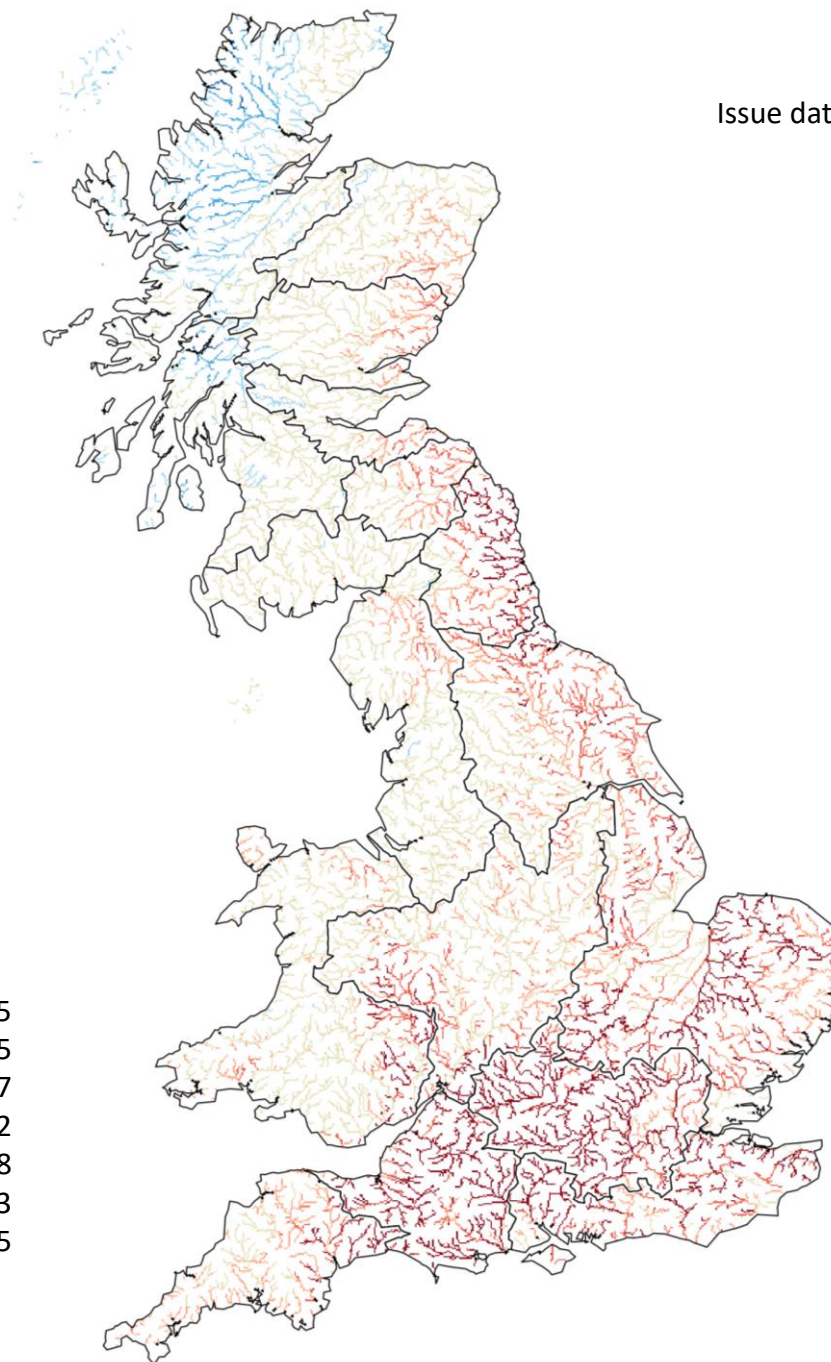
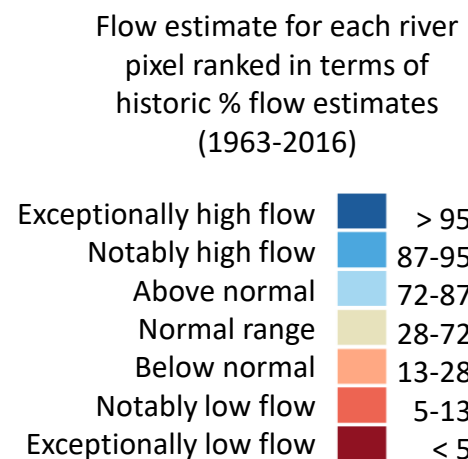


