

Situation between 1 – 15 August 2005
Forecast until 25 August 2005

SPI 05.

Date: 17/08/2005

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Cooler and wetter period for Germany and Central Europe. Excessively dry (Iberian peninsula, France) / wet (Balkans) polarisation continued.

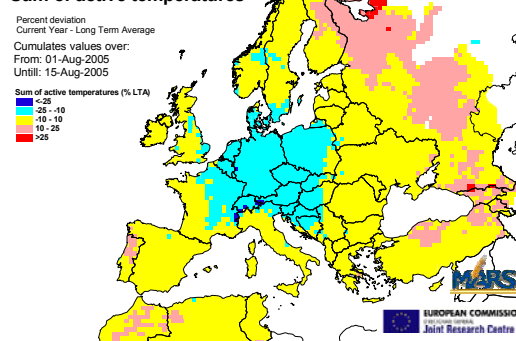
OBSERVED TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL

Lower than usual sum of **active temperatures** (about -20% from long term average) were recorded for the central areas of Europe (including eastern France, East Anglia, Germany, Austria and neighbouring countries except Italy). In these areas the development of summer crops was delayed. The sum of active temperatures remained within the normal limits ($\pm 10\%$ LTA) for rest of European areas except northern Portugal, northern Turkey and large parts of European Russia. **Temperature peaks** of over 35°C occurred in south-eastern Iberian peninsula, southern France, Greece, Turkey, Moldavia, isolated areas in southern Romania and Ukraine, and the Saratov-Volgograd area in Russia.

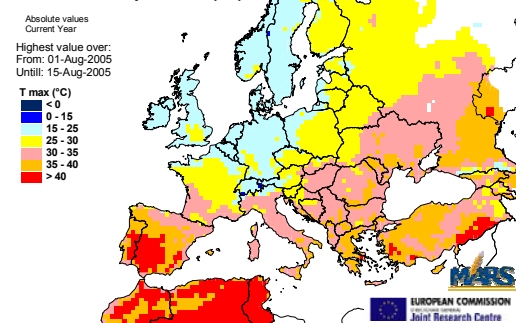
Lower than usual (-25%) values of solar **global radiation** may bring some small reductions in potential yield levels of summer crops from Germany, eastern Poland, Lithuania, Belarus, western Ukraine and western Balkans.

The areas mentioned above for lower than usual accumulation of thermal resources **received also higher than normal rainfall**. In addition to these areas heavy rain was recorded for Hungary, Romania, northern Balkans, western Ukraine, Baltic States and Belarus. For Bulgaria and Romania this situation is bringing an additional risk for decreasing summer crop yields, especially if the rainy weather forecasted in the next ten days is taken into account. Most of **France** (except some south-eastern areas) and Iberian peninsula **remained unusually dry**. This period was drier than usual also for Ireland, UK, southern Italy and eastern Ukraine.

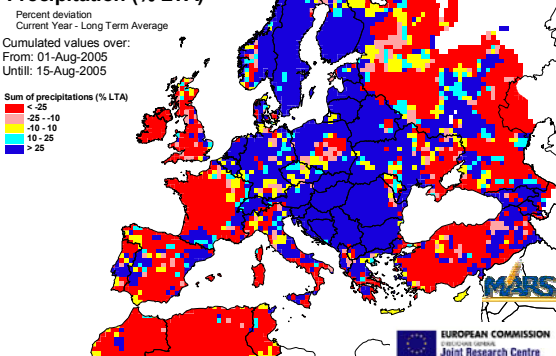
Sum of active temperatures



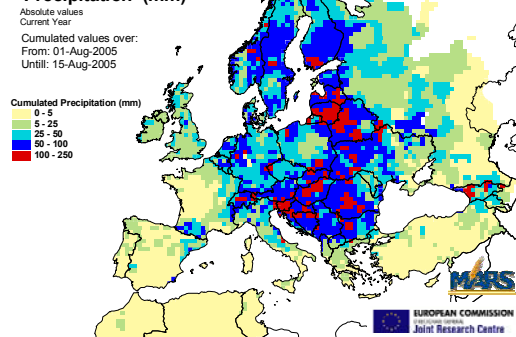
Maximum temperature (°C)



Precipitation (% LTA)



Precipitation (mm)



NEXT DAYS' SITUATION

(ECMWF 10 day weather forecasts – August 16-25)

Temperatures increasing temporarily in northern and southern Black Sea basin; intense rain in northern Italy, Ireland and UK; some rains are expected for southern France; still dry in Spain and Portugal and (again) very wet in Balkan areas.

For the next 10 days, **heavy rain** (60-150 mm) is expected for **Balkans** (already suffering of excess of water). In that region, in spite of the positive effects of rain like replenishing soil water reservoirs and decreasing soil temperatures, the summer crops will be negatively affected by an increased risk of flooding, lodging, anoxia and diseases as well as weed expansion and hampering of pollination (of maize crops). At the beginning of the third decade of August, **northern Italy** and then the centre of this country will be the subject of **intense rainfall**. Some consecutive rainy periods are expected over different areas of Ireland, UK and Scandinavia. Some beneficial rains are expected (18-22 August) for southern and northern France, but large areas of this country will not receive sufficient rain to fulfil the summer crops water demands during this period. The foreseen cumulated rainfall for Spain, Portugal, southern Italy and southern Greece, Turkey and eastern Ukraine will remain below 20 mm.

An **unusual warm** period is expected along **northern** (Crimean Peninsula) and southern **Black sea** rims. Southern Spain and Portugal will be influenced by hot waves but eastern Spain may be cooler than usual.

