

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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BAKED OR STEAMED!

Which do you prefer - to be baked or steamed? On the whole, baking is probably more comfortable. In arid sections of the country, during hot spells, the wind may seem like a blast from an oven. Crops are withered, the temperature may rise to well over 100 degrees Fahrenheit by day, in desert regions even reaching 115 to 120 degrees, or higher. But although the inhabitants are baked by day, at night they are transferred to the refrigerator, or at least to a cool pantry and given a comfortable respite. The clear dry air allows the earth to cool rapidly by radiation after sunset. Sunstroke is rare.

In the East, such high temperatures are not experienced; the thermometer rarely goes much over 100 degrees. But the higher humidities, higher night temperatures, and frequent lack of wind, make the heat more oppressive. One is gently steamed all day and then put into a fireless cooker over night. This treatment makes the toughest thoroughly done by the next morning!

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