



"Because every drop counts"

South Mississippi CoCoRaHS Newsletter

It was early June since the last newsletter. Apologies for the long delay but I have been involved with other obligations recently that needed some attention. The NWS office in Slidell hosted four college student volunteers that were engaged in exciting research projects for the past two months. I served as mentor and project lead. These projects are above and beyond the routine grind, and when we get extra help from students, it makes for great opportunities to delve into the science. I will summarize the past two months below in narrative form this time to get everyone up-to-speed.

June Summary

“Temperature at time of observation was 79 degrees Fahrenheit. skies were mostly cloudy with cumulus clouds. No condensation was on the gauge. With 2012 now half over the total accumulation for the year is within three inches of the total for all of 2011.” - comment of the month from Kiln 6.6 N (MS-HC-13) on the 30th, summarizing how much different a year makes.

June had 18 rain days in the Magnolia State. 147 observers reported at least once in the month, with an average daily reporting of 118.3 observations per day. The monthly total was 3548 observations. The wettest location in June was **Lucedale 13.1 SE (MS-GG-2)** with 12.00 inches on just 10 reports. Locally, **Moss Point 10.2 NE (MS-JC-17)** tallied 11.69 inches in 7 reports. Lucedale 13.1 SE also had the single wettest day on the 11th, with 5.11 inches, while **Pass Christian 3.5 NE (MS-HR-10)** had 4.69 inches on the 9th. The northern part of the state was dry, while the southern half averaged 6-12 inches for the month, yet only 2 days had rain after the 19th. Three locations had more than 10” for the month. Pea sized hail was reported in Brandon on the 16th. The busiest day was the 12th, with 133 reports. The wettest reporting days averaged 0.74 inches on both the 11th and 12th.

July Summary

“0700 - Broken H2 cirrus, calm winds, hazy, 71.8°F, 91% humidity. Fairly strong smoke smell in the air.” - comment of the month from Saucier 1.7 NNE (MS-HR-22) on the 31st.

July was a wet month across southern Mississippi as well as other parts of the state. Twenty-seven stations measured more than 10 inches of rainfall for the month. The wettest location in Mississippi was **Gautier 5.1 N (MS-JC-16)** with 14.75 inches. The wettest day locally was **Ocean Springs 3.3 E (MS-JC-2)** with 4.28 inches recorded on the 21st. **Starkville 1.7 NE (MS-OK-5)** had 5.01 inches for the wettest day in the state on the 12th. Near the Tennessee border, Hernando had the driest month with 1.75” on 24 reports. **Gulfport 4.3 NNW (MS-HR-7)** had the locally lower amount with 6.48” on a perfect 31 reports. No hail was reported. There was a total of 27 average rainy days. The busiest day was the 12th, with 134 stations reporting an average of 1.02”. The wettest average day was also the 12th and the 20th with 1.02”. The average number of daily reports was 123.0 statewide, with 149 observers logging 3813 observations in July.

A wet summer in the Deep South while the rest of the nation experiences drought

While the rest of interior part of the United States is baking in record heat and very little rainfall, the same can not be said across the Middle Gulf region. The past 60 days have seen rainfall totals ranging from 6 to 25 inches. The image, below, is courtesy of the Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center, depicting the last two month's rainfall accumulation. The greens are generally 6 to 12 inches, while the yellows are 12 to 25 inches. The National Drought Monitor indicates that nearly 62 percent of the nation is experiencing drought conditions at this time. As shown in the image far below, the mid-Gulf states are not in such conditions. These are different times compared to this time last year when the Gulf States were undergoing drought and dryness while river flooding was occurring farther north.

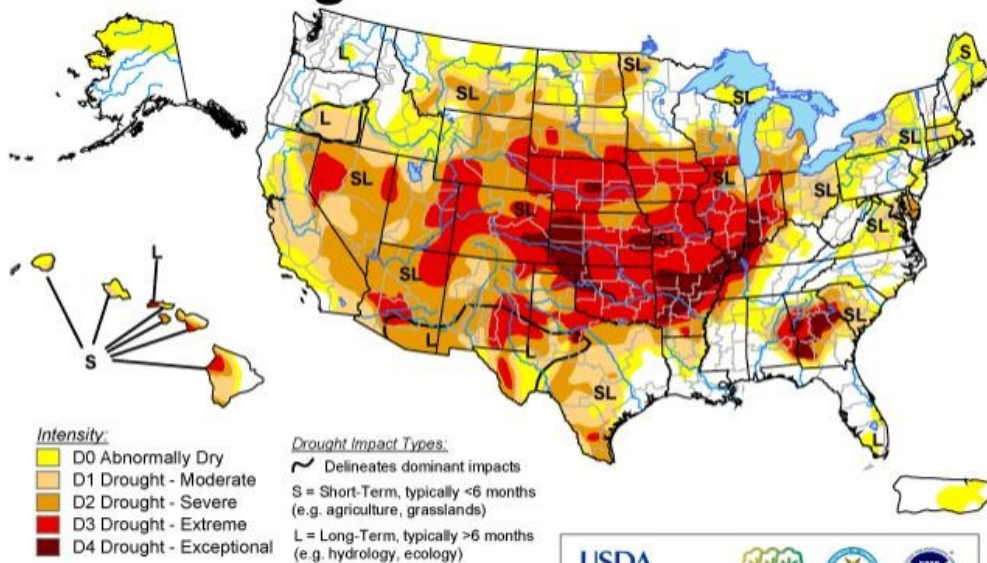


New Members

The NWS New Orleans/Baton Rouge Office recently placed a CoCoRaHS recruitment banner on the top of the webpage. This showed some success, as we added another observer to the roster in Mississippi and two in Louisiana as a result. Welcome, **Poplarville 1.3 SSE (MS-PR-10)**.

U.S. Drought Monitor

August 7, 2012
Valid 7 a.m. EDT



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



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