

WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

P.O. BOX 254 Lakin, KS 67860

Lakin Office: 620-355-6913

waltergeiger@yahoo.com

Internet: www.gmd1.org/index-3.html

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

No. 2014-21

For the period August 30 – September 5, 2014

General Interest: County rainfall averages for August

County precipitation averages for August indicate a mixed bag across the target area. Much like last year, plentiful rains fell across the northern target area counties in Scott and Lane as well as points further north and northwest. The monthly rain totals for western Kansas clearly favored northwest Kansas while southwest Kansas received about half the northwest Kansas total. For August, the driest area in Kansas was found along the Hamilton/Kearny county line from Kendall to about 10-miles south of Kendall where a paltry 0.25 inches to 0.50 inches fell. The wettest location was found just east of Beloit in north-central Kansas where around 10.00 to 15.00 inches fell. Rain reports from the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS), www.cocorahs.org, indicate the highest 2014 August county precipitation average was in Lane County with 5.72 inches or 110% above normal for Lane. Following Lane, Scott County reported 4.41 inches (68% above normal for Scott) while Kearny County came in at only 1.96 or 28% below normal for Kearny

Weather: The week started out sunny with seasonal temperatures on Saturday for nearly all locations with the exception being over Stanton and Grant counties where some isolated storms formed which were briefly strong to severe. A few scattered storms were located over the area again Sunday mainly over west-central Kansas. Cooler weather settled into the region by Wednesday as a cool front pushed through. A few scattered showers along with some thunder accompanied the front. A strong cold front moved in Thursday. Scattered showers and storms broke out along and slightly behind the front Thursday evening followed by a protracted period of beneficial rainfall from Thursday night into Friday afternoon.

Operations: There was operational day this week. Also, an observation flights was conducted on August 30th and September 3rd.

August 30th, Program Operations Day #21

One plane was launched at 5:39 p.m. to investigate an area of storm development over northeastern Stanton County slowly traveling east-southeast. At 5:56, 1.00 inch hail was reported about 4-miles north of Big Bow. By 6:05, that storm had already nearly decayed. However, a second storm developed at 6:00 just 3-miles north of Big Bow. The second storm was likely formed by a gust front expelled from the first storm when it collapsed. Several strong storms remained over northern Grant through 7:15. One storm over northern Grant became a threat for extreme southern Kearny by 7:20 at which time seeding for hail suppression began. Seeding was terminated at 7:29 over southern Kearny as the storm fell below the hail threat. Seeding for hail suppression began again at 8:02 p.m. over northeastern Stanton. Radar indicated the portion of the storm mass here was capable of producing small hail over southwestern Kearny County with time. Seeding continued through 8:21. At 8:25, the storm began following a gust front to the southeast at which time seeding stopped. The planes patrolled the area before turning for base at 8:49.

Walter Geiger, Meteorologist
Western Kansas Weather Modification Program