

JUNE DATA 2003

June began in an unsettled mood with showers and sunny spells, though it remained relatively mild. The early month, which takes in the first 10 days, was predominantly showery; with rain on every day apart from the 2nd and 3rd, and even here a trace was recorded. Rainfall for the period totalled 9.6mm/0.38in of which 4.4mm/0.17in fell on the 10th. With evaporation totalling 23.9mm/0.94in, the 10 days ended with a water surplus of 14.3mm/0.56in. Measurable rain fell on 5 days for a total period of 13 hours, the wettest day in this respect being the 7th with a duration of 7 hours overall. In compensation it was sunny, a total of 62.7 hours being recorded, with 9.5 hours of this coming on the 9th. Winds were westerly on 50% of the days, a maximum gust of 28knots/32mph occurring on the 8th, a day with heavy shower activity. The 10th was to see yet another bout of thunder activity during the morning though it was very short-lived! Over the 10 days

just one was sunless, with 5 having no measurable rain [$<0.2\text{mm}$]. Though this may seem very little like "high summer" it does fit in well with the weather of early June that is often wet and windy over the first couple of weeks. One could see real evidence of this in the "D-Day" landings on June 6th 1944 that were almost wrecked by inclement weather.

The mid-month period saw a range of temperature in the air from 26.5C/79.9F on the 16th to 6.4C/43.5F on the 13th with a corresponding grass minimum of 2.1C/35.8F also on the

13th. The black bulb maximum over the same period reached 58.3C/136.9F on June 16th. Soil temperatures ranged from 22.6C/72.7F at 5cm depth on the 16th to a low of 15.0C/59.0F at 20cm depth on the 11th, with earth temperatures ranging from 17.8C/64.0F at 30cm depth on the 16th to a low of 13.5C/56.3F at 100cm depth on the 11th.

Rainfall amounted to no more than 3.7mm/0.15in, 3.6mm/0.14in of this falling on the 17th. With an evaporation total of 32.3mm/1.27ins the result was a net water deficit of 28.6mm/1.13ins over the 10-day period. Sunshine for the period totalled 101 hours with a maximum daily total of 15.3 hours occurring on the 20th, giving the sunniest day of the year to date. There were no days without any sun whilst 70% saw totals in excess of 9 hours daily and 50% with totals in excess of 12 hours daily, good figures for a summer month.

Thunder occurred again on the 17th just after lunchtime but this passed in a little over 20 minutes with no damage or hail.

Winds were predominantly from a westerly quarter on 70% of the days, and these were generally light, gusts no higher than 32knots/37mph occurring on the 19th. The synoptic situation was generally low pressure in make-up, just the odd occasion seeing anticyclonic conditions prevailing. Skies were completely cloud-free on just two mornings at 09 hours whilst full cloud cover occurred only once, on the 18th.

Late June continued with the unsettled weather though it remained rather warm, daytime maxima being in the low or mid 20'sC [around 70F]. Low pressure remained near the country for much of the time, the associated frontal systems from these bringing periods of rain from time to time, by far the heaviest fall being 32.3mm/1.27ins on the 22nd, also the heaviest daily fall since the 30.1mm/1.19ins on the 13th October last year. It also continued sunny with no day being totally sunless and with a maximum of 12 hours on the 25th. By now the ground was very dry with widespread cracking, so much so that the heavy rain of the 22nd was rapidly absorbed with practically no "run off" noticed.

Mean earth temperatures ranged from 18.8C/65.8F at 5cm depth to 14.5C/58.1F at 100cm depth. Evaporation reached 17.7mm/1.09ins for the 10-day period giving a water surplus of 23.3mm/0.92in, useful in replenishing the water table. Winds were from an easterly quarter on 50% of the days and gusted to 26kn/30mph on the 30th. The month thus ended rather warm and humid with low cloud and heavy showers.