

JUNE SUMMARY.

May ran into June with little appreciable change in the basic weather conditions prevailing over the UK. Pressure remained reasonably high with the country sandwiched between high pressure to the west and low to the east dragging a northerly flow of air across the country. This led to some unusually cool nights with a touch of ground frost recorded on the morning of the 3rd. It was generally a period of sunny intervals and light showers, the latter amounting to a total of 5.2mm [0.20in] for the week whilst sunshine totalled 56.3 hours, both the 3rd and 7th giving daily totals in excess of 12 hours. During the week the maximum temperature reached 20.1C [68.2F] with a low of 4.0C [39.2F] on the 3rd.

We entered the second week with a continuation of the rather unsettled weather dominated by low-pressure systems. It remained relatively cool but predominantly dry and sunny. A grass frost to -0.3C [31.5F] occurred on the morning of the 11th with an air temperature falling to 3.0C [37.4F] decidedly cool for June. The week's daytime maximum was no higher than 20.7C [69.3F] reached on the 14th as pressure showed signs of rising across the country. Rainfall for the week amounted to 6.7mm [0.26in], almost all of this falling on the 14th. Over the same time period sunshine totalled 43.1hrs, 13.0 hours of which occurred on the 8th.

Week three began with very unsettled conditions, heavy rain, hail and two thunderstorms occurring on the 15th. This resulted in a 24-hour total of 28.9mm [1.14ins] of rain that was falling at a rate of 137mm [5.39ins] per hour at 12.40 UTC on the 15th before a nearby strike caused damage to the electronics of the recording rain gauge. If anything, temperatures began to fall as the week progressed with a maximum of just 15.1C [59.2F] on the 17th. However, by the end of the week as pressure rose across the country, so did temperatures, reaching 21.5C [70.7F] by the 19th. Winds were generally very variable with some cool northerlies mid-week though these were mostly light, the maximum gust being to 24 knots [27.6mph] on the 20th. Total rainfall for the week was 34mm [1.34ins], the bulk of this falling on the 15th. Sunshine totalled 41.9 hours.

High pressure predominated at the start of the fourth week and this brought in warm Continental air raising temperatures appreciably from a daytime maximum of 21.3C [70.3F] on the 22nd to 30.1C [86.2F] on the 26th, the hottest day of the year so far. Night minima were also high, falling no lower than 15.6C [60.1F] overnight on the 26th/27th. Sunshine was at a premium with several days exceeding 12 hours, the maximum of 15.2 hours [the highest of the year to date] occurring on the 24th. During this period also, no rain fell, the last measurable rain having fallen on the 16th. The week ended with a period of light rain, then heavy but rapidly passing showers giving a total of 4.7mm [0.19in] of rain on the 28th. Temperatures remained quite high, the week as a whole seeing maxima above 21C [70F] on every day peaking at 30.1C [86.2F] on the 26th.

The final two days were warm and sunny though a brief spell of rain on the final day brought the month's total rainfall to 51.7mm [2.04ins].