

Rain Today? How Do You Predict It?



Some old folks say that if there's dew on the grass in the morning, it won't rain that day. "When the dew is on the grass, rain will never come to pass." But there's science in the folklore. It's all about relative humidity. That is, how much water can the air hold at various temperatures? The warmer the air, the more water vapor it can hold. When there is high relative humidity, a lot more moisture is held in the air. Rain is more likely to occur. On the other hand, when the relative humidity is low, the dew settles on the grass as in the photo above. Rain just is not likely to happen. Check out this other old weather folklore:

If grass is dry at morning = rain in 24 hours.

Rainbow at morning, sailors take warning. Rainbow at night, sailor's delight.

Brilliant yellow sky at sunset = wind. Pale yellow sky at sunset = rain.

Brilliant stars = good weather tomorrow, perhaps cooler

Small halo around sun = rain in 36 hours. Big halo = rain in 24 hours.

If waterfowl fly high = good weather.

If birds fly low below thick clouds with defined edges = rain and wind.

Rain first, then wind = long period of heavy rain and wind.

Wind first, then rain = good weather coming in a short time.

Campfire smoke goes straight up = clear weather.

Campfire smoke goes down along the ground = rain.

Air gets warmer between 9 pm and midnight = rain

Cricket temperature: Count chirps 15 seconds, add 37 = Fahrenheit degrees.