

Voluntary - Public

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Germany

Post: Berlin

Crop Status - Grains and Oilseeds

Report Categories:

Grain and Feed

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Report Highlights:

By the beginning of May 2009, field crops in Germany are reported being in good condition. Sunny and warm weather during most of April lowered available soil moisture mainly in the sandy regions of the eastern third of Germany. Rains at the beginning of May are relieving the water shortage situation. An average to above average grain and oilseed crop is expected.

General Information:

Crop Status in Germany

The yield potential of German grains and oilseed crops was not been affected by the spell of dry weather in April. Scattered rains predominantly in the region of the former Western Germany and along the Baltic Sea coast at the end of April refilled soil moisture in those areas. While sunny weather and above normal temperatures through during the first three weeks of April significantly lowered soil moisture levels primarily in the most eastern parts of Germany, rain since May 1 has help to address dryness in these regions. The weather forecast for the first half of May promises

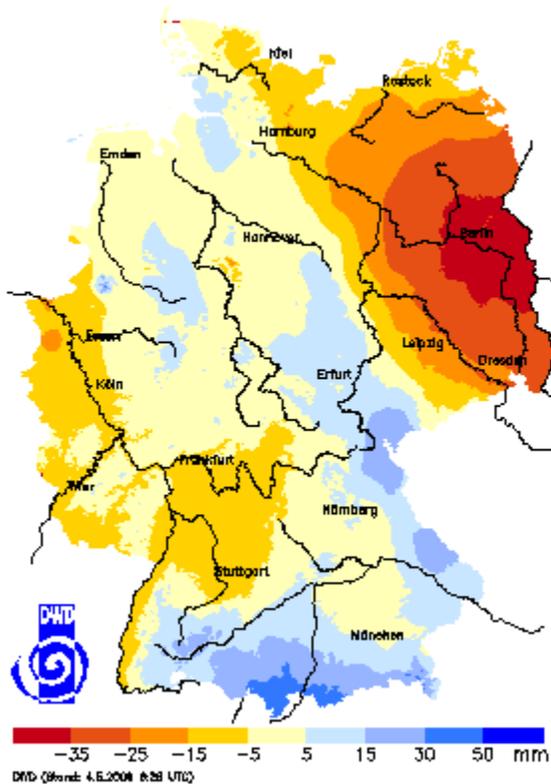
rains all over Germany including the current rain deficient regions in the east of the country.

The warm weather in April helped German field crops to make up for the growth delay of the longer-than-usual winter. Growth status for grains is rated normal while blossoming of rapeseed is about two weeks earlier than normal. By the end of April, about all rapeseed fields were in full bloom. As result of the sunny weather during rapeseed blossom, pollination took place under optimal conditions.

Farmers report that they have generally been able to perform the needed field work at the appropriate time. Problems with mice which caused yield losses in the eastern third of the country in 2008 are not reported for this year. The long lasting winter may have helped to eliminate this issue. Based on current field conditions, farmers are expecting an average to slightly above average grain and oilseed harvest in 2009.

The image below shows the precipitation during the last week of April in comparison to normal levels. It shows that the most eastern parts of the country neighboring to Poland are significantly drier than normal. However, areas are wetter since the time of this map.

27.04.2009 bis 03.05.2009



Source: Deutscher Wetterdienst