

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

October 26, 2004

EUROPE - Highlight: Widespread Rain West And South; Becoming Too Dry In Spain

- Across **most of Europe**, widespread rain boosts moisture supplies for winter crop establishment but slows summer crop harvesting.
- In **Spain**, much-needed rain boosts topsoil moisture for winter grain germination.

FSU - Highlight: Mild, Showery Weather Favors Winter Grains; Summer Crop Harvesting Progresses

- In **Ukraine and the Southern Region in Russia**, showers continue to boost topsoil moisture for winter wheat establishment. Summer crop harvests continue to progress.
- In **northern Russia**, winter grains continue to cold harden prior to dormancy.
- In **cotton growing areas of Central Asia**, dry weather helps harvest activities.

MIDDLE EAST - Highlight: Rain Is Needed For Winter Grain Planting In Central Turkey And Western Iran

- Across **central Turkey** and **western Iran**, topsoil moisture remains limited for winter grain planting.

EASTERN ASIA - Highlight: Typhoon Tokage Hits Japan

- Typhoon Tokage increases the record number of tropical systems to affect **Japan** to nine. Heavy showers further reduce rice quality and halt harvest activities.
- Seasonably dry weather favors summer crop harvesting throughout **China**, as well as winter wheat planting on the **North China Plain**.

SOUTHEAST ASIA - Highlight: Seasonably Dry In Indochina; Wet In Indonesia

- Seasonably dry weather favors rice maturation and harvesting in **Indochina** and the **northern Philippines**.
- Monsoon showers favor oil palm in **Malaysia** and **northern Indonesia**.

SOUTH ASIA - Highlight: Seasonably Drier Weather Aids Autumn Fieldwork Across The North

- Following last week's untimely wetness, dry weather benefits maturing cotton and spurs planting of winter-grown grains and oilseeds. In **Bangladesh**, the dryness helps to further alleviate flooding.

SOUTH AFRICA - Highlight: Moisture Remains Limited In Most Major Corn Areas

- Scattered, light showers help to condition topsoils for planting of corn and other summer crops, but most of the **corn belt** requires a soaking rain to ensure favorable emergence prospects.

AUSTRALIA - Highlight: Showers In The East Help Summer Crops

- Rain in **northern New South Wales** and **Queensland** boosts moisture supplies for germinating to emerging summer crops, but hampers dry down of maturing winter wheat and barley.
- Dry weather in **southeastern Australia** further reduces moisture supplies for immature winter wheat and barley, while warm, showery weather in **western Australia** favors filling winter grains.

SOUTH AMERICA - Highlight: Beneficial Rain Continues Across The Region

- In **Argentina**, widespread rain further boosts topsoil moisture for corn and sunflower planting.
- In **Brazil**, showers benefit flowering coffee and promote soybean planting throughout the **center-south**.

MEXICO- Highlight: Widespread Showers Continue In The Southeast

- Across **southeastern Mexico**, showers benefit immature corn, while elsewhere, seasonably dry weather favors summer crop maturation.