

WBGTI AND HEAT CONDITION FLAG WARNING SYSTEM

The Wet-Bulb Globe Temperature Index (WBGTI) is a means of assessing the effect of heat stress on the human body. Heat casualties can be expected at WBGTI readings of 75 degrees F. and above unless preventive measures are instituted. Heavy work can cause heat injury at lower temperatures, especially if body armor or protective clothing is worn. The WBGTI is a single number derived mathematically from three distinct temperature measurements: wet bulb temperatures, dry bulb temperatures, and globe temperatures. Color-coded flags are flown in strategic locations on MCLB Albany so that all personnel will be aware of the current heat stress index and make appropriate adjustments.

When the WBGTI reaches the temperature indicated in the parenthesis below, the corresponding color flag closest to the specific site of the hot weather operation shall dictate level of operation.

- a. Green Flag (WBGTI of 80⁰F to 84.9⁰F). Heavy exercises, for un-acclimatized personnel, will be conducted with caution and under constant supervision.
- b. Yellow Flag (WBGTI of 85⁰F to 87.9⁰F). Strenuous exercises or physical labor will be curtailed for un-acclimatized, newly assigned Marines and Civilian Marines in their first 3 weeks. Avoid outdoor classes or work in the sun.
- c. Red Flag (WBGTI of 88⁰F to 89⁰F). All PT or very strenuous work will be curtailed for those not thoroughly acclimatized by at least 3 weeks. Personnel not thoroughly acclimatized may carry on limited activity not to exceed 6 hours per day.
- d. Black Flag (WBGTI of 90⁰F and above). All nonessential physical activity will be halted. Essential activities are activities associated with scheduled exercises, or critical production work and maintenance where the disruption would cause undue burden on personnel or resources, be excessively expensive or significantly reduce a unit's readiness. Essential outdoor work will be conducted at a level that is commensurate with personnel acclimatization as determined by the unit's senior leader. All efforts should be made to schedule major hot weather training activities or work production to occur during cooler periods of the day, such as very early hours in the morning or later in the evening.