Big Rains Hit the Coast on the 22nd

A slow moving weather system from the west became involved with a gulf breeze to establish an area of persistent heavy rains across southeast Louisiana and the coastal counties of Mississippi. The largest reported amounts came from Hancock and Harrison Counties. Strangely, the driest location for the month was neighboring Jackson County—where only about 4 inches of rainfall was tallied over the 31 days. Long Beach in Harrison County measured 9.57 inches in a single day on the 22nd. The rain event produced between 4 and 9.57 inches of rainfall in a 24 hour period. The second page of this report features a map of the rainfall as depicted by the CoCoRaHS network. The image at the bottom of page two is the total rainfall for the month of March from the National Weather Service River Forecast Center in Slidell, LA.

Perfect Reporting

Upon reviewing the monthly data in compiling this report, I noticed what appeared to be a pretty high number of 31 reports for the month. It turns out that a whopping 69 out of 150 observers statewide recorded perfect attendance for March. This is 46 percent of all reporting stations. Another large number reported 29-30 days of the month. This is much appreciated as it adds considerable value to the information when used for research and studies.

A BIG WAY TO GO!!!

Keep those rainfall and hail reports coming!

Comment of the Month - From Kiln 6.6 N (MS-HC-13) on March 23, 2012

Accumulation was 0.29 in. at 9:00 am.
Accumulation was 0.42 in. at 10:00 am.
Accumulation was 0.59 in. at 11:00 am.
Accumulation was 0.80 in. at 12:00 noon.
Accumulation was greater than 1.00 in. at 1:00 pm. Temperature at time of observation was 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Skies were overcast with cumulus and stratus clouds. The past 24 hours accumulation makes March 2012 the wettest month since I started taking CoCoRAHS observations.

Very good details during a heavy rain event. Thanks for the extra effort to provide this helpful information.

March Statistics

- **Wettest Month**
  State & Local: 
  MS-HC-9 Kiln 3.3 N
  16.32” on a perfect 31 reports

- **Number of Rain Days:** 17

- **Wettest Day State & Local:**
  MS-HR-27 Long Beach 0.7 S
  9.57” on the 22nd

- **Driest Month Local:**
  MS-JC-17 Moss Pt 10.2 NE
  4.22” on 21 reports
  MS-JC-22 Gautier 4.9 N
  4.24” on 31 reports

- **Hail Days:** 0

Reporting Statistics (March)

- **Stations reporting:** 150
- **Number of reports:** 3760
- **Average daily reporting:** 121.3

Busiest Reporting Day

- **Date:** March 22nd
- **Number of Reports:** 138
- **Average reported rainfall:** 3.08”
- **Max amount:** 9.57”

Wettest Reporting Day

- **Date:** March 22nd
- **Number of Reports:** 138
- **Average reported rainfall:** 3.08”
- **Max amount:** 9.57”
New CoCoRaHS mapping capability using Google Maps ©2012. The colored circles depict the rainfall totals recorded on the morning of March 23rd, covering the heavy rainfall event from the previous 24 hours. The lone red dot was Kiln 6.6 N in Hancock County with 5.94 inches to lead the state of Mississippi that day for wettest location.

**Louisiana; March, 2012 Monthly Observed Precipitation**
*Valid at 4/1/2012 1200 UTC– Created 4/3/12 21:37 UTC*

The monthly accumulated rainfall for March 2012 as compiled by the National Weather Service Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center. Note the two streaks of pink-purple over Hancock and Harrison Counties, depicting between 10 and 15 inches of rainfall for the month. Ironically, Jackson County was the driest county in the state for the month, with less than 5 inches for March.