

WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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For the period May 28 – June 3, 2016

General Interest: County rainfall averages for May

County precipitation averages for May were well below normal for both target area counties. Indeed, western Kansas in total was considerably drier than normal which is unfortunate given May is historically the second wettest month annually behind July. May of last year was substantially wet with target area precipitation ranging from 6.00 to 10.00 inches.

Precipitation reports from the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS), www.cocorahs.org, indicate the highest 2016 May target area county precipitation average was in Scott County with 1.73 inches or 43% below normal for Scott. The reports for Lane showed 1.60 inches or 53% below normal. Southwest Kansas was the driest portion of Kansas in general with an average of around 1.50 inches while the wettest quadrant in Kansas was in the northeast where the average was around 7.00 inches.

For the period June 6 – 14, forecast rainfall totals are in the range of 0.10 – 0.30 inches across much of the area while the eastern portion of Kansas might see even less. Although storm chances will be frequent during the period, appreciable rain will likely be confined to very spotty locations due to minimal storm coverage.

Weather: Isolated storms broke by early afternoon Saturday along a surface boundary extending from Quinter southwest to Syracuse. Some severe storms were noted over portions of west-central Kansas. The remainder of the week was tranquil with mostly sunny skies, mostly clear nights and temperatures steadily increasing to about 90 degrees by Friday.

Operations: There was one operational day this week. Also, one flight of observation occurred on May 30.

May 29, Program Operations Day #6

One plane was launched at 2:18 p.m. to investigate a developing storm over southwestern Scott County traveling northeast. Seeding for hail suppression began at 2:46 near Modoc. Seeding continued through 3:20 this intense and somewhat difficult storm as premium areas of inflow were hampered with heavy rain on some hail. Seeding was terminated at 3:40 over extreme northern Scott as the storm had begun crossing into Logan County.

Walter Geiger, Meteorologist
Western Kansas Weather Modification Program