This map shows the simulated monthly mean flow across Great Britain for last month, ranked in terms of 54 years of historical flow estimates (1963 – 2016).

Issue date: 05.10.2026

These flows are produced by the 1km resolution Grid-to-Grid (G2G) hydrological model, which is run up to the end of each calendar month using observed rainfall and MORECS potential evaporation as input.

Note that the G2G model provides estimates of natural flows.

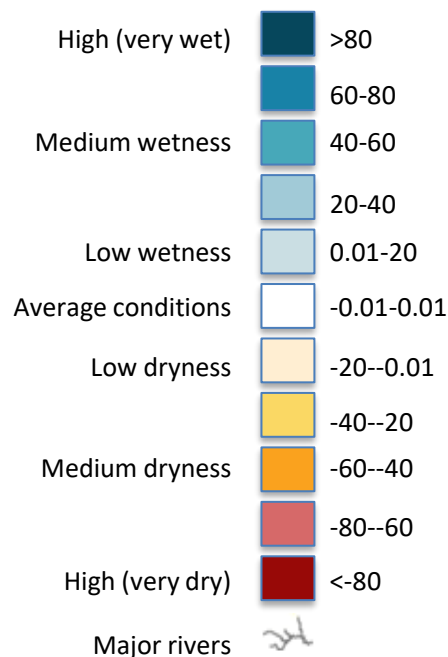


These maps are based on Grid-to-Grid (G2G) hydrological model simulated subsurface water storage (water in the soil and groundwater), expressed as an anomaly from the historical monthly mean. To highlight areas that are particularly wet or dry, the storage anomaly is presented relative to historical extremes. Rainfall in WET areas with high positive relative wetness could result in flooding in the coming days/weeks. Areas of negative relative wetness indicate locations which are particularly DRY, and little or no rain in these areas could potentially lead to (or prolong) a drought. Maps of soil moisture only are available on the next page.

