



CLIMATOLOGICAL NOTE NUMBER 34

SEPTEMBER 1960

FREQUENCIES OF AMOUNTS OF DAILY PRECIPITATION IN THE WALLOWA-BLUE MOUNTAIN AREA (BAKER, ENTERPRISE, UKIAH)

Question: "During a given 10-day period in the Wallowa-Blue Mountain area, what is the likelihood that precipitation during a day will be light, medium, or heavy?"

Table: As an example of how to read the Table, look at the top row of numbers for the period 1-10 January. The values tabulated are based on actual observations made at the stations indicated during the years 1949-58, and are presented on the basis of "days in 100 days". The numbers 0, 1, 2, and 3 above the columns stand for amount of precipitation as follows:

- 0 no precipitation
- 1 light precipitation Trace through 0.09 inch
- 2 medium precipitation 0.1 through 0.49 inch
- 3 heavy precipitation more than 0.49 inch

That is, during the first third of January at Baker, rainless days have occurred at the rate of 43 days in 100 days, and light precipitation has fallen at the rate of 52 days in 100 days. Combining these two statements, precipitation at Baker during the period has been either absent or light on 43+52, or 95 days in 100 days. This last value for Enterprise is 52+39, or 91 days in 100 days, and at Ukiah, it is 40+24, or 64 days in 100 days. Conversely, at Ukiah precipitation rate has been medium or heavy on 100 - 64, or 36 days in 100 days during the first third of January. Similar combinations of data may be made with respect to various intensities of precipitation at other times of the year.

The data: Because of the nature of precipitation, tabulations here cannot be considered any more than a suggestion of patterns in time and space of precipitation occurring on a given day in the Wallowa-Blue Mountain area. Note that "precipitation" includes rain, snow, hail, and sleet expressed in terms of water equivalent. Similar data for Meacham and Pendleton are available in detail as Climatological Notes 8 and 9 of this series.

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Daily Frequencies of Precipitation as Days in 100 Days in the
Wallowa-Blue Mountain Area

Period		Baker				Enterprise				Ukiah			
		0*	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3
Jan.	1 - 10	43	52	5		52	39	9		40	24	12	24
	11 - 20	26	61	13		40	40	19	1	26	20	30	24
	21 - 31	37	56	7		42	50	8		30	28	19	23
Feb.	1 - 10	46	47	6	1	57	31	12		56	19	20	5
	11 - 20	33	55	12		49	40	11		49	34	17	
	21 - 29	48	44	8		52	37	9	2	68	16	14	2
Mar.	1 - 10	44	50	6		56	36	7	1	58	24	18	
	11 - 20	41	50	9		55	31	14		53	21	22	4
	21 - 31	47	46	7		58	32	10		57	21	19	3
Apr.	1 - 10	60	30	10		61	29	10		65	18	14	3
	11 - 20	60	31	8	1	71	13	14	2	66	16	18	
	21 - 30	58	32	10		68	21	10	1	59	22	13	6
May	1 - 10	62	26	10	2	56	22	21	1	53	29	13	5
	11 - 20	62	25	10	3	61	19	19	1	64	17	15	4
	21 - 31	57	26	15	2	58	28	11	3	68	17	10	5
June	1 - 10	57	25	15	3	59	18	17	6	50	18	16	16
	11 - 20	57	26	15	2	64	19	14	3	62	17	18	3
	21 - 30	68	27	5		67	17	11	5	74	13	13	
July	1 - 10	74	19	6	1	74	15	11		81	9	8	2
	11 - 20	85	11	4		80	5	10	5	89	5	4	2
	21 - 31	79	16	4	1	81	9	6	4	82	8	3	7
Aug.	1 - 10	76	22	2		77	14	9		80	14	6	
	11 - 20	84	13	2	1	82	11	5	2	91	3	6	
	21 - 31	76	17	7		74	17	7	2	77	14	7	2
Sept.	1 - 10	89	7	4		91	7	1	1	92	6	1	1
	11 - 20	77	20	2	1	80	15	3	2	88	5	6	1
	21 - 30	78	19	3		79	15	6		78	9	9	4
Oct.	1 - 10	64	29	6	1	67	19	13	1	62	14	13	11
	11 - 20	71	21	7	1	69	22	8	1	69	25	4	2
	21 - 31	63	29	8		63	26	10	1	67	12	16	5
Nov.	1 - 10	73	21	6		69	25	6		75	11	10	4
	11 - 20	42	48	10		47	40	13		48	23	22	7
	21 - 30	54	39	6	1	60	30	7	3	61	15	15	9
Dec.	1 - 10	31	54	15		43	47	9	1	34	26	26	14
	11 - 20	41	50	9		49	39	11	1	48	17	22	13
	21 - 31	46	43	11		51	39	10		57	15	14	14

* 0, no precipitation; 1, through 0.09 inch; 2, 0.1 through 0.49 inch; 3, more than 0.49 inch.