

# WORLD AGRICULTURAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS

## October 9, 2009

### 1 - UNITED STATES

The polar jet stream lifted well north of the U.S.-Canadian border for much of September, keeping the Midwest largely free of frost and allowing a pair of slow-moving storms to generate persistently cloudy, wet weather in the South. Rainfall significantly eased drought in southern Texas but contributed to Southern fieldwork delays and reductions in the quality of crops such as rice, cotton, and soybeans. In contrast, relatively dry weather prevailed in much of the Atlantic coastal plain. Meanwhile, the Midwest experienced a long stretch of nearly ideal weather for developmentally delayed corn and soybeans. Favorably warm, dry conditions also covered the northern Plains, allowing the spring wheat harvest to near completion by month's end. Across the remainder of the nation's mid-section, cool weather and locally heavy showers slowed summer crop maturation and caused some minor fieldwork delays. Elsewhere, generally warm, dry weather prevailed in the West, where fieldwork included winter wheat planting in the Northwest, rice harvesting in California, and cotton harvesting in Arizona.

### 2 - CANADA

The first autumn freeze arrived several weeks later than normal, allowing most late-developing Prairie spring grains and oilseeds to reach maturity without experiencing significant damage. In Ontario, rain benefited emerging wheat while slowing corn and soybean harvesting.

### 3 - SOUTH AMERICA

In southern Brazil, unseasonable wetness continued to plague maturing winter wheat and hampered seasonal fieldwork, likely including sugarcane harvesting. Conditions elsewhere in Brazil were favorable for summer crop planting and flowering coffee. Rain benefited vegetative to reproductive winter grains in central Argentina, but below-normal temperatures slowed development. Summer grain and oilseed planting was underway, although ongoing drought limited fieldwork in portions of northern Argentina.

### 4 - EUROPE

In September, dry weather over most of Europe accelerated summer crop harvesting but reduced topsoil moisture for winter crop planting and establishment. However, wetter-than-normal conditions across southeastern Europe boosted soil moisture for winter wheat establishment but hampered cotton maturation and harvesting. Temperatures were above normal over much of the continent, with no season-ending freezes reported.



USDA/OCE – World Agricultural Outlook Board  
Joint Agricultural Weather Facility  
*(More details are available in the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin at <http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather/pubs/index.htm>)*

### 5 - FSU-WESTERN

In September, drier-than-normal conditions over most of Ukraine helped fieldwork for summer crop harvesting but slowed winter grain planting and emergence, especially in southern and western areas. In Russia, unseasonably warm, dry weather in the southeastern portion of the Central District, the southern Volga District, and the northern portion of the Southern District aided summer crop harvesting but hampered winter grain emergence and establishment. Wet weather in the southern half of the Southern District slowed fieldwork but provided abundant topsoil moisture for winter grain emergence.

### 6 - FSU-NEW LANDS

In September, warm, dry weather prevailed across Kazakhstan and the Urals District in Russia during most of the month, favoring spring grain maturation and harvesting. Meanwhile, periods of cool, showery weather in the Russian Siberia District caused some interruptions in harvest activities.

### 7 - MIDDLE EAST AND TURKEY

In Turkey and northwestern Iran, showers maintained topsoil moisture for emerging winter crops. Seasonably dry weather elsewhere favored fieldwork, including cotton harvesting and winter wheat planting.

### 8 - SOUTH ASIA

During September, the monsoon retreated from the northern half of the subcontinent up to four weeks earlier than normal. Consequently, below-normal rainfall over central and western India further reduced yield prospects for reproductive to filling oilseeds. In contrast, heavy early-month rain in northern India was beneficial for rice and sugarcane, although unfavorably dry conditions returned during the latter half of September. In southern India, locally heavy rain boosted prospects for cotton and groundnuts. Dry weather promoted summer crop maturation and harvesting in Pakistan, while seasonable showers in Bangladesh were favorable for main-season rice.

### 9 - EASTERN ASIA

Unseasonably wet weather prevailed throughout much of September in portions of the North China Plain. The abundant rainfall slowed harvesting and raised quality concerns for summer crops in Henan, northern Anhui, and Jiangsu. In Manchuria, showers and near-normal temperatures aided filling soybeans and corn early in the month. Meanwhile, Typhoon Koppu made landfall in southeastern China mid-month, producing localized flooding mainly along the coast.

### 10 - SOUTHEAST ASIA

In September, abundant rainfall prevailed as a series of four tropical cyclones battered the region. In Thailand, heavy showers from both tropical cyclone remnants and the monsoon benefited reproductive rice. Meanwhile in Vietnam, Tropical Cyclones Mujigae and Ketsana produced flooding in central growing areas but largely avoided main rice and coffee regions. In the Philippines, however, four tropical cyclones battered rice areas of Luzon with flooding rainfall. Monsoon showers increased in oil palm areas of Indonesia and Malaysia.

### 11 - AUSTRALIA

In September, mostly dry, occasionally hot weather continued to stress reproductive to filling winter wheat in Queensland. In northern New South Wales, occasional showers helped stabilize crop conditions in the wake of August dryness. Elsewhere, near- to above-normal rainfall maintained adequate to abundant moisture supplies in western and southeastern Australia, favoring winter grain and oilseed development.