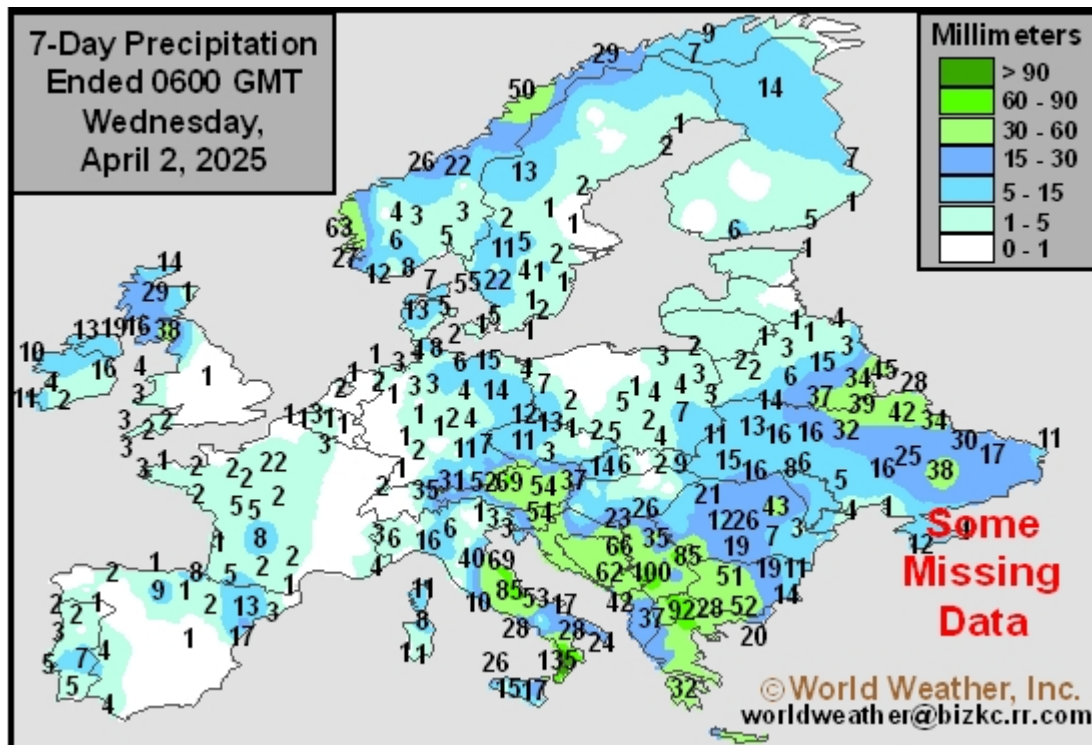


Western, Northern Europe Dryness Beneficial For Fieldwork

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, April 4 (World Weather Inc.) – *Northern and central Europe has been in a drying trend for a little while and that trend will continue for another week to ten days. A part of the region had been too wet previously and drying has been great for promoting fieldwork of all kinds and the early development of winter wheat, barley, rye and rapeseed. Some early season planting of sugarbeets, spring cereals and early corn will begin soon if it has not already started and the outlook is favorable as long as timely rain resumes soon.* Many areas in Western and northern Europe will experience drier than normal conditions during the coming week while the Iberian Peninsula and portions of Eastern Europe see a mix of rain and dry weather that will either lift soil moisture or keep it near current levels. Fieldwork may be sluggish at times in the wettest locations, though the rain will maintain a good outlook for establishment and winter crop development.

