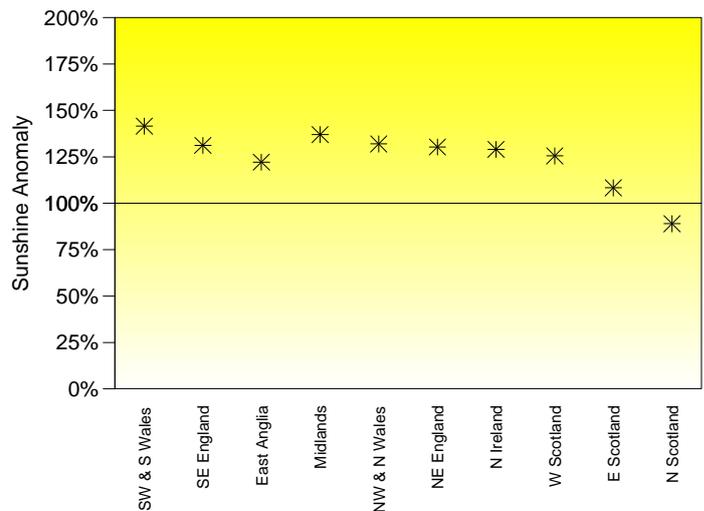
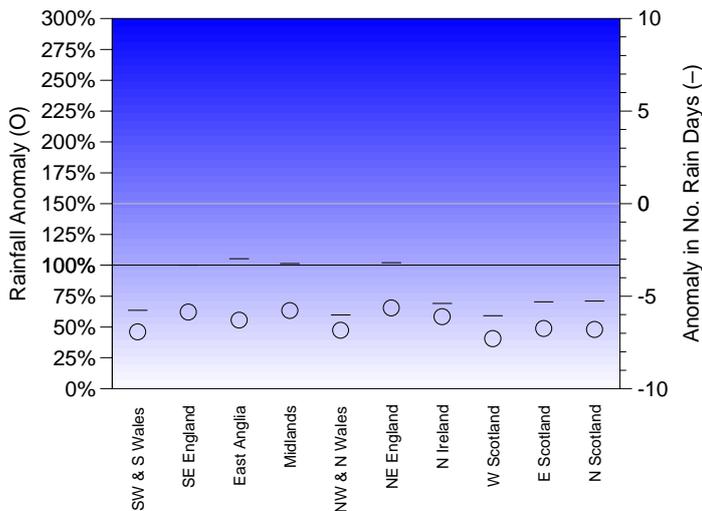


Extremes for June 2010		
Hottest:	31.0°C	Culford, Suffolk, 27th
Coldest:	-0.1°C	Carterhouse, Borders, 20th
Most Rain:	57.2mm	Blaenau Ffestiniog, Gwynedd, 28th
Most Sun:	17.2hrs	Swaffham, Norfolk, 3rd
Windiest:	56mph	Warcop Range SAWS, Cumbria, 9th
Warmest:	18.0°C	London Olympic Park South, Greater London
Coolest:	10.4°C	Foula No 2, Shetland
Wettest:	83.2mm	Cardinham (Bodmin) SAWS, Cornwall
Driest:	2.8mm	Kinlochewe, Highland
Sunniest:	339.5hrs	Radstock, Somerset
Dullest:	70.7hrs	Lerwick, Shetland



Glastonbury, Wimbledon and disappointingly cool, wet and unsettled weather are three things commonly associated with the long days of June. This year however bucked the trend set in recent times and brought widespread warm and dry conditions - with many parched gardens in eastern areas by the month's end.

The 1st was a wet day across central and eastern districts but rising pressure soon brought fine weather - and it became steadily warmer with 28°C (82°F) at Heathrow on the 5th. By this time, scattered heavy and occasionally thundery showers were breaking out. A week or more of unsettled weather followed and overnight on the 10th / 11th 20-30mm rain fell widely over Sussex and Kent. Most places were brighter and drier on the 12th but there were more showers in southern areas on the 13th. The next five days were dominated by high pressure just to the west or north-west of the UK. Northeast winds were brisk over south east England but light elsewhere, and there was abundant sunshine by day, and chilly temperatures by night - with local ground frost. A deepening depression moving into Scandinavia brought a band of rain southwards across England and Wales on the 18th, followed by bracing northerlies on the 19th. Eastern parts were draped in cloud but much of the west and north experienced more sunshine. A clear, cold night followed and there was an air frost -0.1°C (31°F) at Carterhouse, Borders, early on the 20th - just a day before the summer solstice! Settled weather then returned and lasted until the month's end, apart from a few thundery downpours in some western and northern areas on the 28th and 29th. Daytime temperatures climbed steadily, reaching 30.9°C (88°F) at Gravesend, Kent, on the 27th, and the nights also became increasingly warm and humid. By the 26th, minima were falling no lower than 15°C in parts of south-east England. For the month as a whole, mean temperatures were above average everywhere, and by as much as 2°C over Northern Ireland and western Scotland. It was also notably sunny except for northern and eastern Scotland. Most remarkable however was the month's aridity. Indeed the first 6 months of 2010 have been among the driest on record in parts of northwest England where reservoirs are running dangerously low.

While dry weather affected the UK, destructive floods hit several European countries during June. In Hungary, 3000 people were evacuated from eight villages after the Vistula River spilled over near Szcuzin on the 5th. Violent thunderstorms caused devastating flash floods in the Provence region of southern France on the 15th - and were responsible for 25 deaths. At Le Luc 175mm rain fell in just five hours and in the Vars region of Les Arcs 400mm was recorded for the day. Heavy rains in Bosnia and then north-eastern Romania during the latter fortnight led to many rivers bursting their banks, landslides and flooding that was responsible for at least 22 deaths. Meanwhile torrid heat baked the Middle East. In Kuwait, Jeddah endured highs of 52°C (126°F) on the 21st and 22nd. Further east central Asia witnessed some remarkable temperature changes. Heilongjiang, China, experienced three sub-freezing nights 19th - 21st. Then on the 22nd, it warmed from a morning low of 5°C to an afternoon high of 37°C (99°F)! Heavy monsoon rain on 14th-15th brought landslides and flooding to south-eastern Bangladesh and western Myanmar where 340mm of rain fell within 24 hours. At least 63 people were killed and half a million homes and buildings damaged or destroyed. The monsoon rains also wreaked havoc in India where flooding and landslides killed at least 46 residents of the western state of Maharashtra. Australia's, biggest cities shivered towards the end of June.... Sydney awoke to 4°C on the 30th, its coldest June morning since 1983, and capital city Canberra was carpeted in frost!