

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

**May 22, 2012**

**EUROPE** – Highlight: Widespread Showers Continue To Boost Crop Prospects

- Widespread showers continue to boost prospects for small grains and oilseeds in **northern Europe**.
- Locally heavy rain in the **Balkans** favors reproductive wheat and rapeseed but hampers fieldwork.
- Hot, sunny weather in **Spain** accelerates winter grain maturation and harvesting.

**NORTHWESTERN AFRICA** – Highlight: Sunny, Hot Weather Accelerates Wheat Maturation

- Sunny, hot weather accelerates winter grain maturation and harvesting.

**MIDDLE EAST** – Highlight: Additional Rain Benefits Turkish Grains

- Late-season rainfall benefits reproductive winter wheat and barley in **Turkey**.
- Warm, dry weather promotes winter crop maturation and harvesting across the **eastern Mediterranean**.

**FSU** – Highlight: Soil Moisture Continues To Decline In The South

- Unseasonably warm, dry weather persists from **southern Ukraine into Russia's Southern and Volga Districts**, further reducing soil moisture for vegetative to heading winter grains and oilseeds.
- Showers favor vegetative spring wheat in **Kazakhstan** and **eastern Russia**. Showers also fall in **southern cotton areas**, boosting irrigation reserves but slowing fieldwork.

**SOUTH ASIA** – Highlight: Hot And Dry For Cotton

- Hot, dry weather increases irrigation needs of vegetative cotton in **northern India**.

**EAST ASIA** – Highlight: Warmer Weather Favors Planting In Northeastern China

- Showery weather maintains abundant soil moisture for rice in **southern China**, while drier weather would be welcome for rapeseed harvesting in the **Yangtze Valley**.
- Periodic showers boost soil moisture for corn and soybean emergence and establishment in **Manchuria**.

**SOUTHEAST ASIA** – Highlight: Monsoon Rains Aid Rice Establishment

- Monsoon rains continue to boost soil moisture and irrigation supplies for rice in **Thailand**.

**AUSTRALIA** – Highlight: Dry Throughout The Wheat Belt

- In **Western Australia**, sunny skies and adequate soil moisture favor winter crop planting, germination, and emergence, while more rain is needed in **southeastern Australia** to encourage winter crop sowing.
- In **east-central Australia**, dry weather favors rapid cotton and sorghum harvesting.

**SOUTH AMERICA** – Highlight: Mild, Showery Weather Prevails

- Showers overspread **Argentina** late in the week, ending a brief period of warmth and dryness that favored corn and soybean harvesting.
- Rain returns to **central Brazil**, boosting moisture for secondary (safrinha) corn and immature cotton.

**MEXICO** – Highlight: Seasonal Rains Continue Over Much Of The East

- Rain increases moisture for corn, sugarcane, and other rain-fed summer crops.

**CANADA** – Highlight: Dry Weather Spurs Fieldwork Across The Prairies

- Warm, mostly dry weather fosters rapid planting of spring grains and oilseeds.
- Rain is needed in **eastern Canada** for germination and establishment of corn and soybeans.