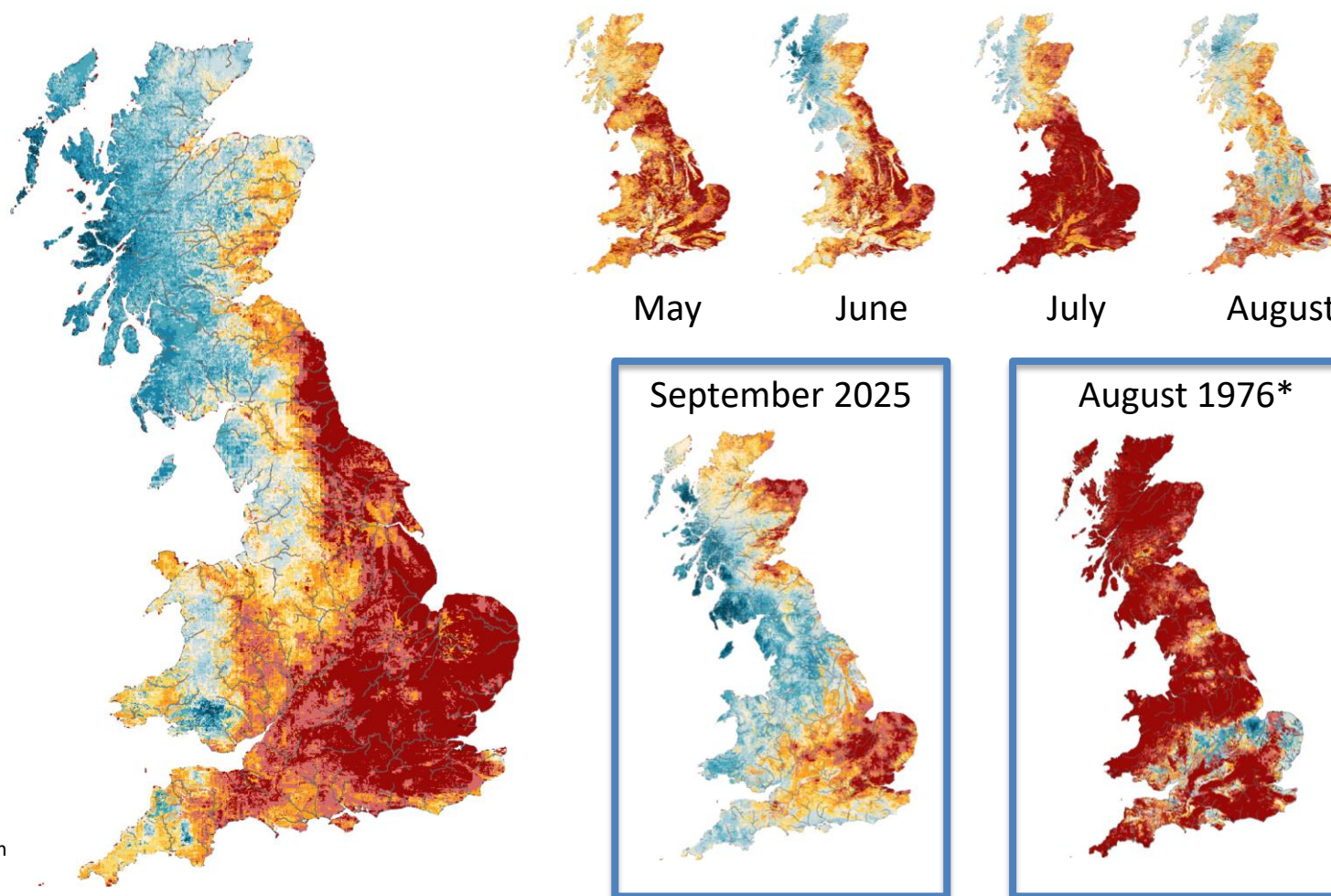
SUMMARY: Subsurface water stores for the south and east of England have depleted further and are very dry for this time of year. In parts of western England and Wales subsurface water stores have recovered to be only marginally lower (drier) than usual, with stores in much of Scotland higher (wetter) than usual.

Relative wetness

Water storage anomaly as a % of maximum (positive wetness) or minimum (negative wetness) storage anomaly (zero indicates average value)



Labels refer to estimated storage on final day of named month



