

WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

No. 2014-12

For the period June 28 – July 4, 2014

General Interest: County rainfall averages for June

County precipitation averages for June indicate a very much needed and long awaited moisture surplus for all target area counties. June totals last year were all below normal which has pretty much been the pattern until recently. This year, June rains were somewhat spread out during the month with nearly half the total coming in the first 15-days. Right now a green landscape prevails and hopefully it will carry on into the remainder of July. Rain reports from the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS), www.cocorahs.org, indicate the highest 2014 June county precipitation average was in Lane County with 10.87 inches or 388% of normal for Lane. Following Lane, Kearny County reported 7.26 inches (246% of normal for Kearny), and Scott County with 6.73 inches or 237% of normal. Across the state, the area with the highest June total was over western Clark County with 15.00+ inches west of Ashland. On the other end of the spectrum, portions of western Hamilton County recorded the lowest statewide precipitation total of 1.00 to 1.50+ inches.

Weather: The week started out with an area of severe storms moving out of northwestern Kansas and into west-central Kansas early Sunday morning. These storms developed within a highly unstable nocturnal environment and rich mid level moisture streaming in from the south. Although relatively uncommon for this area, nocturnal storms can at times pose a significant threat as evidenced by 3.00 inch hail reported in Ruleton in northwestern Kansas along with a tornado spotted shortly before daybreak in Gove County. Partly cloudy conditions along with mild days and cool nights prevailed the remainder of the week.

Operations: There was one operational day this week. Seeding for hail occurred that day.

June 29th, Program Operations Day #11

One plane was launched at 6:50 a.m. to investigate a severe storm traveling southeast from Gove and Logan counties toward Lane. Seeding for hail suppression began at 7:22 near Healy. Seeding was terminated at 7:32 a.m. at the storm was due to exit the target area. The plane turned for base at 7:34.

Walter Geiger, Meteorologist
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