

Wetter than usual for most of Europe. A new frost wave in Eastern Europe mainly in already affected areas.

OBSERVED TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL

The sum of active temperatures (above 0°C) was **lower than usual for the western Mediterranean Basin (ES, PT, MA, DZ)**. This indicator was **above the long term average** for a large zone along a NW-SE line for the area of interest (**UK, Benelux, eastern FR, DE, DK, Central Europe, IT and Balkan zone**). For south-eastern part of this zone, a transitory decrease of the hardening index was induced by the warmer weather. For the next days a **possible vulnerable area will be the eastern part of the Danube basin (RO and BG)**.

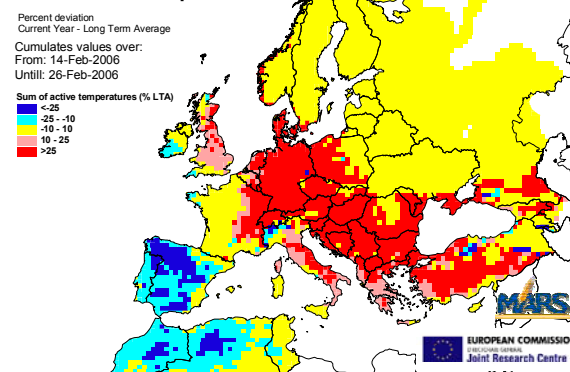
The minimum air temperatures for the western part of the area of interest remained between 0 °C and +6°C. For the Maghreb area the cereals developmental rate may be reduced due to the temperatures below +6°C.

Large agricultural areas from central Europe experienced minimum temperatures between -6 and -10°. Western PL was subject to temperatures around -16°C (but snow layer thickness above 10 cm). Temperatures below -16°C were reported for the other (eastern) areas. **Four frost days (Tmin ≤ -16°C) were recorded for Ukraine during this period.**

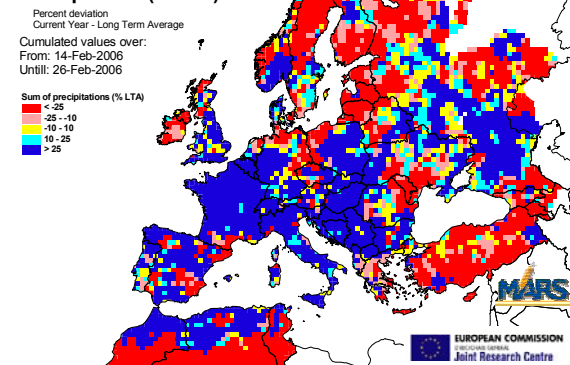
Most of the areas concerned by this frost wave in eastern Europe were already affected by other events. Two days with temperatures < -12°C were reported for central and north-western TR.

After the previous dry period, a **wetter (>+25%)** than usual period was reported for **most of Europe**. Intense precipitation (>70mm/day) occurred locally in Balkans. IE, Baltic States and TR were drier than usual (>-25%).

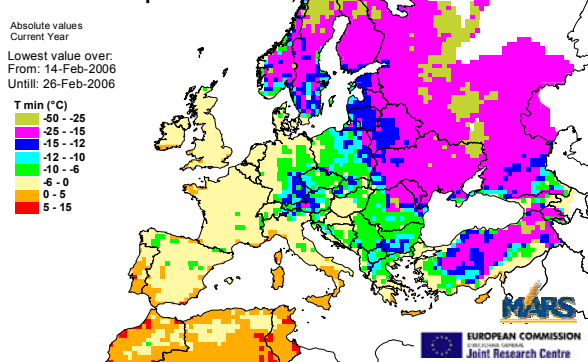
Sum of active temperatures



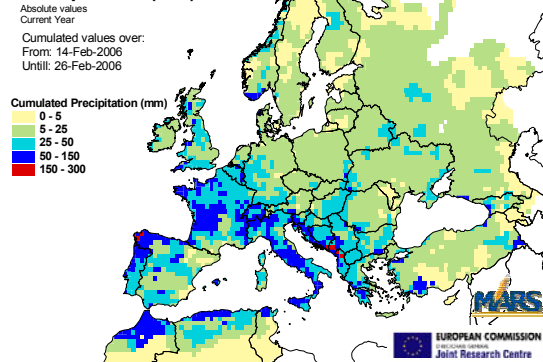
Precipitation (% LTA)



Minimum temperature



Precipitation (mm)



NEXT DAYS' SITUATION

(ECMWF 10-day weather forecasts – Feb. 28 – March 9)

Still likely frost events in central and eastern EU, Belorussia, Ukraine and Russia. Abundant rain in FR, PT and Balkans. Possible intense showers in southern IT, GR and BG.

In the next days the minimum temperatures will remain below the 0°C threshold in the majority of the European continent. Only in the Mediterranean countries the temperatures will be slightly above this limit and a temporary increase will be possible between the 4th and 5th of March. Then, the forecasted temperatures show a new transitory decrease. Intense frosts will occur in central DE, PL, CZ, SK, Ukraine and Belorussia. The temperatures decrease will be coupled with snow phenomena.

The snow will likely be present also in north FR, Benelux, southern DE, AT, CZ, SK but less in PL, where the low temperatures could affect the winter crops eventually present in the fields

In absolute terms, the temperatures reduction will be more likely and intense in UK and IE (where the minimum will remain for the whole period below 0°C), north FR as well as in SL and HU.

From the 3rd of March, the rain will be mainly present in France (in particular in Aquitaine, Midi-Pyrenees, Auvergne, Rhone-Alpes), north Portugal, Galicia and southern Adriatic basin. In southern Italy (Apulia) and Balkans (west Greece and Bulgaria) also intense showers are forecasted.

