

Wetter in central and south-eastern Europe and drier for the rest of the continent

OBSERVED TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL

The **temperature** in the period 15-September – 16 October was close to normal for the largest part of the continent. Accumulation of active temperatures was higher than long term average for centre of Spain, eastern Turkey, Russia and uncultivated part of northern Scandinavian peninsula. Large areas from Hungary and Slovakia were cooler than usual. Temperatures above 30°C were recorded for southern Iberian peninsula (in south –western Spain, the maximum temperatures exceeded 35°C). Minimum temperatures below 0°C were recorded in some areas of Spain, and large areas of eastern Europe (eastern Germany, Poland, Scandinavian peninsula, Baltic States, Belarus, Ukraine, northern Romania, and Russia).

This period may be considered as **dry** for most of the western Europe, except Ireland, England, central France, central Italy, Sicily, and western Germany).

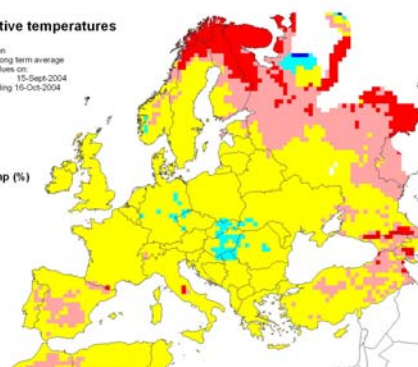
Precipitations above the long term average (>30%) were recorded for northern UK and Ireland, Scandinavian peninsula, Poland, Czech republic, Austria, large part of Germany, part of Denmark, large areas of Ukraine, southern Hungary, Romania, and Balkans. In the UK, Scandinavian peninsula west border, Central Italy and Balkans the precipitations were also intensive.

Large areas from centre Iberian peninsula, Turkey, northern Africa and Russia received less than 5 mm of rain.

Sum of active temperatures

Percent deviation
Current year - Long term average
Cumulated values on:
Starting 15-Sept-2004
Up to and including 16-Oct-2004

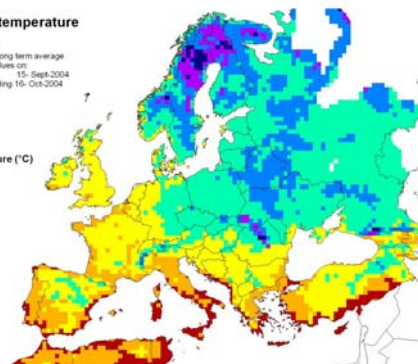
Sum of active temp (%)
■ < -25%
■ -25 - -10
■ -10 - 10
■ 10 - 25
■ > 25%



Minimum temperature

Absolute values
Current year - Long term average
Cumulated values on:
Starting 15-Sept-2004
Up to and including 16-Oct-2004

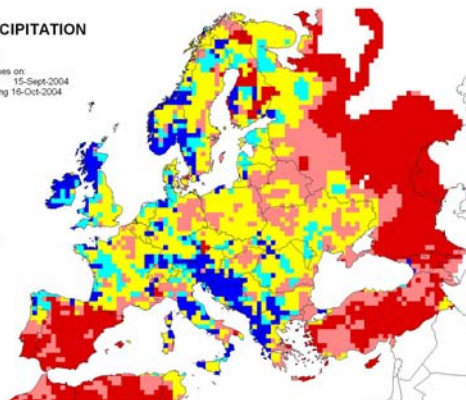
Minimum temperature (°C)
■ -12 -- -10
■ -10 -- -8
■ -8 -- -5
■ -5 -- 0
■ 0 -- 5
■ 5 -- 10
■ 10 -- 18



PRECIPITATION

Absolute values
Current year
Cumulated values on:
Starting 15-Sept-2004
Up to and including 16-Oct-2004

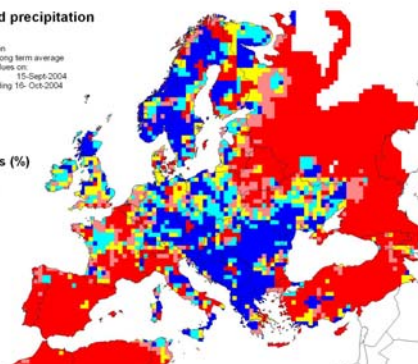
Rain (mm)
■ 0 - 10
■ 10 - 40
■ 40 - 80
■ 80 - 100
■ > 100



Cumulated precipitation

Percent deviation
Current year - Long term average
Cumulated values on:
Starting 15-Sept-2004
Up to and including 16-Oct-2004

Sum of rainfalls (%)
■ < -30
■ -30 - -10
■ -10 - 10
■ 10 - 30
■ > 30



2004/2005 SOWING CAMPAIGN

Winter cereals (wheat and barley)

In general the period before the average date of sowing (1 August – 10 September) was characterized by a good water supply (above the average). Reduced, but still sufficient rains were recorded in Southern Poland, Eastern Germany, Slovakia and Northern Hungary. Only in Greece and eastern Czech Republic the rainfalls were likely insufficient to recharge at least the top soil moisture.

So far the sowing period presented adequate rainfalls supplies as well as good thermal conditions. In north-western Germany and Denmark the rains presented a relative high frequency and occurred during sowing likely affecting optimal conditions. Only in Hungary the cumulated active temperatures presented significative negative difference comparing to average. The frost risk was totally absent: the negative minimum temperatures were limited in time (only one or two days in the second dekad of October) and space.

Rapeseed

From mid September the main producing areas benefited from normal to abundant rainfall. Only Southern France experienced drier conditions. The crop development should have been normal to slightly faster than average due to mild conditions. The crop should reach an advanced stage before winter.

