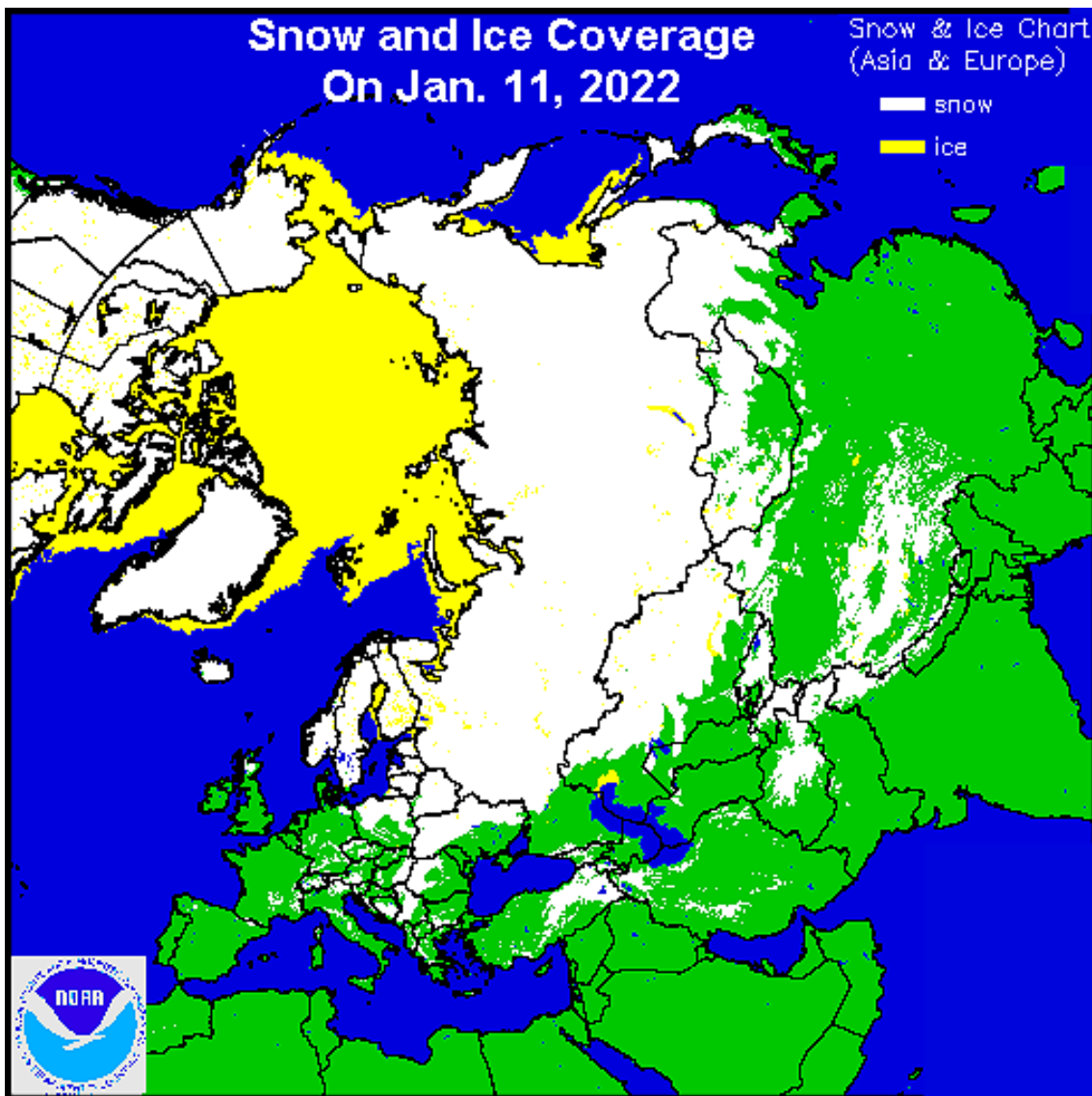


Europe Moisture Profile Favorable For Winter Crops

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, January 12 (World Weather Inc.) – Frequent precipitation over the winter so far has kept soil moisture at adequate to excessive levels in most of Europe. *Winter grain and oilseed prospects are generally good, even in areas with little to no snow cover.* Crops are generally dormant or semi-dormant across the continent. Western Europe will receive little to no precipitation through the middle of next week while Eastern Europe only receives light precipitation. *There is no significant threat for winterkill and the outlook for winter crops will remain mostly unchanged.*

Portions of Romania and southeastern Spain have a shortage of moisture despite some recent precipitation. The remaining portions of Europe generally have adequate to excessive amounts of moisture from frequent precipitation in recent weeks. No severe flooding was noted in areas that have excess amounts of moisture.

