

CLIMATIC UPDATE

Situation between 1 – 15 August 2006
Forecast until 26 August 2006

Date: 17/08/2006

Report Number: CU2006/10

Wetter than usual in central Europe and neighboring areas, dry in Iberian peninsula, western France, eastern Ukraine and Turkey

OBSERVED TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL

The considered period was **cooler** than usual (<-15% LTA) for large areas around the Alps (except the southern zone) and northern Spain. The temperature sum for the rest of Europe was close to long term level excepting Scandinavian Peninsula and the eastern of Black Sea basin where it was warmer (>+10-25% LTA). In the latter area the number of consecutive hot days ($T_{max} > 30^{\circ}\text{C}$) exceeded 5 days worsening the climatic water balance of eastern Ukraine, and areas around Rostov (Russia). Persistent high temperatures were recorded also around Mediterranean basin and lower Danube basin.

Wetter than usual (>+25% LTA) weather conditions occurred for most of Europe (areas indicated in blue in the corresponding map).

For some countries (FI, DK, Benelux, PL, and IT) the cumulated rain exceeded all the values for this period from previous 32 years. Western Estonia and Latvia as well as most of Lithuania received around 50 mm of cumulated rain, but grain filling of winter cereals was too advanced for a significant yield recovery. Local rain intensity exceeded 50 mm/day in eastern Poland, northern Belarus, Kursk-Voronezh area and some locations around Carpathians mountains.

Ireland, most of UK, Iberian peninsula, Greece and Black Sea area remained dry (<-25% LTA).

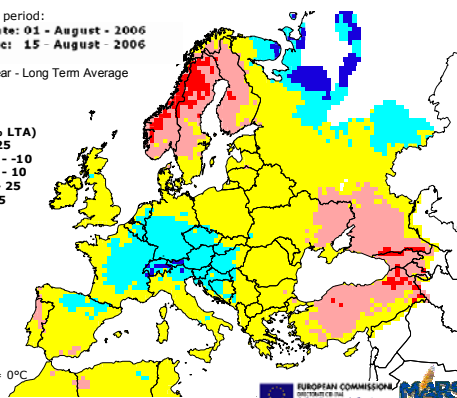
The level of cumulated rain was generally associated with lower than usual level of solar radiation (<-30% LTA for Czech Republic).

SUM OF ACTIVE TEMPERATURES* ($^{\circ}\text{C day}$)

Analysed period:
Start date: 01 - August - 2006
End date: 15 - August - 2006

Current year - Long Term Average

Tsum (% LTA)
 < -25
 -25 - -10
 -10 - 10
 10 - 25
 > 25



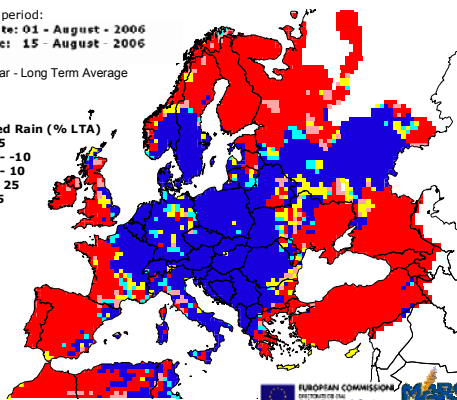
* Tbase = 0°C

CUMULATED RAIN (% LTA)

Analysed period:
Start date: 01 - August - 2006
End date: 15 - August - 2006

Current year - Long Term Average

Cumulated Rain (% LTA)
 < -25
 -25 - -10
 -10 - 10
 10 - 25
 > 25

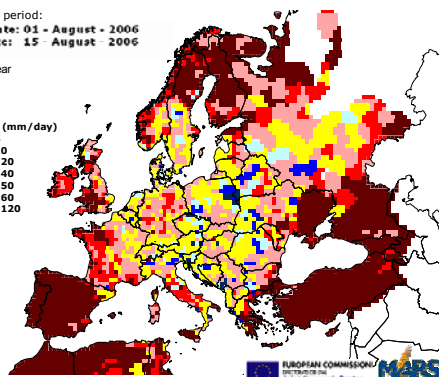


MAXIMUM INTENSITY RAIN (mm)

Analysed period:
Start date: 01 - August - 2006
End date: 15 - August - 2006

Current year

Max Rain (mm/day)
 0 - 5
 5 - 10
 10 - 20
 20 - 40
 40 - 50
 50 - 60
 60 - 120

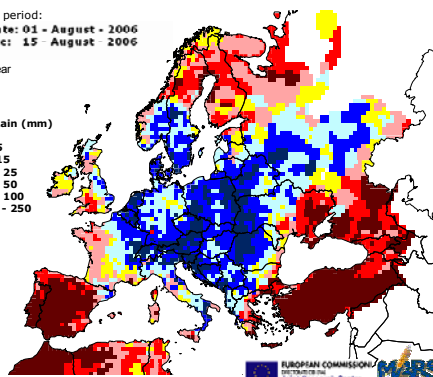


CUMULATED RAIN (mm)

Analysed period:
Start date: 01 - August - 2006
End date: 15 - August - 2006

Current year

Sum of Rain (mm)
 0
 1 - 5
 5 - 15
 15 - 25
 25 - 50
 50 - 100
 100 - 250



NEXT DAYS' SITUATION

(ECMWF 10-day weather forecasts – August 17 – 26)

Troublesome persistent rain in France, Benelux, UK, Denmark and east EU. Beneficial abundant water supply in north Italy. Still dry and worrying condition in Finland. Temporary increase of temperatures.

In the next days, in the central part of the continent more seasonal **temperatures** will occur. In fact, both minimum and maximum daily values will increase toward seasonal range of variation. On the contrary, in western Mediterranean areas a temporary reduction is forecasted for today and tomorrow; while in the east part a new increase will occur from 19th. Therefore, the maximum temperatures above the 30°C threshold will be possible mainly in south Italy, Greece, Turkey and marginally in south Spain. In the following days, a new reduction of temperatures will involve the large areas between Algeria-Tunisia, Germany and Ukraine (including Italy and Balkan's).

The **rain** will be present in France, Benelux, UK, Denmark, east and north-east EU but particularly abundant in the Alpine region. Beneficial water supply will occur in north Italy suffering in the past months by irrigation restriction.

The rains will be particularly persistent in Benelux, along the France-Germany border, Denmark and north Poland where they could represent an obstacle for field activities and create temporary excesses of soil moisture.

Practically dry will still remain the Mediterranean regions, as well as Finland already affected by anomalous drought.

