scotland, Northern Ireland and northern England, and on the 9th this band continued across England, eventually clearing Kent in the evening. Showers and isolated thunderstorms followed the rain band into northern and western Britain. The 10th and

11th were showery days in many parts of the country, with isolated thunderstorms reported later in the south and in East Anglia, but on the 12th the showers became restricted to southern England before dying out. Rain, heavy in places, spread across England and Wales, and later Northern Ireland on the 13th, and on the next three days there were outbreaks of rain or showers over most parts of the country with scattered thunderstorms in parts of southern and eastern England.

On the 17th there were showers in the north and east, but on the 18th rain spread into south-west England in the morning and then moved north-east to die out on the morning of the 19th over northern England. Showers and thunderstorms then developed widely over southern and eastern England. Further showers occurred over many parts on the 20th. Apart from one or two showers in the north and west the 21st was dry, but there were further scattered outbreaks of rain or showers over the next three days.

The 25th was a particularly showery day in England and Wales, with scattered thunderstorms in South Wales, southern England and East Anglia in the afternoon and evening. Showers over many parts on the 26th died out later as outbreaks of rain spread across England and Wales from the south-west to continue well into the next day before clearing away south-eastwards. Showers then developed over northern England, Northern Ireland and southern Scotland. There was further rain in southern Britain on the 28th whilst showers over Scotland and northern England died out. On the 29th rain and drizzle over many parts gradually died out, whilst on the 30th and 31st there were isolated showers in the north and west.

Wind

In general it was not a windy month, the windiest days being the 3rd, 4th, 6th and 8th in the north and the 23rd, 25th, 26th and 27th in the south. The highest gusts reported were 63 knots at Cairngorm, Grampian on the 4th, and 59 knots at Great Dun Fell, Cumbria on the 3rd. The highest gust reported at low levels was 51 knots at Kirkwall, Orkney on the 4th.

Temperature

With very few exceptions, monthly mean temperatures were at or below average throughout the United Kingdom. Values ranged from 1.6 °C below average at Aros, Strathclyde to only 0.2 °C above at Lowestoft, Suffolk and at Murlough, Down. Nowhere did the temperature reach 30 °C, with the highest temperature

reported during the month being 29.7 °C at East Bergholt, Suffolk on the 4th and the lowest -0.1 °C at Dalwhinnie, Highland on the 13th.

Rainfall

It was a wet month almost everywhere, especially in South Wales and south-west England, with monthly totals ranging from 54% of average at Lentrán, Highland, at Blythe, Borders and at Floors Castle, Borders to 255% at Culdrose, Cornwall. The highest reported daily rainfall of the month was 47 mm at Gogerddan, Dyfed on the 13th; the highest daily fall in Scotland was 44 mm at Inchmarlo on the 29th, and in Northern Ireland was 41 mm at Silent Valley, Down on the 18th.

Snow

There were no reports of snow or sleet anywhere in the United Kingdom in July 1993.

Sunshine

It was a dull month in most parts of the United Kingdom, eastern England, East Anglia and parts of the Midlands being the only substantial areas to have normal amounts or more. Monthly totals varied from 52% of average at Auchincruive, Strathclyde to 123% of average at Ross on Wye, Hereford and Worcester. The highest daily total of the month was 15.7 hours at Isles of Scilly on the 5th and the highest monthly total was 226.6 hours at Gorey Castle, Channel Islands.

Fog

Patchy fog formed briefly towards dawn on the 1st in eastern and north-east England, and some fog drifted onto the coast of north-east England later. There was again patchy fog inland around dawn in places in England on the 2nd, whilst on the 3rd coastal fog was reported in some western parts. A few places in Wales and south-west England had fog on the 4th, but fog was not reported again until the 13th, when it became quite extensive around western coasts of England and Wales, clearing on the 14th. There was widespread hill and coastal fog in England and Wales on the 15th, and in parts of northern and western Britain, including Scotland on the 16th. Coastal and hill fog occurred in south-west England and Wales on the 19th, 22nd and 23rd. Some patchy hill and coastal fog was reported in north-east and south-west England on the 27th, but only in the south-west on the 28th. Finally, hill and coastal fog occurred in northern and south-west England and in Wales on the 29th.

Miscellaneous phenomena

None were reported.