

**INTERNATIONAL CROP AND WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS**  
**USDA/WAOB Joint Agricultural Weather Facility**

**September 9, 2008**

**EUROPE** – Highlight: Rain Hampers Northern Fieldwork, Drought Continues In The Balkans

- Locally heavy rain in **northern and western Europe** hampers fieldwork and maintains quality concerns for unharvested small grains.
- Drought in the **Balkans** continues to reduce prospects for filling corn and sunflowers.

**FSU** – Highlight: Grain Harvesting Progresses In Russia And Kazakhstan

- In **Russia**, several days of dry weather help fieldwork for small grain harvesting and planting the 2009 winter grain crop.
- In **Ukraine**, dry weather favors summer crop maturation and early winter wheat planting.
- In **Kazakhstan**, scattered showers cause only brief interruptions in spring grain harvesting.

**EAST ASIA** – Highlight: Warm, Dry Weather Favors Maturing Crops

- Warm, dry weather throughout **Manchuria** favors corn and soybean maturation.
- Dry weather across the **North China Plain** benefits summer crop harvesting and eases wetness for open-boll cotton.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA** – Highlight: Monsoon Showers Increase Across Indochina

- Monsoon showers increase after last week's lull, benefiting rice and corn in **Thailand** and **Vietnam**.
- Tropical showers throughout the **Philippines** ensure abundant moisture for corn and rice.

**SOUTH ASIA** – Highlight: A Resurgent Monsoon Brings More Rain To The North

- After showing signs of retreating, a resurgent monsoon brings locally heavy rain to **northern crop areas**, boosting moisture reserves for winter wheat planting but adversely impacting open-boll cotton.
- Showers in **south-central India** provide moisture for cotton and groundnuts.

**AUSTRALIA** – Highlight: Soaking Rains In The East, Drier Elsewhere

- Soaking rains favor jointing and heading winter grains in **Queensland** and **northern New South Wales**.
- **Elsewhere in Australia**, more rain is needed to maintain yield prospects as winter grains approach reproduction.

**SOUTH AMERICA** – Highlight: Drought Continues In Argentina

- Rain is needed to prevent significant declines in yield potential of **Argentine wheat**.
- In **southern Brazil**, conditions are generally favorable for winter wheat development and harvesting of coffee, sugarcane, and citrus.

**CANADA** – Highlight: Cooler Weather Covers The Prairies

- Cooler weather follows a period of favorable warmth that advances late-developing spring grains and oilseeds toward maturity.
- Sub-freezing temperatures were mostly confined to **northern and western growing areas of Alberta**.

**MEXICO** – Highlight: Seasonal Showers Continue Throughout The Region

- Seasonably warm, showery weather benefits filling corn and other rain-fed crops on the **southern plateau**.
- A late-week surge in the monsoon generates showers throughout the **northwestern watersheds**.