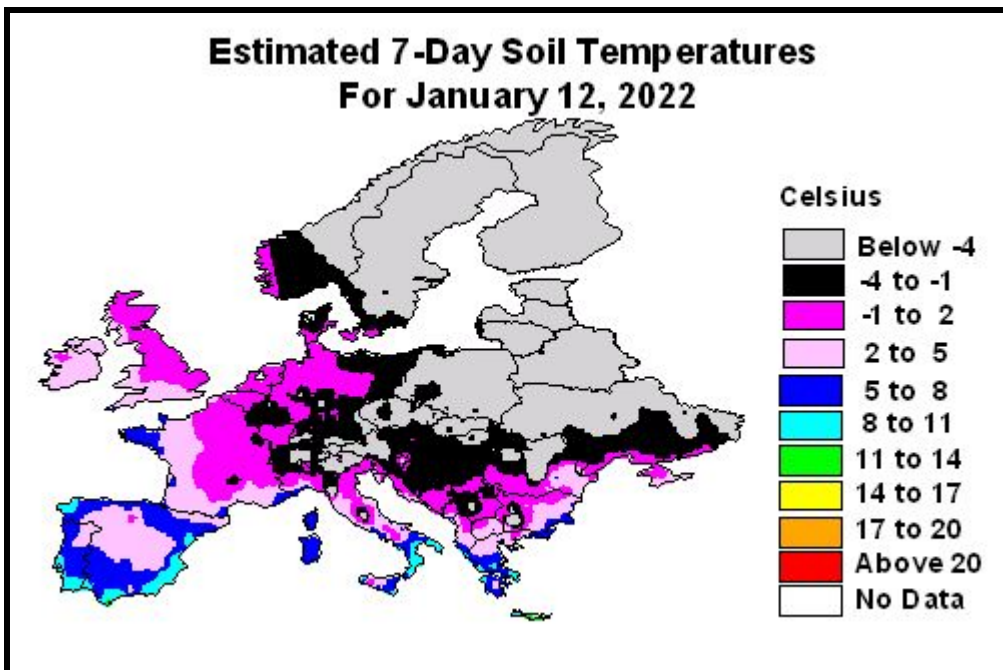


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Belarus and the Baltic States, along with much of Ukraine and portions of Poland and the Balkans region, were blanketed by snow this morning. However, there were several snow-free areas in the southeastern Balkans and southern Poland. Western Europe is generally snow-free outside a few mountainous locations. Pockets in Ukraine, Belarus, and neighboring areas saw temperatures dip below zero degrees Fahrenheit in recent days, though the coldest conditions generally occurred in areas that had snow on the ground. No winterkill was suspected. The remaining production areas in Europe have not seen cold enough temperatures to damage winter crops.

Winter wheat, barley, rapeseed, and other crops generally established under good conditions this past autumn. Crops are generally dormant due to seasonal cooling. Romania and southeastern Spain would welcome a good soaking of rain in the coming weeks before development begins this spring. Most other areas in Europe have plenty of moisture to support spring crop development and planting if conditions remain the same over the next few weeks.