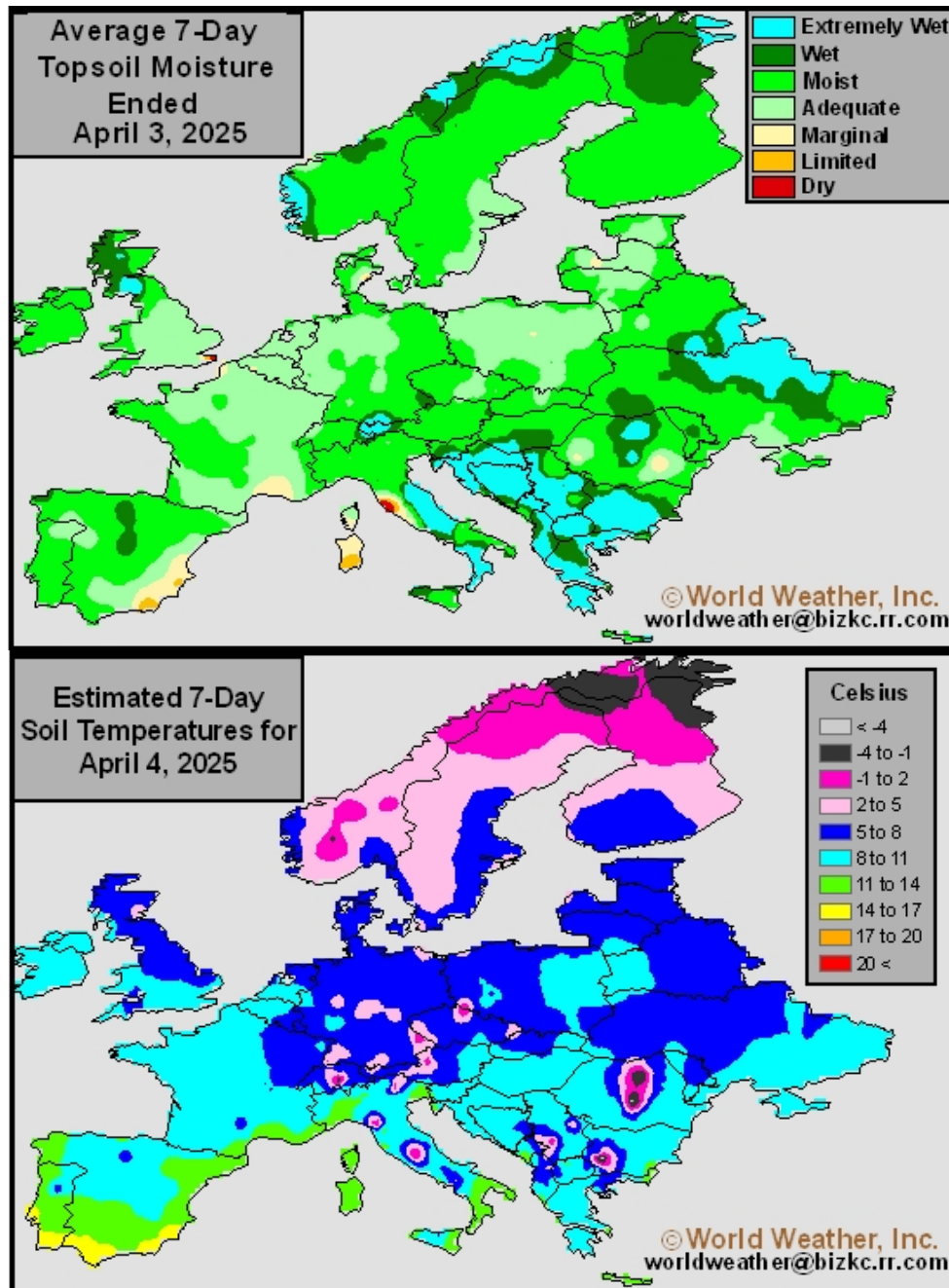
The Balkans region, Ukraine, and southeastern Belarus, along with portions of central and southern Italy, received some of the most significant rain in Europe during the past week. Moisture totals for the seven-day period ending this morning ranged from 0.50 to 2.00 inches with local amounts approaching 4.00 inches in the Balkans and Italy. Portions of Spain and Scotland received 0.24 to 1.50 inches of rain. Portugal and portions of France, Germany, Poland, and Ireland received up to 0.51 inch of moisture, though several locations missed out on rain. Little to no precipitation was noted elsewhere.



Temperatures were near or slightly above normal for much of Europe during the past week. Highest readings were in the 50s and 60s Fahrenheit with portions of the Iberian

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Peninsula warming to the 70s. Lowest temperatures were in the 30s and 40s with pockets in northeastern Europe cooling to the upper 20s.



Soil moisture is rated adequate in much of Europe. Portions of the Balkans region and central and southern Italy are a little too wet, although the situation is not critical. Soil temperatures were warm enough to bring some of the winter grains and oilseeds out of dormancy.

