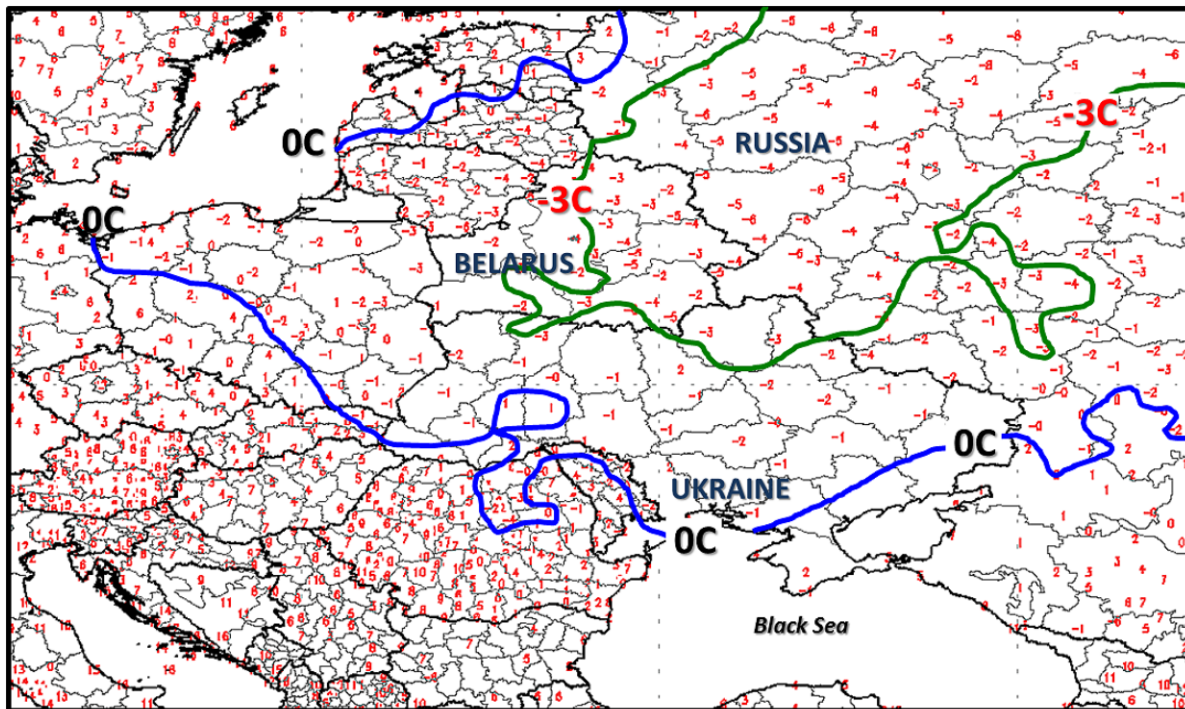


East Europe, Russia Small Grain, Rapeseed Freeze Assessment

By Drew Lerner

Kansas City, April 29 (World Weather Inc.) – Frost and freeze conditions that developed during the weekend and continued into Tuesday morning of this week resulted in some crop damage. The impact on wheat, barley and rye was minimal, although some vegetative development was burned back. Rapeseed damage might have been a little greater following an unusually warm week of weather earlier this month. World Weather, Inc. anticipates a low impact on winter cereals, but a high impact on fruit and vegetable crops and moderate damage may have occurred to winter rapeseed in Ukraine.



APRIL 28, 2025 LOWEST TEMPERATURES IN CELSIUS

Sunday through Tuesday of this week was quite cold across eastern Europe and western parts of the former Soviet Union. The cold came after more than a week of unusually warm temperatures that pushed rapeseed development along more significantly than it was last year when a significant freeze event impacted the region in May. Lowest temperatures this year reached below freezing from northern and eastern Poland into much of Ukraine and the northern half of Russia's Southern Region. Temperatures below 27 degrees Fahrenheit (-3C) occurred mostly in western Russia and in areas across the north-central part of Ukraine. Russia freezes below 27 (-3C) were limited to areas north of the Southern Region where crops were most advanced.

