WORLD AGRICULTURAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS
July 10, 2020

1 - UNITED STATES
Widespread June showers in the Southeast and Midwest, as well as parts of the northern Plains and Northwest, maintained generally favorable growing conditions for most summer crops. By June 28, two-thirds to three-quarters of the nation’s barley, rice, spring wheat, corn, and soybeans were rated in good to excellent condition, according to USDA. However, several regions experienced developing or intensifying drought, with drought coverage across the Lower 48 States reaching its greatest extent since October 2018. June drought development was most notable in parts of New England. In addition, drought persisted in a broad Western area centered on northern California, the northern Great Basin, and parts of the Northwest. However, Northwestern drought impacts were tempered by cool weather and occasional showers. By month’s end, the country’s most serious drought stretched from the Four Corners region to the southern half of the High Plains, with adverse impacts on rangeland, pastures, winter wheat, and rain-fed summer crops. Elsewhere, elevated temperatures across the nation’s mid-section increased moisture demands for a variety of crops. June warmth also extended across the Midwest and Northeast. Conversely, cooler-than-normal conditions covered many areas west of the Rockies.

2 - CANADA
Conditions were overall favorable for Prairie spring crops through early July, despite local pockets of wetness and dryness. Meanwhile, moisture had become limited for summer crops and pastures in Ontario and Quebec after an extended period of unseasonable warmth and dryness.

3 - SOUTH AMERICA
Showers returned to southern Brazil in late June, benefiting wheat and late-maturing corn. Warm, sunny weather favored maturing corn and cotton in central Brazil. In Argentina, dryness promoted rapid autumn fieldwork, but some western and northern winter grain areas were in need of rain for establishment of wheat and barley.

4 - EUROPE
A wet June across central and eastern growing areas contrasted with locally dry conditions in parts of Spain and northern Europe. In particular, dryness further cut yield prospects for filling winter crops across northern portions of France, Germany, and Poland. In addition, acute dryness in parts of Spain somewhat trimmed yields for barley and wheat. Meanwhile, soaking rain maintained or improved conditions for later-developing winter crops as well as vegetative corn, sunflowers, and soybeans from southern France eastward into central Poland and the Balkans.

5 - FSU-WESTERN
During June, additional showers near the Black Sea Coast stabilized or improved yield prospects for filling winter wheat. Meanwhile, summer crops developed favorably for much of the month due to locally abundant moisture supplies from a very wet May. However, increasingly dry conditions developed in key corn areas of north-central Ukraine and west-central Russia, with extreme heat in western Russia during early July hastening summer crops into reproduction and likely lowering yield potential.

6 - FSU-EASTERN
Despite cool temperatures, drier-than-normal weather during June reduced moisture supplies for spring grain emergence and establishment. Dryness was most acute in the southern Siberia District and the southeastern Volga District, where localized but pronounced longer-term rainfall deficits persisted. Conditions for cotton remained overall favorable in Uzbekistan and environs, with the crop reaching the flowering stage of development by month’s end.

7 - MIDDLE EAST AND TURKEY
In Turkey, early month rain boosted yield prospects for filling winter grains and maintained abundant supplemental moisture supplies for irrigated summer crops. By month’s end, Turkey’s cotton, corn, and sunflowers were approaching or progressing through reproduction in good to excellent condition.

8 - SOUTH ASIA
The southwest monsoon began in India on or around June 1, the typical start date, and progressed rapidly through the country. By month’s end, monsoon showers had covered the entire country and moved into Pakistan, nearly 10 days earlier than usual. The rapid progression of rainfall encouraged widespread summer (kharif) crop sowing, with most crop sowing well ahead of the slow planting pace from last year.

9 - EASTERN ASIA
Consistent June rainfall created wetter-than-average conditions across most of eastern China, with the most notable exception being a pocket of dryness in the northeast. The wet weather benefited vegetative summer crops but raised some quality concerns for unharvested wheat on the North China Plain. Meanwhile, seasonably warm weather in western China promoted good cotton conditions. Elsewhere, near-normal rainfall on the Korean Peninsula and throughout much of Japan supported rice development.

10 - SOUTHEAST ASIA
June rainfall was generally underwhelming in Thailand and environs. Most areas reported drier-than-normal conditions, limiting available moisture for rice establishment and discouraging sowing. The dryness also extended into the northern Philippines, a key rice and corn producer. In contrast, seasonable rainfall was recorded in the remainder of the Philippines, with wetter-than-normal weather benefiting oil palm in Malaysia and Indonesia.

11 - AUSTRALIA
During June, below-normal rainfall covered large portions of the wheat belt, slowing local winter grain and oilseed development. Pockets of near-normal rainfall in the southeast maintained generally good early season yield prospects for wheat, barley, and canola. More rain would be welcome in most of the wheat belt, however, to help promote vegetative growth and to allow areas in the east to further recover from severe, long-term drought.

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