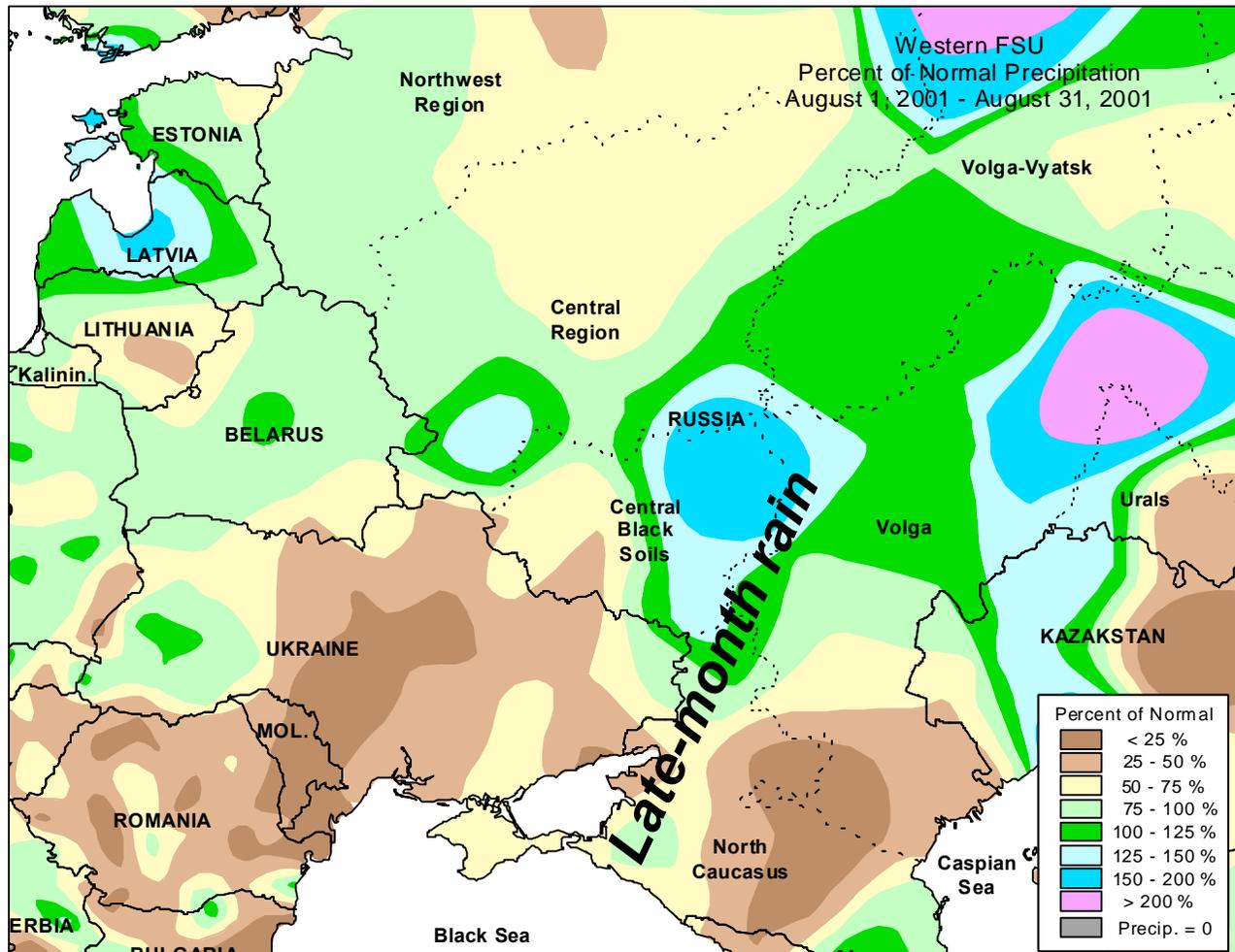


FORMER SOVIET UNION (WESTERN)

Percent of Normal Precipitation for August 2001



WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS

September 12, 2001

JAWF Joint Agricultural Weather Facility
(USDA/NOAA) World Agricultural Outlook Board

- o In August, chronic dryness and periodic heat continued in major summer crop growing areas of southern Russia and the eastern two-thirds of Ukraine, further reducing yield prospects for filling corn and sunflowers. However, the dryness helped small grain harvesting.
- o Since late August, widespread showers in Ukraine and parts of southern Russia arrived too late to significantly improve prospects for drought-stressed summer crops, but boosted topsoil moisture for planting of the 2002 winter wheat crop.
- o In major spring wheat producing areas of Russia and Kazakstan, near- to above-normal precipitation in August maintained sufficient moisture for filling spring grains, and mild temperatures promoted crop development.