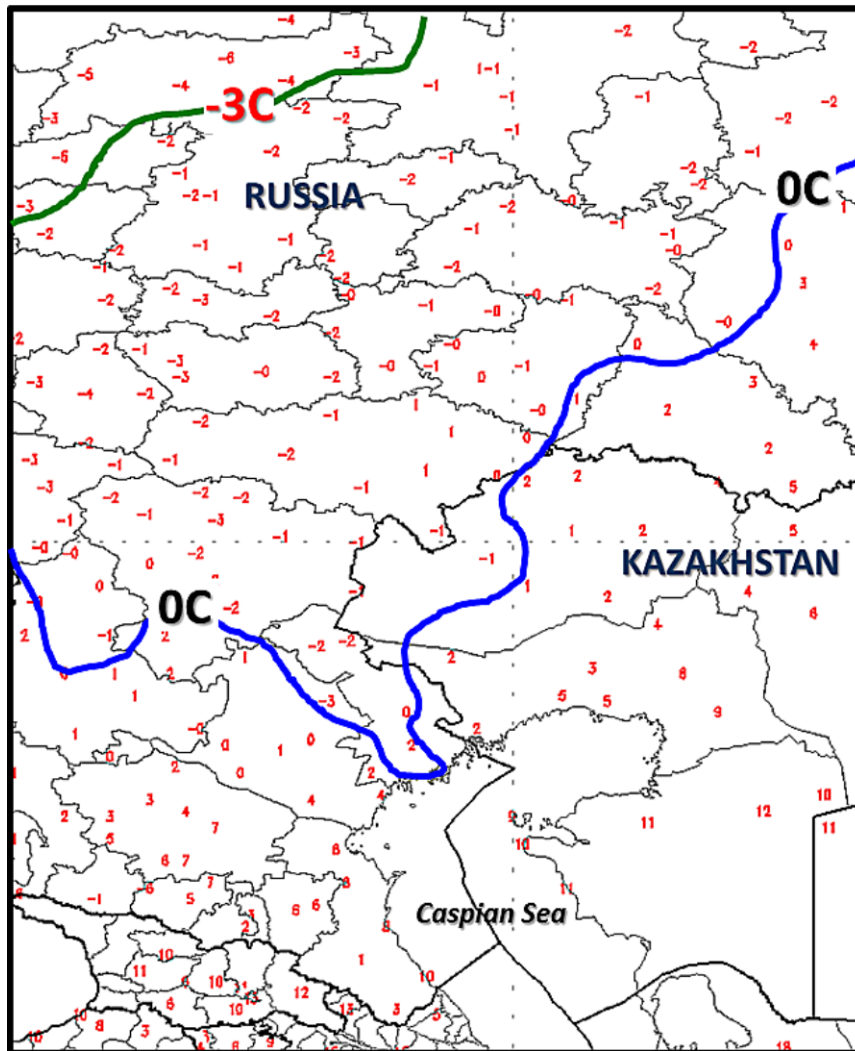
World Weather, Inc.'s preliminary freeze assessment suggested that wheat, barley and rye development was likely burned back, although most of the crop was not far enough advanced to be permanently harmed by such conditions. It is believed that crop development was mostly in the joint stage of development at the time of the cold surge in much of Ukraine and Russia's Southern region which likely resulted in no permanent production cut, despite the burning of vegetative development. Small grain crops may have

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been more advanced in southern Ukraine and in southern parts of Russia's Southern region where temperatures were not as close to the damage threshold.

Rapeseed was more vulnerable to the freezing conditions than wheat, barley or rye. The crop was spurred on in its development last week when daily high temperatures

were reaching into the 70s and even some lower 80s Fahrenheit (21-29C). The rapeseed crop should have advanced far enough that it could have been damaged by freezes; however, it is unclear at this time how much of the crop was completely lost in this event and a close watch on crop assessment comments should be made over the next week.



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May. Freeze damage is always difficult to assess when it occurs so early in the growing season, but if rapeseed was not completely lost in the coldest areas there is potential that some of its production potential will be less.