*Example month displaying extreme negative wetness

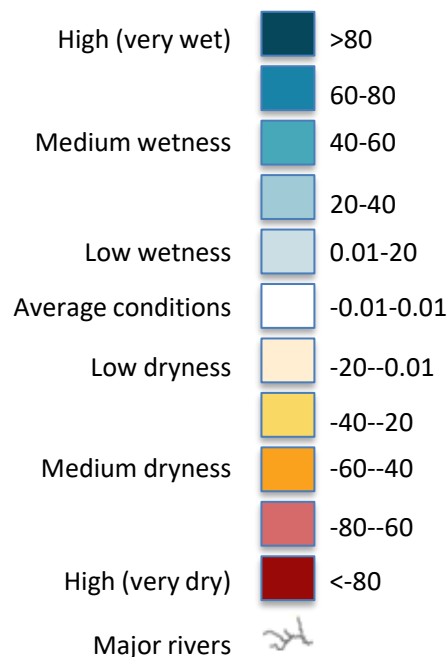
October 2026

These maps are based on Grid-to-Grid (G2G) hydrological model simulated soil moisture, expressed as an anomaly from the historical monthly mean. To highlight areas that are particularly wet or dry, the soil moisture anomaly is presented relative to historical extremes. These maps are not a forecast; rather an indication of current conditions. Soil moisture will often look similar to total storage (shown on the previous slide), since total storage comprises both soil moisture and storage in the saturated zone.

