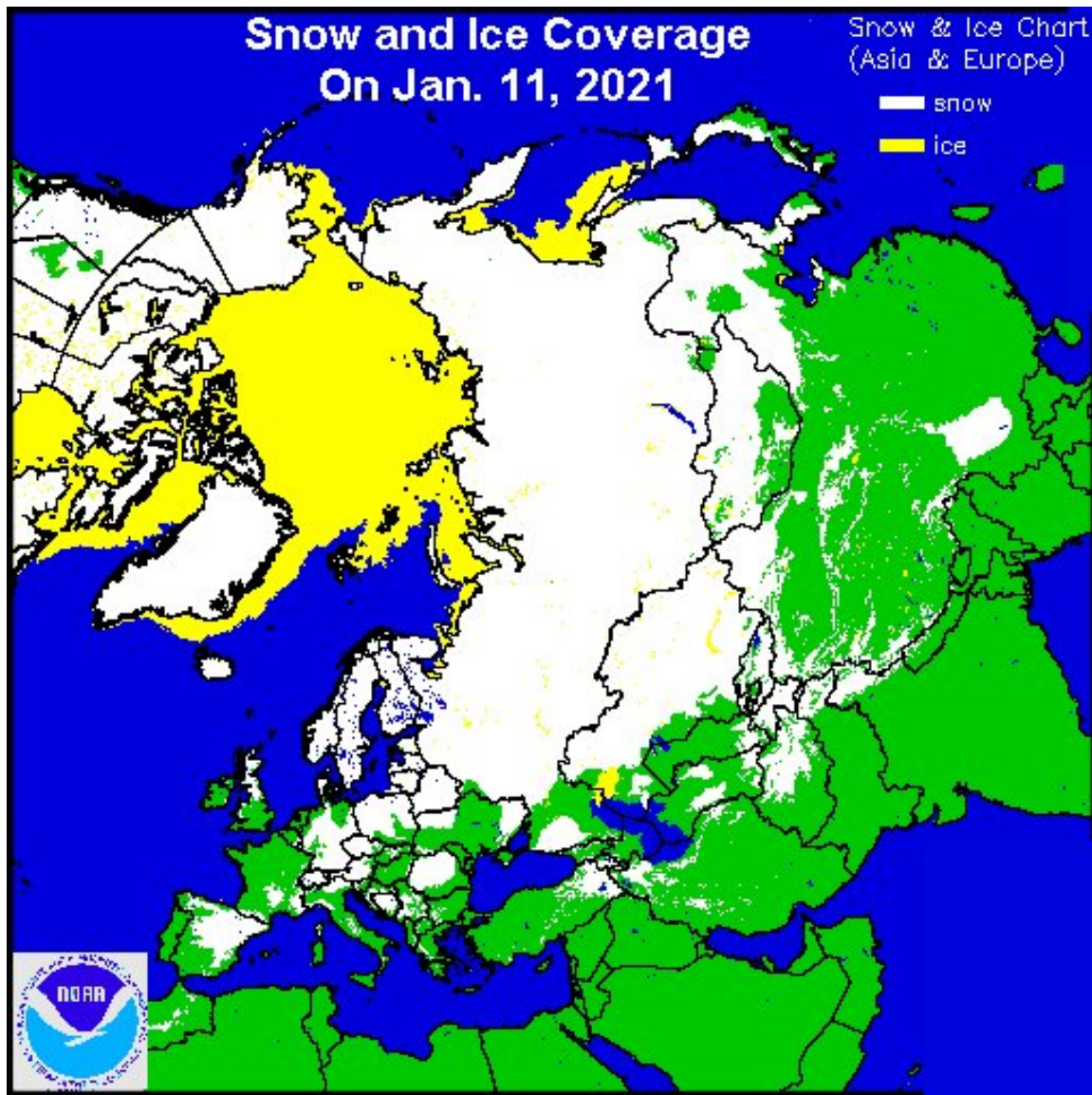


# Most Snow-Free Areas Of Europe, Russia To Avoid Winterkill

By Brad Luchen and Drew Lerner

Kansas City, January 12 (World Weather Inc.) – Despite all of the media hype of cold weather coming to Europe and the western Commonwealth of Independent states, there has been no crop damaging cold to winter crops and none of the snow free areas are expected to get cold enough to pose a threat for the next week and probably ten days. The only possible exception will be in a part of Ukraine this weekend into next week when some below zero degree Fahrenheit readings are expected. However, snow should precede the event sufficiently to protect crops from that cold.

