

Situation between 1 – 14 June 2005
Forecast until 25 June 2005

SPI 05.125

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Dry conditions in central and western EU and Maghreb. Soil water content improvement in Greece, eastern Ukraine, southern Italy and Tunisia.

OBSERVED TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL

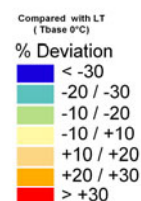
A particular synoptic configuration mainly characterized the period: a large arctic anticyclone centred over the North Sea but with an extended lobe over Italy and a relative low pressure cyclone located off-shore of the Moroccan Atlantic coast. This atmospheric system created both a cold southward air flux over central-eastern EU, and a hot African northward air motion over the western Iberian Peninsula. So far, over the Maghreb and Iberian Peninsulas, the sum of active **temperatures** was much higher than normal (+20/30% LTA). However, a colder spell was recorded in all of the eastern EU, Byelorussia, Ukraine and Norway. Some **extreme high temperatures** (38/39°C) were recorded for several consecutive days (6-8) in Portugal (Alentejo) and Spain (Extremadura, Andalucia). In these areas the winter cereal should be completely parched and the spring-summer crops should be hit by these extremes conditions.

The synoptic circulation pushed abundant and persistent **rains** mainly over eastern Europe and the Balkans (+60/80% LTA, in 10-12 rainy days). Excess of soil water content was possible. An improvement of soil water content was recorded in Greece and eastern Ukraine, particularly positive for winter cereals during the very sensitive stage of "grain filling".

On the contrary in the Iberian Peninsula precipitation was still absent. Droughts in conjunction with high temperatures are severely depressing the yields in these areas.

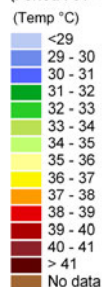
Cumulated active temperature

(Period: 01 - 14 June 2005)



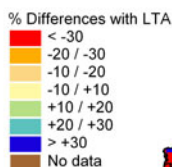
Absolute Maximum temperatures

(Period: 01 - 14 June 2005)



WEATHER MONITORING: RAIN

Cumulated values in the period
01 - 14 June 2005



CUMULATED RAINFALLS

(Period: 01 - 14 June 2005)



NEXT DAYS' SITUATION

(ECMWF 10 day weather forecasts)

Further general increase of temperatures. Dry in Mediterranean Basin (except southern Italy). Wide and abundant rain in Russia.

For the next days typically summer meteorological conditions are foreseen.

Namely, a **general increase of the temperatures** (both minimum and maximum) all over the continent will be present, a **limited amount of rain in the continental areas and dry in the Mediterranean Basin**.

From tomorrow warm anomalies (more than 8°C increase) are highly probable over western Spain (Galicia), Great Britain and Ireland, and then progressively south-eastward over Sweden, Denmark, Northern Germany and France, Poland, Czech Republic, etc.

In Spain and Portugal the maximum temperatures will be largely above the 30°C threshold and this limit will be likely passed also in France, Central and Northern Italy, and locally even in Germany, Benelux, Hungary and Slovenia.

Unfortunately, in the next 10 days the rain will be absent in the areas affected by the drought and will mainly be concentrated on the eastern part of the Continent (Poland, Romania, Austria, Balkans, Ukraine, Byelorussia) and Russia.

Exceptions will be southern Italy and Tunisia, where beneficial water supply will be in coincidence with the last part of the winter cereal cycle (grain filling) with likely positive effects on final yields.