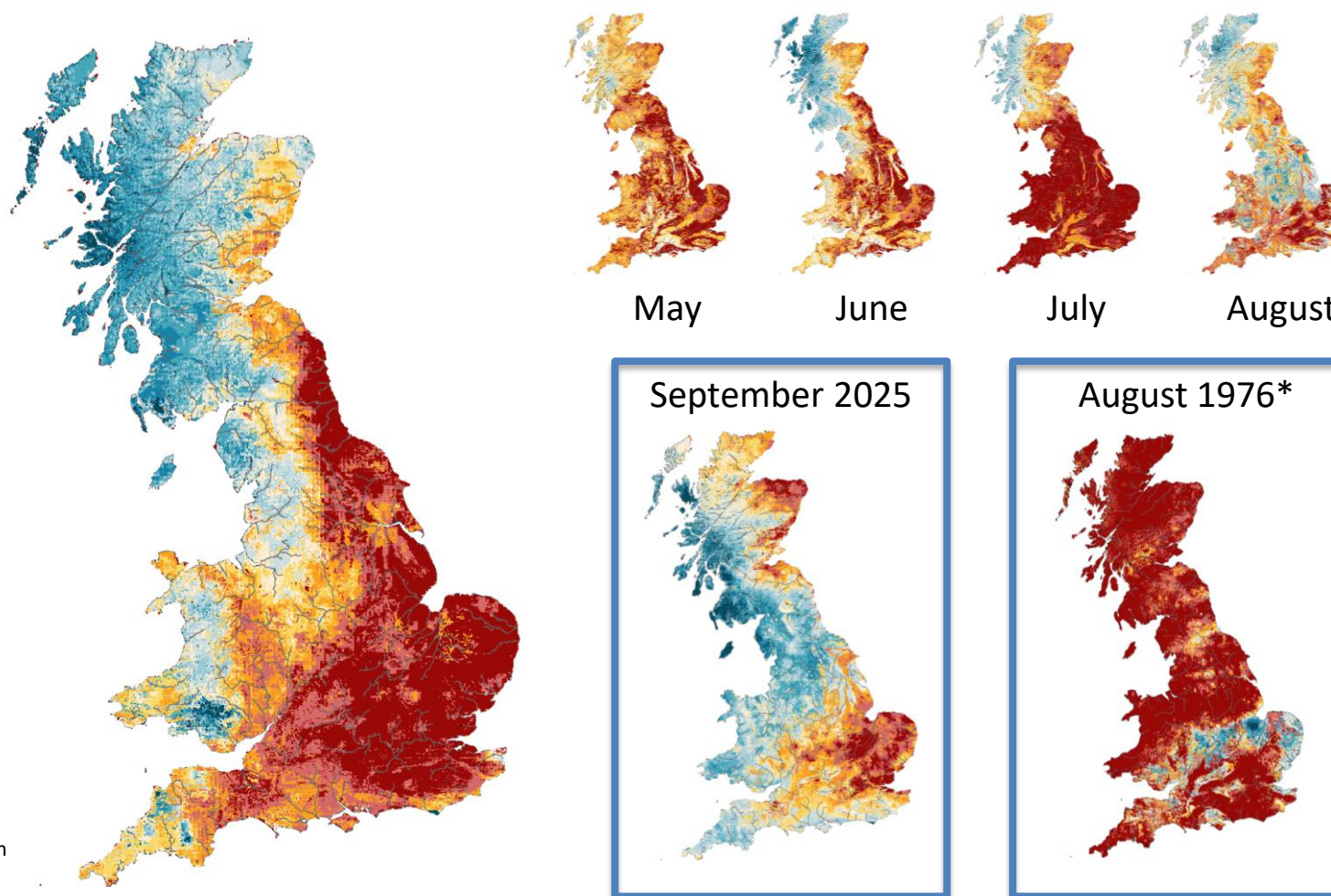
SUMMARY: Soil moisture stores for the south and east of England have depleted further and are very dry for this time of year. In parts of western England and Wales subsurface water stores have recovered to be only marginally lower (drier) than usual, with stores in much of Scotland higher (wetter) than usual.

