

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

October 4, 2008

EUROPE – Highlight: Showers Slow Fieldwork

- Showers in **central** and **northern Europe** slow small grain harvesting and winter rapeseed planting.
- Drier weather in the **Balkans** favors summer crop harvesting and winter crop planting.

FSU – Highlight: Drier Weather Favors Fieldwork In Ukraine And Russia

- In **Ukraine**, dry weather allows summer crop harvesting and winter grain planting to resume.
- In **Russia**, mostly dry weather aids the harvest of summer crops in the **west** and spring grains in the **east**.
- In cotton growing areas of Central Asia, scattered showers cause only brief interruptions in harvesting.

EAST ASIA – Highlight: Dry Weather Aids Seasonal Fieldwork

- Dry weather in **Manchuria** aids corn and soybean maturation and harvesting.
- Drier weather on the **North China Plain** benefits corn, cotton, and soybean harvesting as well as winter wheat planting.
- Winter rapeseed planting begins in the **Yangtze River Basin**.

SOUTHEAST ASIA – Highlight: Tropical Storms Mekkhala And Higos Bring Widespread Showers

- Tropical Storm Mekkhala brings flooding rains to **minor rice producing areas of central Vietnam** and slows rice and corn maturation in **Thailand**.
- Tropical Storm Higos brings beneficial rains to most of the **Philippines** for the start of dry-season cropping but slows wet-season rice and corn harvesting.

SOUTH ASIA – Highlight: Showers Return

- Showers in **central** and **northern crop areas** slow summer crop maturation but maintain favorable moisture supplies for rice and rabi (winter) crop planting.
- Heavy rain in **northeastern India** maintains ample moisture for summer rice but causes flooding.

MIDDLE EAST – Highlight: Additional Showers In Turkey

- Additional showers in **Turkey** provide moisture for winter crop planting and ease long-term drought.

AUSTRALIA – Highlight: Showers Benefit Winter Grains

- Scattered showers increase local moisture supplies in **western** and **southeastern Australia**, benefiting reproductive to filling winter grains.
- In **eastern Australia**, dry weather favors early maturing winter grains and aids summer crop planting.

SOUTH AMERICA – Highlight: Rain Continues For Winter Wheat In Argentina

- In **Argentina**, showers continue to improve moisture conditions for winter wheat development and summer crop planting.
- In **Brazil**, rain increases moisture for the upcoming planting of soybeans and other summer crops. Warm, somewhat drier conditions favore maturing winter wheat.

CANADA – Highlight: Spring Crop Harvesting Progresses In The Prairies

- Mostly dry, warmer-than-normal weather favors spring grain and oilseed harvesting across the **Prairies**.

MEXICO – Highlight: Drier Weather Reduces Moisture Supplies

- Drier weather reduces soil moisture for immature summer crops but eases local flooding.