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A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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By Charles Fitzhugh Talman,  
Authority on Meteorology.

SOME WEATHER TERMS

When trees and other vegetation catch water from drifting fog and shed it on the ground, the process is called "fog-drip."

When plants exude water in liquid form from their pores because the surrounding air is too damp to permit the water to evaporate, the process is called "guttation."

A sudden <sup>brief</sup> increase in the rain of a thunderstorm following a thunderclap is known as a "rain-gush."

A line on a chart connecting places where equal values of any meteorological element occur is called an "isogram." Two familiar kinds are the isotherm and the isobar.

The prescribed hours for taking weather observation are called "term hours."

The "march" of a meteorological element is its variation in the course of a day, year or other period of time. Thus we speak of the "diurnal march of temperature," the "annual march of barometric pressure," etc.

A "line-squall" is a narrow zone of squalls and thunderstorms traveling broadside over the country.

"Line storm" is another name for the mythical "equinoctial storm," popularly supposed to prevail when the sun crosses the "line" (i.e., the equator).

"Aerology" is the branch of meteorology dealing with the "free" atmosphere; i.e., all parts of the atmosphere not near the earth's surface.

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