Relative wetness

Soil moisture anomaly as a % of maximum (positive wetness) or minimum (negative wetness) storage anomaly (zero indicates average value)



Labels refer to estimated storage on final day of named month



October 2026

These maps show the Grid-to-Grid (G2G) hydrological model simulated subsurface water storage, expressed as an anomaly from the historical monthly mean (1981-2010), presented on a 1km grid and as regional means. Subsurface storage deficits, i.e. where the subsurface water storage anomaly is less than zero, are highlighted in red/pink.

The subsurface storage deficit (mm) can be interpreted as an estimate of additional rainfall that would be required in future months to overcome dry conditions (i.e. rainfall in addition to what is expected on average). Regional mean values of additional rainfall required are provided in the table below.

Regional estimate of additional rainfall required (mm)

SCOTLAND

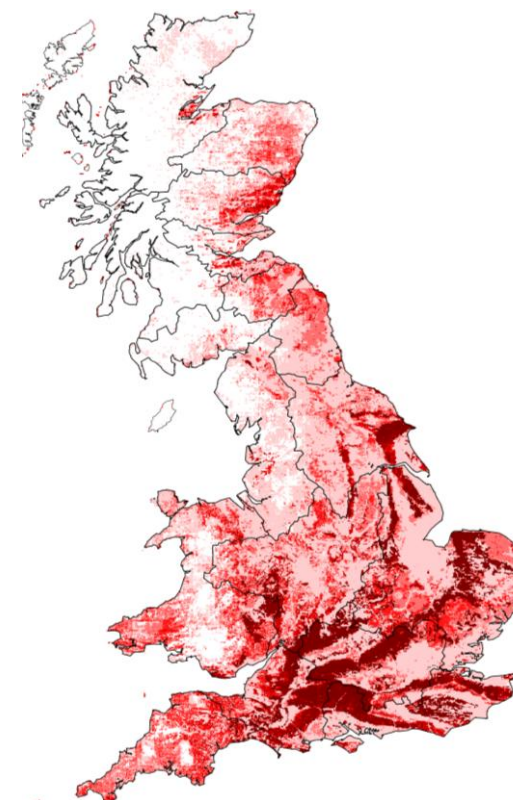
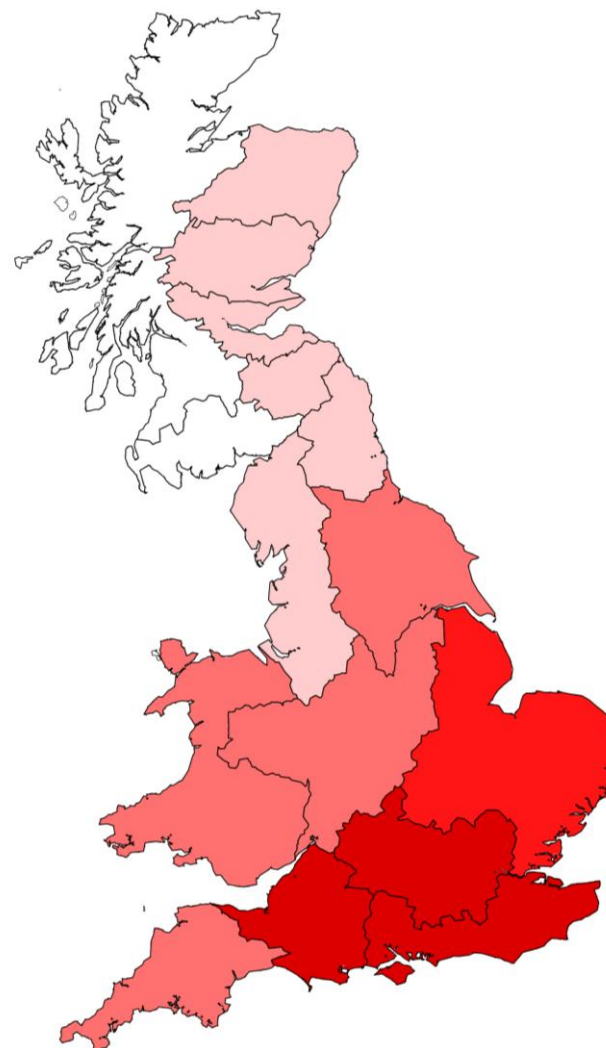
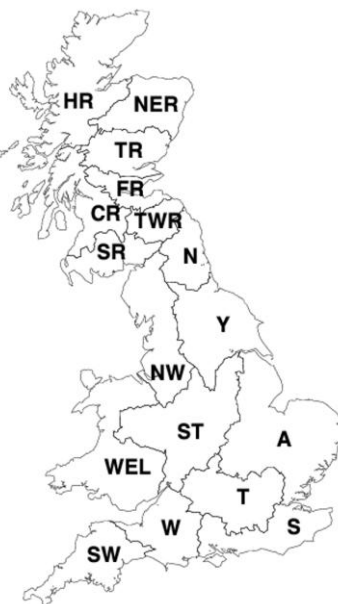
0	HR	Highlands Region
9	NER	North East Region
14	TR	Tay Region
7	FR	Forth Region
0	CR	Clyde Region
22	TWR	Tweed Region
0	SR	Solway Region