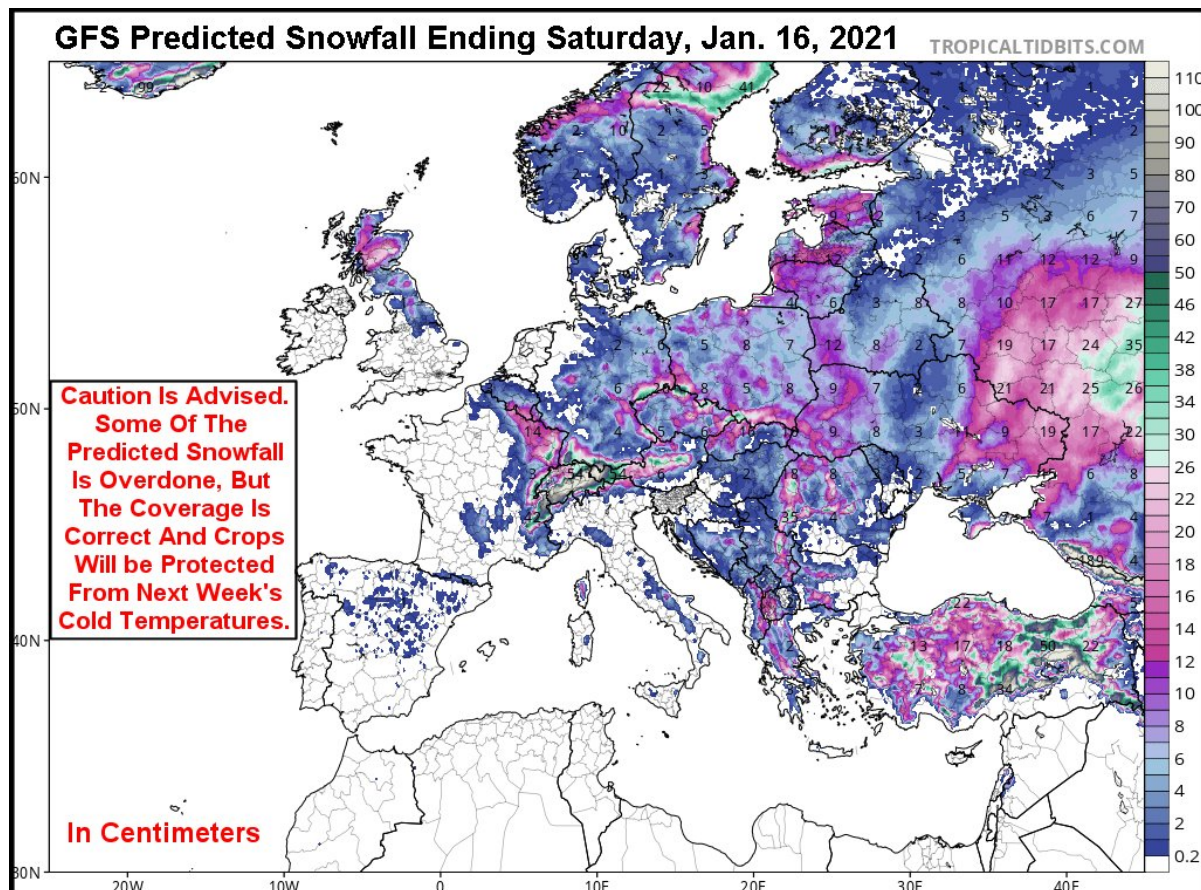


Snow cover in Europe has been increasing with the recent outbreak of colder air. Snow is on the ground in many important winter cropping areas, but not all and there is need for snow in some of the remaining snow free areas prior to the arrival of colder

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temperatures. Ukraine and northern parts of Russia's Southern region are two areas that need a boost in snow cover this week to adequately protect winter crops against additional cooling that is expected this weekend and especially early next week. These areas are snow free today, but by Saturday snow will have fallen in northern and eastern Ukraine and northern parts of Russia's Southern Region to adequately protect crops against temperatures that will fall to the positive and negative single digits Fahrenheit by early next week.

The snow will be deepest in northeastern Ukraine and northern parts of Russia's Southern region where the coldest temperatures are also expected resulting in little to no risk of winterkill for wheat, rye and barley.



Other areas in Eastern Europe also need snow to adequately protect wheat, rapeseed, barley and rye from any threat of damaging cold. Those areas include southern Poland and areas south into the Balkan Countries and both western and southern Ukraine. Recent reports of Sudden Stratospheric Warming and the potential for a split in the polar vortex has brought on forecasts of bitter cold for Europe, western Asia and North America for the end of January and early February. That is the reason for closely monitoring the snow cover across these areas. Confidence on the intensity of cold coming is low for now, but the obvious increase in snow cover that is occurring in many areas provides hope that there will be sufficient snow present when the coldest air arrives.

There will be no winterkill over the coming week to ten days as long as the snow falls as expected and confidence is high that several inches of accumulation will occur in

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*the potentially coldest areas.* Northeastern Ukraine and northern parts of Russia's Southern Region will receive 3 to 10 inches of snowfall while north-central Ukraine and southern parts of Russia's Southern region receive 1 to 4 inches and locally more.

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