

Southeast Louisiana CoCoRaHS Newsletter



Welcome to Summer

The past couple of months have been busy with record flows on the Mississippi River. The deployment of both the Bonnet Carre and Morganza Spillways was the first time since 1973. While the volume of water was similar to the Great Flood of 1927, the flood controls and fortified levee system worked as designed to really limit impacts to a fraction of the magnitude experienced in past major events. Meanwhile, sparse rain in May and the early part of June exacerbated

the long term drought the region has been experiencing. As of the latest Drought Monitor assessment, much of the Gulf Coast region is in either a D3 or D4 drought classification, the highest rating for a drought. A more normal rainfall pattern has evolved in the latter part of June to ease some stresses on grasses and gardens. I did miss issuing a June letter, but will catch everyone up for May and June in this issuance. Also, be mindful that we are now in the early stages of the Atlantic Hurricane Season.

May Statistics

- **Wettest Month State:**
LA-OC-6 Monroe 3.2 NW
8.01" on 22 reports
- **Wettest Month Local:**
LA-ST-1 Abita Springs 0.8 SW
1.81" on 31 reports
- **Driest Month Local:**
LA-AP-1 Labadieville 0.9 NNW
0.04" on 17 reports
LA-TR-5 Gray 0.5 ENE
0.18" on 30 reports
- **Number of Rain Days: 13**
- **Wettest Day State:**
LA-EC-1 Lake Providence 0.8 ESE
2.08" on May 3rd
- **Wettest Day Local:**
LA-JF-6 Marrero 1.9 E
1.38" on May 14th
- **Hail Days: 1**
LA-ST-8 Lacombe 1.4 N
Golfball to baseball sized hail on
May 26th at 6:30 pm
(see comments)

Drought continues in earnest

An extreme to exceptional drought continues to impact all of Louisiana. Some areas have received some short-term relief in summer rains, but not enough to offset large deficits dating back to late 2010. The image below is the latest drought assessment for Louisiana from the U.S. Drought Monitor. By far, the worst of the drought situation has been across the western part of the Bayou State and extending into east Texas.

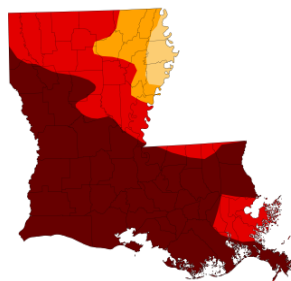
Louisiana

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D1	D1-D2	D2-D3	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	96.97	90.12	63.70
Last Week (06/28/2011 map)	0.00	100.00	100.00	96.97	90.12	63.50
3 Months Ago (04/05/2011 map)	0.00	100.00	88.71	51.52	32.70	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (1/29/2010 map)	0.00	100.00	87.22	59.72	40.99	0.00
Start of Water Year (06/29/2010 map)	6.49	93.51	65.44	35.29	9.18	0.00
One Year Ago (06/29/2010 map)	20.56	79.44	47.60	33.41	16.81	0.00

Intensity:

■ D0 Abnormally Dry ■ D3 Drought - Extreme
■ D1 Drought - Moderate ■ D4 Drought - Exceptional
■ D2 Drought - Severe



June Statistics

- **Wettest Month State/Local:**
LA-AS-5 Gonzales 4.0 S
6.44" on 30 reports
- **Driest Month State:**
LA-BS-7 Benton 1.4 NW
0.00" on 30 reports!
- **Driest Month Local:**
LA-ST-7 Abita Springs 2.2 SSW
1.61" on 30 reports
- **Number of Rain Days: 21**
- **Wettest Day State/Local:**
LA-JB-2 Reserve 0.5 SSE
4.02" on June 23rd
- **Hail Days: 0**

We're on the Web!

www.cocorahs.org

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"Because every drop counts"

Comment of the Month: From Labadieville 0.9 NNW (LA-AP-1) on June 28, 2011

No rain here. Some scattered very light showers were around as I could see them on the way home. It is still very hot .

Hurricane Season is Upon us

Once again, summer time in the Gulf South is synonymous with the Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Season. The Gulf of Mexico already had the first storm of the season with the formation of Tropical Storm Arlene. This early starter made landfall in Mexico and produced extensive inland flooding from torrential rains. Now is a great time to review your personal preparedness plans for the season. Please remember, if you are requested or ordered to evacuate during a landfall threat, heed your local official's recommendations. We will be more than happy to get your rainfall report upon your return, assuming your gauge is unaffected.

Reporting Statistics (May)

- **Stations reporting: 103**
- **Number of reports: 2331**
- **Average daily reporting: 75.2**

Busiest Reporting Day

- **Date: May 3rd**
- **Number of Reports: 84**
- **Average reported rainfall: 0.36"**
- **Max amount: 2.08"**

Wettest Reporting Day

- **Date: May 21st**
- **Number of Reports: 77**
- **Average reported rainfall: 0.39"**
- **Max amount: 1.57"**

Reporting Statistics (June)

- **Stations reporting: 108**
- **Number of reports: 2390**
- **Average daily reporting: 79.7**

Busiest Reporting Day

- **Date: June 22nd**
- **Number of Reports: 91**
- **Average reported rainfall: 1.05"**
- **Max amount: 3.63"**

Wettest Reporting Day

- **Date: June 22nd**
- **Number of Reports: 91**
- **Average reported rainfall: 1.05"**
- **Max amount: 3.63"**

Keep those rainfall and hail reports coming!