

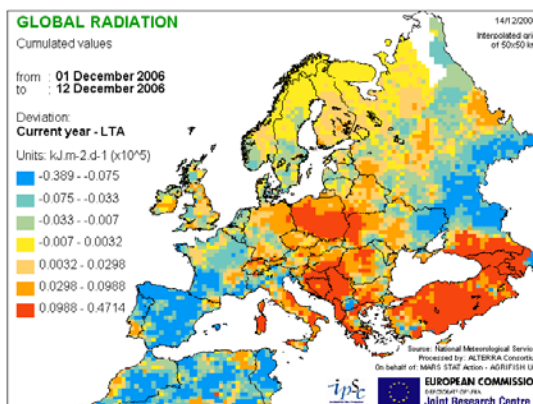
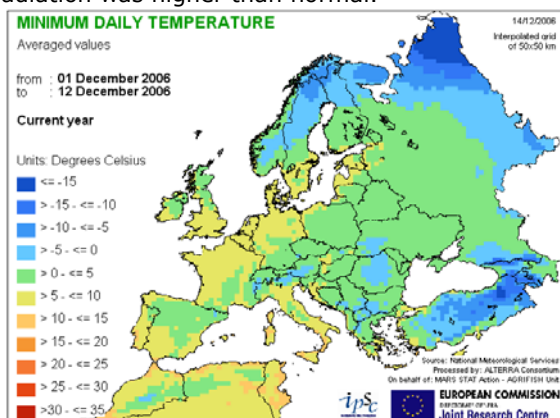
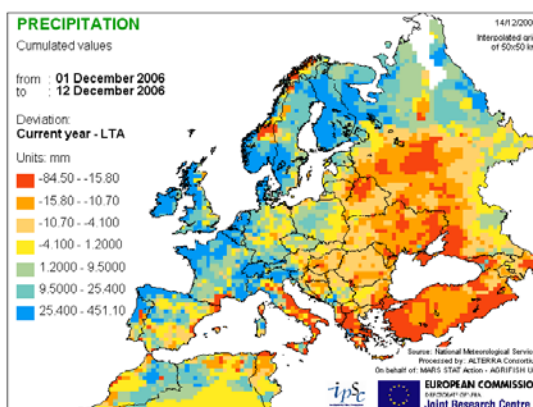
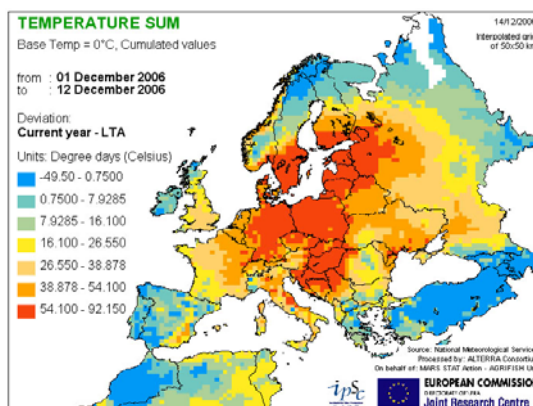
Warmer than usual period for central Europe and Baltic area. Drier than usual period in eastern Europe

OBSERVED TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL

Thermal conditions for most of Europe were warmer than usual for most of Europe ($>+25\%$ from LTA). In central Europe and around the Baltic Sea the surplus of thermal resources was enough for an increased development progress (up to one leaf more than usual). The accumulation of active temperatures was below long term average in eastern Turkey ($>+25\%$ from LTA). Also, cooler than usual were Ireland, most of Iberian Peninsula, Morocco and Greece, but the relative difference of temperature sums did not fall below -10% from LTA. The minimum temperatures dropped below -10°C in Turkey. In central Romania two days with temperatures below -8°C were recorded. Crop damages were limited to foliar surface.

The eastern half of the continent as well as most of Germany, southern Italy, southern Spain and northern Tunisia were drier than usual. The Atlantic side of the Continent continued to be rich in precipitation. The long term level exceeds more than $+25\%$ in Ireland, UK, western France, Benelux and northern Iberian Peninsula. It was also wetter than usual in Scandinavian Peninsula and northern Italy.

The solar radiation was lower than usual ($<-20\%$ LTA) for the Iberian Peninsula, Scandinavian Peninsula, most of France, northern Italy, and Eastern Ukraine. In Poland, in western Ukraine, in most areas of Italy and in the Balkans the available solar radiation was higher than normal.



NEXT DAYS' SITUATION

(ECMWF 10-day weather forecasts: Dec. 14 – 23)

Generally cold and dry conditions. Progressive temperature reduction towards seasonal values. Light frost risk in DE, CZ, SK. Generally beneficial rain in Mediterranean countries; rest of Europe remains dry.

From today and up to the 16th the **temperatures** (both minimum and maximum daily value) will still continue to slightly increase. The variation will be again larger in northern and central Europe. But from the 17th, progressively colder conditions will interest the whole continent. The reduction will be greater in the continental part of the European continent. In the majority of the territories, the minimum values will be generally below the 0°C threshold and in some cases (southern DE, SK, CZ, Benelux, former Yugoslavia, west Ukraine, northern RO) also the maximum could remain below this threshold. In that areas, where the temperatures reduction will be larger than 4-5°C, light **frost risk** likely will occur: in general, the minimum values should remain above -8°C. Considering the progression of temperatures reduction **no significant damages are forecasted on winter crops.**

The high pressure system on the European continent will push the **rain** towards the very high and very low latitudes. Therefore, the rain will be concentrated over southern Italy, Greece, northern Africa and in Baltic's States, east Poland and northern Ukraine. That rain will be particularly positive in the Mediterranean areas, which were suffering due to the previous two dry months. On the contrary, all the other areas will receive only a few or no rain at all. Light snow falls are also forecasted in Balkans, Belorussia and northern Ukraine.