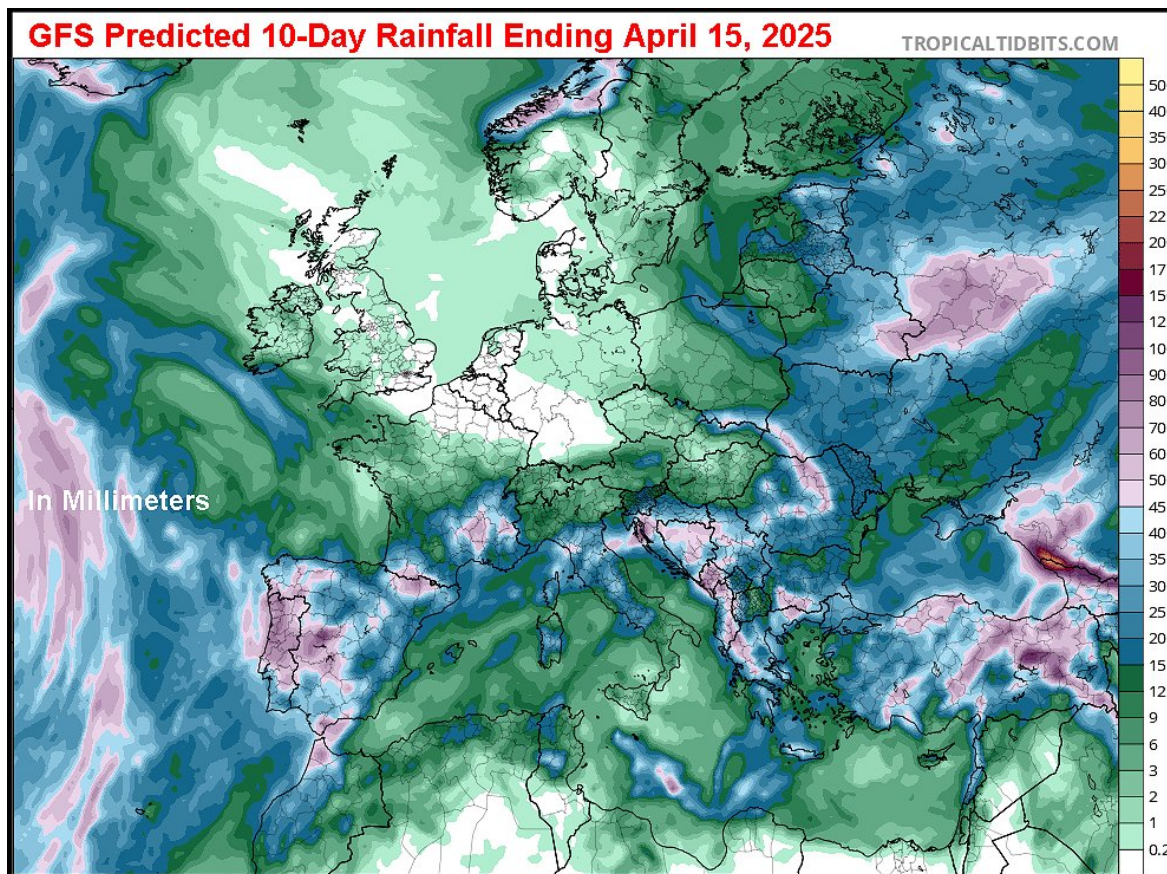
Early-season planting prospects are generally favorable for Europe due to the favorable soil moisture situation. Planting is already underway in portions of Spain some other areas in the continent and more planting is expected in the next few weeks as

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additional warming evolves. Prospects for the winter wheat, barley, and rapeseed are relatively favorable as well due to the adequate moisture.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

Precipitation will vary across Europe during the coming week. Much of Western Europe outside the Iberian Peninsula into northern and western Poland and the Baltic States will trend drier than normal as a blocking weather pattern restricts precipitation. Brief periods of light precipitation will still occur in a few locations, though resulting precipitation will be too light to impact long-term soil conditions. The remaining locations in Eastern Europe, along with Spain and Portugal, will see a mix of rain and dry weather as disturbances often track into these areas. Moisture totals by next Thursday morning will often range from 0.50 to 2.00 inches with locally greater amounts in Spain, Portugal, and southeastern Europe. Much of Europe will see a mix of precipitation and sunshine April 11 – 17 once the blocking weather pattern breaks down.



Seasonable to seasonably warm weather is slated for Western Europe during the coming week while seasonable to seasonably cool weather evolves for Eastern Europe. Daytime highs will peak to the 50s and 60s most often for Western Europe with portions of Germany only warming to the 40s this weekend and early next week. A few locations in the Iberian Peninsula will occasionally warm to the 70s as well. Eastern Europe will warm to

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the 50s and 60s today and Friday as well. Highs will drop to the 30s and 40s with pockets in the 50s this weekend and at least through the middle of next week as a cooler air mass associated with the blocking weather pattern settles over the region. Low temperatures will be in the 30s and 40s most often, though many areas in Eastern Europe and areas as far west as Germany will cool to the upper or mid-20s this weekend and the first half of next week. Temperatures will be near normal April 11 – 17.

The lack of rain for much of Western Europe outside the Iberian Peninsula into the Baltic States and portions of Poland will support a good environment for fieldwork in the coming week. The lack of significant daytime heating will limit drying as well. Other locations will receive enough precipitation to potentially slow or delay early-season planting and general fieldwork, though soil moisture will remain at favorable levels. Winter grain and oilseed prospects will remain favorable across Europe, even in areas that are mostly dry in the coming days.

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