

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

**November 2, 2004**

**EUROPE** - Highlight: Widespread Rain Continues In The West; Dry In The East

- Across **western Europe**, widespread rain continues to boost moisture supplies for winter crop establishment, especially in **Italy** and **Spain**, but slows summer crop harvesting.
- In **eastern Europe**, unseasonably warm, dry weather helps summer crop harvesting. Soil moisture remains adequate for winter crop establishment.

**FSU** - Highlight: Dry Weather Favors Autumn Fieldwork

- Dry weather in **Ukraine** and the **Southern Region in Russia** helps sugar beet, corn, and sunflower harvesting. In addition, unseasonably mild weather and adequate soil moisture favors winter wheat establishment.
- In cotton growing areas of Central Asia, warm, dry weather helps harvest activities.

**MIDDLE EAST** - Highlight: Still Too Dry For Winter Grain Planting

- Across **central Turkey** and **western Iran**, a lack of topsoil moisture delays winter grain planting.

**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA** - Highlight: Beneficial Rain

- In **Morocco**, **Algeria**, and **Tunisia**, widespread rain boosts topsoil moisture for winter grain planting, the bulk of which occurs from mid-November to mid-December.

**EASTERN ASIA** - Highlight: Seasonably Dry In China

- Generally dry weather prevails throughout **China**, favoring summer crop harvesting and final winter wheat planting.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA** - Highlight: Showers In Indonesia And The Philippines

- Seasonable showers increase moisture supplies for oil palm in **Malaysia** and **northern Indonesia**.
- Monsoon showers shift to the **eastern Philippines**, boosting moisture supplies for winter crops.

**SOUTH ASIA** - Highlight: The Monsoon Retreats To Southern India

- Lingering showers boost irrigation levels for rice and other crops in **southern India**. Elsewhere, seasonal dryness promotes summer crop maturation and planting of winter-grown crops.

**SOUTH AFRICA** - Highlight: Showers Benefit Emerging Summer Crops

- Scattered showers increase moisture for newly-planted corn and other summer crops in **eastern growing areas**, but widespread rain is still needed to ensure proper early development.

**AUSTRALIA** - Highlight: Mostly Dry Weather Has Mixed Impacts On Crops

- In **western** and **southeastern Australia**, widely scattered, mostly light showers provide little additional benefit for filling to maturing winter grains.
- In **northern New South Wales** and **Queensland**, very warm, mostly dry weather favors winter grain maturation and harvesting, but reduces moisture supplies for dryland and irrigated summer crops.

**SOUTH AMERICA** - Highlight: Drier Weather Covers Argentina; Showers Expand Over Brazil

- In **Argentina**, drier weather promotes corn and sunflower planting.
- In **Brazil**, showers cover most major coffee and soybean areas, including previously dry locations in **Bahia** and **Minas Gerais**.