ENGLAND

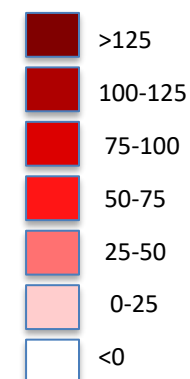
22	N	Northumbria
5	NW	North West
35	Y	Yorkshire
40	ST	Severn Trent
62	A	Anglian
94	T	Thames
84	W	Wessex
80	S	Southern
38	SW	South West

WALES

25	WEL	Welsh
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Water storage deficit
(anomaly; mm)



These maps show the return period of the rainfall required to overcome dry conditions simulated using the Grid-to-Grid (G2G) hydrological model. The maps are coloured according to the return period of accumulated rainfall required to overcome the estimated current subsurface water storage deficit over the next one to six months (areas with no storage deficit will always be white). These maps do not provide a drought forecast; instead they indicate whether particularly heavy rainfall would be required to return to normal conditions for the time of year.

SUMMARY: Subsurface water stores are below normal across much of the country, particularly in the Southeast.

In some areas, especially the Southeast of England, these would require unusually high rainfall (>5-year return period) to recover to their average levels over the next six months.

SCOTLAND

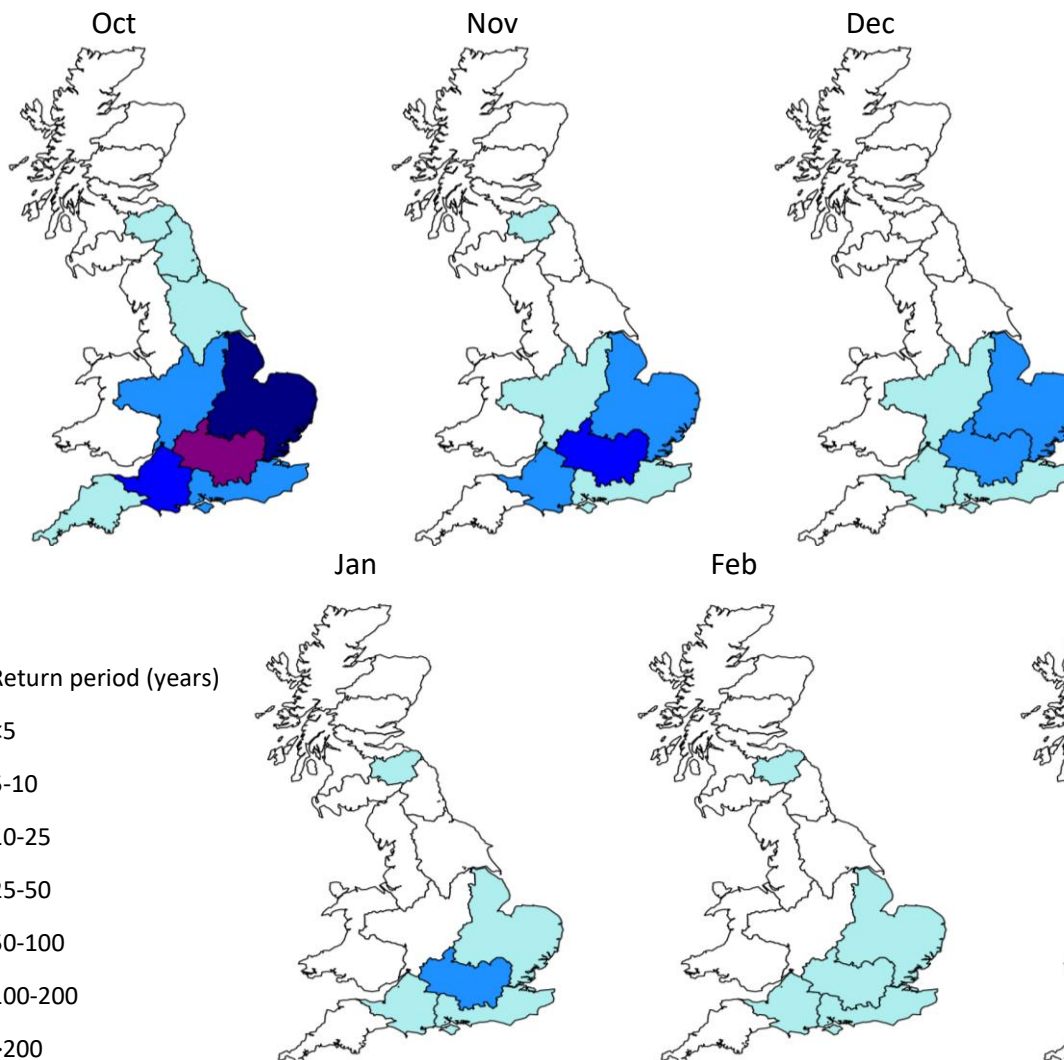
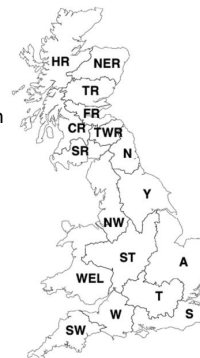
HR Highlands Region
NER North East Region
TR Tay Region
FR Forth Region
CR Clyde Region
TWR Tweed Region
SR Solway Region

ENGLAND

N Northumbria
NW North West
Y Yorkshire
ST Severn Trent
A Anglian
T Thames
S Southern
W Wessex
SW South West

WALES

WEL Welsh



Rainfall amount (Probability)

Low (Likely) >20%

<20%

<10%

< 4%

High (Less likely) < 2%

< 1%

Extreme (Unlikely) <0.5%

Return period (years)

<5

5-10

10-25

25-50

50-100

100-200

>200