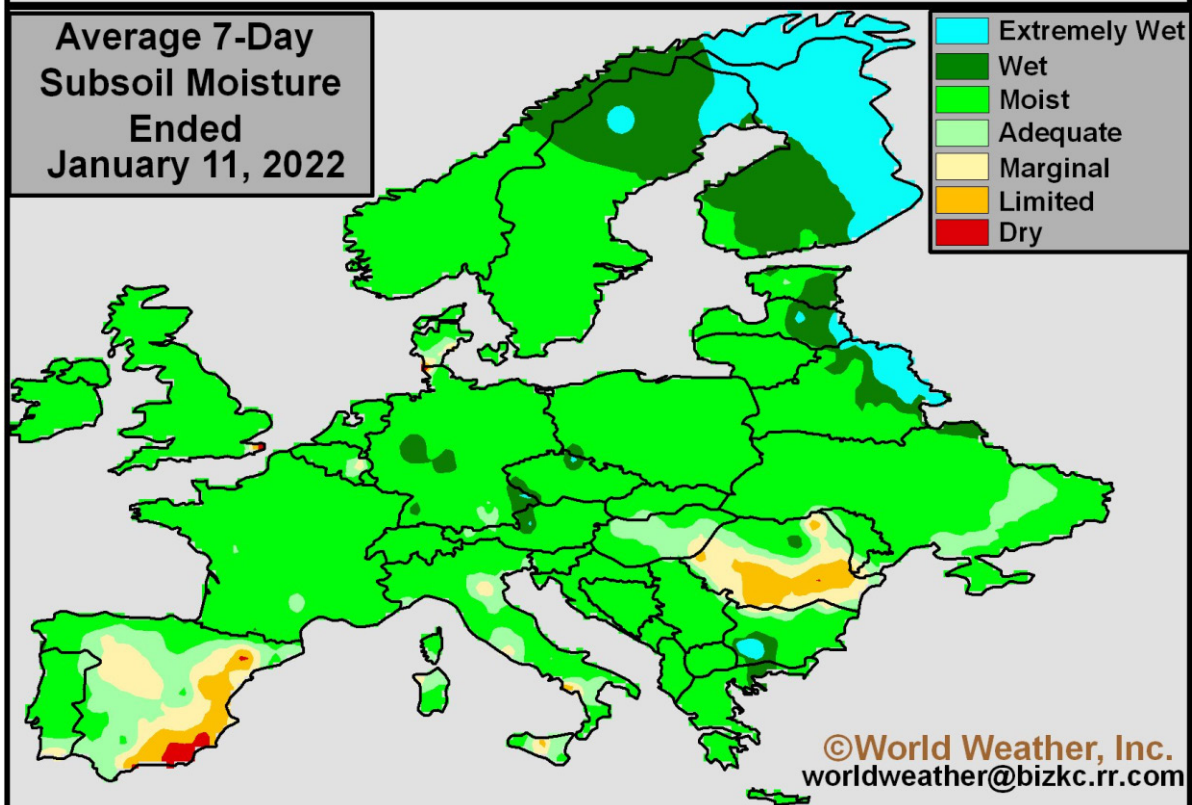
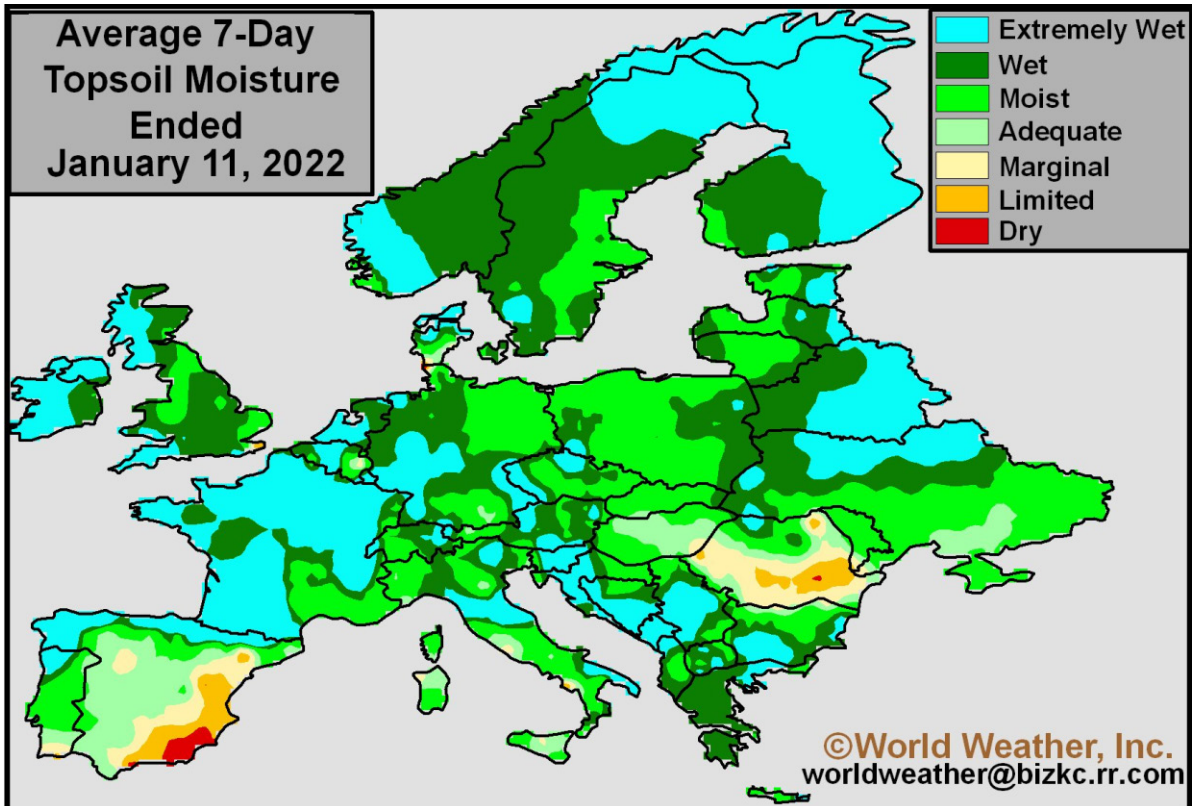
Western Europe will be mostly dry through the middle of next week as high pressure dominates the region. Temperatures will be near normal as well and no damaging cold weather is slated for the region. Winter crops will remain dormant and the outlook will remain mostly good for crops.



Eastern Europe will have a few opportunities for light precipitation through the middle of next week. The first round of precipitation will occur Thursday and Friday when a frontal boundary advances over the region. Another disturbance and frontal boundary will generate precipitation Sunday into Tuesday. Moisture totals by next Wednesday morning will range from 0.10 to 0.75 inch in Ukraine, Belarus, the Baltic States, Poland, and northern Romania. These areas will generally be cold enough for snow with accumulations ranging from 1 to 6 inches most often. However, portions of eastern Ukraine and Belarus into portions of the Baltic States will see 6 to 12 inches of snow accumulate with locally

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greater amounts. The remaining portions of the Balkans region will otherwise see little to no precipitation.



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Temperatures in Eastern Europe will often fluctuate between near and above normal through the middle of next week. However, nighttime temperatures will still drop below zero degrees Fahrenheit during the colder stretches in portions of Ukraine, Belarus, and neighboring areas. The snow will help protect winter crops from damage in most locations. Soil moisture will also remain near current levels in Eastern Europe during the coming week, even in areas of the Balkans that receive little to no precipitation. Winter crop prospects will remain favorable in most locations.

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