



Southeast Louisiana CoCoRaHS Newsletter

August 3, 2013

"Because every drop counts"

Double issue—June and July summaries

Other duties and obligations limited my time to devote to a newsletter last month, so I will try to get everyone caught up. Over the past 61 days, rain was measured somewhere in the Bayou State on 55 of them—27 days in June and 28 days in July. This does not mean everyone saw rain on all those days. In fact, there was a rather large degree of variability in rainfall coverage from day-to-day. Most of the rain days averaged about one-tenth of an inch or less while a handful of days were closer to one-half inch, mainly with out-of-season cold fronts that graced the region in June and July. June appeared to be wetter in the northern part of the state, particularly around Shreveport, where one station measured 11.41 inches for the month. Meanwhile, the central and east-central portions of the state were relatively dry, generally 1-2 inches for the month. Then July arrived and fortunes reversed. The northern part of the state would dry out and the southeastern sections would pick up the pace. Slidell 2.2 NE (LA-ST-6) would top the wettest month with 9.82 inches in July. The western half of the state averaged less than 3 inches for July as high pressure centered over the Plains States kept rain coverage at lower than normal levels. The cumulative results of this rainfall variability is yielding developing dryness in the western half of the state, when viewed since Jan 1, 2013. About 50 to 90 percent of the normal rainfall fell. The central part of the state along the Mississippi and Atchafalaya Basins were the wetter portions of the state, with a surplus of rainfall at 125 to 200 percent of normal since January 1. The extreme southeastern part of the state has been alternating wet and dry months to average nearly 90 percent of normal rainfall by the end of July. The image below is the Year-to-date rainfall through July 31, 2013. The greens and blues are wet, the yellows and orange are dry. Reds would be very dry/drought, and fortunately, no areas are experiencing these conditions yet.

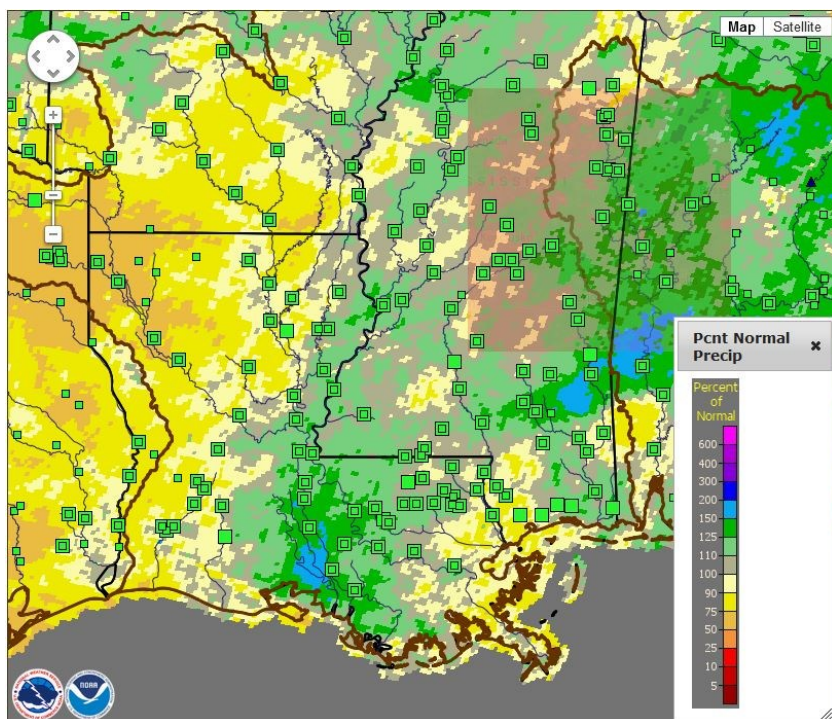


Image from the Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center web site,
<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/orn>.

June Comment - From LSU (LA-EB-33) on June 23rd

“Isolated heavy afternoon t-storm. Blinding wind driven rain and moderate to severe street flooding around LSU”

This was one of 195 comments submitted in June. This isolated thunderstorm dumped 1.97 inches in a short amount of time.

July Comment - From New Roads 2.7 ESE (LA-PC-2) on July 15th

“Huge squall in New Roads yesterday afternoon. Only 0.02 on the island, only two miles away. I guess it has to start and stop somewhere”

This sums up the nature of summer time rainfall in southern Louisiana

JUNE STATISTICS

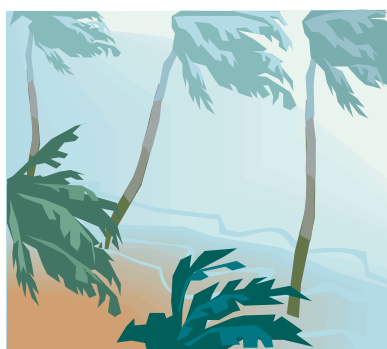
Wettest/Driest/Hail/Reporting

- ◆ Wettest Month, State - 11.41" on a perfect 31 reports at Shreveport 5.3 SSE (LA-CD-4)
- ◆ Wettest Month, Local—6.56" on 30 reports at Abita Springs 1.9 NE (LA-ST-7)
- ◆ Wettest Day, State—6.24" on the 18th at Minden 2.2 NE (LA-WR-4)
- ◆ Wettest Day, Local—3.23" on the 9th at Lacombe 1.4 N (LA-ST-8)
- ◆ Number of Rain Days—27 with at least 0.01" average in the state on a given day.
- ◆ Driest Month, State & Local—0.91" on 24 reports at Port Vincent 4.4 W (LA-AS-2)
- ◆ Hail Reports: On 06/03 at 10:00 pm from Inniswold 2.8 S (LA-EB-42) unknown size.
- ◆ Stations Reporting: 99; Number of Reports: 2191; Average per day: 73.0
- ◆ Busiest Reporting Day: 2nd, average: 0.81", max amount: 4.84", number of reports: 80
- ◆ Wettest Reporting Day: 2nd, average: 0.81", max amount: 4.84", number of reports: 80.

JULY STATISTICS

Wettest/Driest/Hail/Reporting

- ◆ Wettest Month, State & Local - 9.82" on 29 reports at Slidell 2.2 NE (LA-ST-6)
- ◆ Wettest Day, State & Local — 4.58" on the 28th at Central 2.2 SE (LA-EB-31)
- ◆ Number of Rain Days—28 with at least 0.01" average in the state on a given day.
- ◆ Driest Month, State—1.10" on 28 reports at Iowa 0.9 ESE (LA-CC-3)
- ◆ Driest Month, Local—2.42" on 22 reports at New Roads 2.7 ESE (LA-PC-2)
- ◆ Hail Reports: On 07/14 at 5:00 pm from Shenandoah 1.5 E (LA-EB-22) with 3/8" hail
On 07/02 at 4:43 pm from Natchitoches 0.9 NE (LA-NT-2) with 1/4"-3/8" hail
- ◆ Stations Reporting: 97; Number of Reports: 2205; Average per day: 71.1
- ◆ Busiest Reporting Day: 12th, average: 0.66", max amount: 3.77", number of reports: 80
- ◆ Wettest Reporting Day: 28th, average: 0.72", max amount: 4.58", number of reports: 64.



Hurricane Season is upon us. Hope everyone stays safe. Remember, if the region becomes threatened and you need to evacuate, please do not remain behind to take rainfall readings. CoCoRaHS will gladly accept whatever accumulated rainfall you may get upon your safe return.