Weather 101 Basics

A few guide lines of what to observe about weather could be useful in a primitive environment. How to construct some simple weather instruments would also be useful. The following outlines the useful basic practicalities (incomplete at this time).

Rain

Large raindrops of about 5 mm diameter (house-fly size) fall at the rate of 9 meter/sec (20 miles/hr). Drizzle drops about .5 mm diameter (salt-grain size) fall at a rate of 2 meter/sec (4.5 miles/hr). The average rain drop falls at about 14 miles/hr.

The amount of slant can determine approximate wind speed. If you have average size drops and a slant of 45 degrees then the wind speed is about 14 miles/hr. If the slant is less than 45 degrees then one has less then this. If the angle made with the ground is 60 degrees then the speed is about 7 miles/hr. It the angle is 30 degrees then the wind is blowing at about 28 miles/hr.

During rain the direction where the wind is coming from can be determined fairly accurately by finding the direction of no slant where if one turns to the left or right the slant is toward you as the rain falls to the ground.

Running to a close destination in rain will get one approximately 50 less wet than walking. This assumes the distance is short and one is not soaked by the time one runs to the destination. If distance is long then it doesn't matter.

Over a period of time observing the direction of the wind before it rains as compare to the direction of wind when it is dry and getting dryer can provide usefully information for predicting when it will rain. Often when the wind blows from the cost area (or from a big body of water) will correlate with coming clouds and rain or participation. Typically when it blows from the other direction often it is dry and getting dryer (less to no clouds). The two directions need to be learned and deduced from observation.

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http://www.qsl.net/kc5our/wspotting.htm