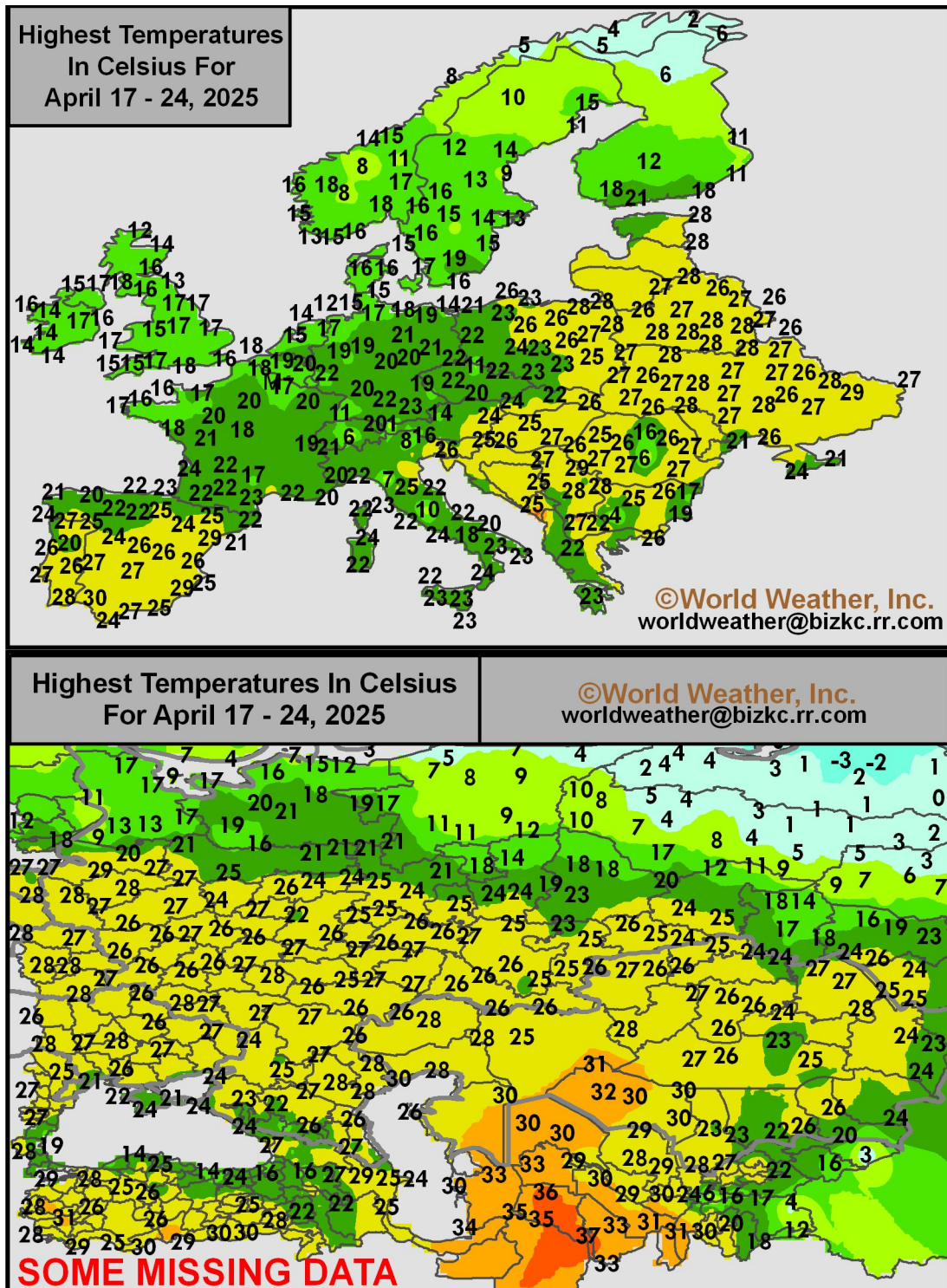
Normally, at this time of year rapeseed could probably handle temperatures to -3C without permanent losses, but there is concern about this year's crop being more advanced due to the most recent bout of unusually warm conditions. Temperatures in both eastern Europe and in the western parts of the Former Soviet Union reached well above normal for nearly a full week earlier this month. That bout of warmth should have spurred on some significant new crop development especially since soil moisture was improved over that of last autumn and crops were already in early developmental stages.

The highest temperatures during the April 17-23 period were in the 70s and lower 80s Fahrenheit nearly every day resulting in more significant stimulus for new crop development. At the end of that period, a short term bout of cooling evolved with this past

World Weather, Inc. believes some rapeseed loss is probable, although the amount of loss is still up for considerable debate. At first glance, it looks as though damage would have been lighter than that of 2024 when a more serious freeze impacted crops in

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weekend's temperatures plunging far enough below freezing to burn vegetative crop development and some of the crop was likely advanced far enough to be harmed by upper 20- and lower 30-degree Fahrenheit temperatures.



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Frost and freezes were again reported in Russia's Southern region this morning, although temperature data from the region was incomplete and an assessment of the impact cannot be made until the dataset is recovered on Wednesday morning.

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