

WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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For the period June 23 – June 29, 2012

General Interest: Record set for least amount of seeding days for any June in WKWMP history.

June of 2012 will be remembered for many records this year. Along with temperature records shattered for many locations across the area and probably a few records for least amount of precipitation, our program has also broken a record for least amount of seeding days for any June in our history going back to the first year of operations in 1975. This year, storm episodes have been extremely infrequent since around early April. May 2012 tied the record for least number of seeding days for that month with only three. The record for May would have been broken also except a cluster of strong storms moved into the area on May 30th prompting some seeding for hail suppression over the northern portion of the target area. As for this June, breaking the record for least number of days is a shocking reality. Periods of tranquil weather is not all that uncommon during the first half of June but the almost complete lack of significant storms during the second half of the month is very rare! There were only five days of seeding operations for June. Four of those days came prior to June 17th. The previous record for least number of days was set back in 1977 with six days. We average about 13 days of seeding for the month. Over the 38-year history of this program there have only been six years when there have been less than ten seeding days in June. The drought has a stranglehold on our area that is worse at present than it was this time last year! Next week I will present information discussing the precipitation totals for June, a comparison of drought this year versus last year and a summary of the hardest hit locations in our target area regarding the least amount of precipitation to date.

Weather: The week started out with a few thunderstorms passing through the area on Saturday night. Cooler temperatures were the rule for the first half of the work week with a small round of thundershowers Tuesday night mainly along and south of a Syracuse to Garden City line. A warming trend ensued starting Thursday. The mercury climbed back into the middle to upper 90's with sunny skies on Friday.

Operations: No operational days this week.

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**Walter Geiger, Meteorologist
Western Kansas Weather Modification Program**