1 - UNITED STATES
During the first half of May, below-normal temperatures and occasional freezes threatened a variety of Midwestern and Northeastern commodities, including fruits, winter wheat, and emerged summer crops. The prolonged period of cool weather peaked on May 9-10. Meanwhile, two tropical storms—Arthur and Bertha—formed prior to the official June 1 start of the Atlantic hurricane season, with both producing heavy rain in parts of the southern and middle Atlantic States. Pockets of excessive wetness also persisted or developed from the northern Mississippi Delta into the southern and eastern Corn Belt. In contrast, planting continued at a rapid pace across the western Corn Belt, except in an area of lingering, long-term wetness centered on eastern North Dakota. Farther south, drought coverage and intensity increased from the central and southern High Plains westward, while May rainfall eased or eradicated drought across the Deep South from southern Texas to Florida. Some drying occurred during May in the Northeast, although impacts were tempered by cool weather.

2 - CANADA
Extended periods of dryness through early June improved the pace of Prairie spring crop planting, though an untimely late-May freeze may have necessitated replanting of summer crops in Manitoba. In Ontario, winter wheat, corn, and soybean prospects are overall favorable.

3 - SOUTH AMERICA
May showers maintained favorable corn and cotton prospects in central Brazil, but rain came too late for corn in most southern production areas, where drought had significantly lowered yield potential. In Argentina, conditions favored rapid summer crop harvesting and winter grain planting.

4 - EUROPE
Wet May weather maintained or improved prospects for reproductive to filling winter crops over much of eastern Europe. However, dryness lingered in Hungary and immediate environs, adversely impacting wheat and rapeseed locally. Showers also improved crop conditions over central and southern portions of France and Germany, while drought continued to affect reproductive winter crops from England into northern-most France and Germany, as well as the Low Countries. In contrast, additional late-spring rain on the Iberian Peninsula sustained high yield prospects for reproductive to filling winter wheat and barley.

5 - FSU-WESTERN
During May, above-normal rainfall eased spring drought and boosted moisture supplies for reproductive to filling winter wheat, barley, and rapeseed across the Black Sea region. Temperatures during this critical period for winter crops were favorably cool, following a warm start to the spring. The rain also benefitted corn, soybean, and sunflower establishment.

6 - FSU-EASTERN
Dry, unseasonably hot weather across eastern spring grain areas exacerbated short-term drought and hindered wheat and barley establishment. Conversely, above-normal rainfall in northern Kazakhstan and central Russia maintained good early season prospects for spring grains. Farther south, showers and thunderstorms provided supplemental moisture for irrigated winter wheat progressing through the reproductive and filling stages of development. However, the final stages of cotton planting were able to proceed without significant delay.

7 - MIDDLE EAST AND TURKEY
During May, late-season showers from Turkey into Iran favored reproductive to filling winter grains. Nevertheless, there were enough days suitable for fieldwork to allow harvesting to proceed without significant delay. Excessive heat during the latter half of the month hastened wheat and barley maturation and heightened irrigation demands for vegetative summer crops.

8 - SOUTH ASIA
A severe tropical cyclone (Amphan) formed in the Bay of Bengal in mid-May, with winds topping 145 knots at peak intensity. The storm was reportedly the strongest tropical cyclone ever recorded in the Bay of Bengal. However, Amphan weakened substantially prior to making landfall in northeastern India, sparing the area but still producing copious rainfall that extended into Bangladesh. The remainder of India experienced occasional pre-monsoon showers and seasonally high temperatures (over 40°C), as field preparations continued in advance of the summer monsoon.

9 - EASTERN ASIA
In China, rainfall during May was generally near to above normal, except for a pocket of well-below-average rainfall just north of the Yangtze River. The overall moisture conditions favored summer grain and oilseed establishment as well as immature wheat and rapeseed. Additionally, temperatures were above normal throughout the east and far west, promoting crop development. Elsewhere, rainfall was notably better than last year across North Korea, increasing moisture supplies for rice.

10 - SOUTHEAST ASIA
May rainfall was near to above normal in southern sections of the region (Indonesia and Malaysia), improving soil moisture for oil palm that has experienced prolonged unseasonable dryness. In contrast, the summer monsoon was off to a slow start in the northern reaches (Thailand, Philippines, and environs), with well-below-average rainfall causing sowing delays of rainfed rice.

11 - AUSTRALIA
After a relatively dry start to the growing season, rain arrived in the west during late May. The rain spurred germination and emergence of winter crops that had been dry sown and encouraged additional planting in its wake. In the southeast, May rainfall was less abundant than in April. Nevertheless, periodic showers maintained adequate moisture supplies for wheat, barley, and canola development, leading to good early-season yield prospects. In contrast, more rain was needed in the northeast, where increasingly dry weather during May favored final summer crop harvests but hindered winter wheat establishment.