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<u>World</u> <u>Weather</u>

- East-central China is experiencing early spring drought conditions and rain will be very important in the second half of May
- Russia's Southern Region, Ukraine and western Kazakhstan winter crops have survived winter and may produce better than some analysts predicted after a dry autumn
- Rapeseed in Ukraine may have been harmed by late April Freezes
- Northern Europe has been and will continue to be drier than usual
- North Africa durum wheat production conditions improved
- Safrinha corn production in Brazil may end up closer to normal than first perceived
- U.S. crop weather has not been extreme enough for serious potential production changes

It is only the first weekend of May and yet temperatures will already surpass 30 degrees Celsius in a number of areas across the Prairies. That creates a chill up the back of many producers because of extremely hot summers in the recent past. Surely we are not still dealing with such extremes in weather that summer 2025 could be as adverse as some of the others in this decade.

World Weather, Inc. does not believe an extremely hot summer will evolve this year. Some warmer than usual conditions are certainly expected at times, but there will be some periods of rain and seasonable temperatures as well. The environment should induce favorable crop development and some good yields. However, that will not convince many folks when temperatures get hot this weekend and early next week without a general soaking of rain to replenish the low soil moisture from years past.

The heat wave expected is not likely to last very long and milder temperatures should be back in the Prairies next week and the transition into cooler conditions should come with some rain that may not be well distributed, but many areas that need moisture will get it. There will still be a large portion of the Prairies still looking for greater rainfall.

Mini Heatwave To Create Chills Of Deja Vu

April precipitation was close to that expected this year and that along with temperatures that also were close to that anticipated adds a little confidence to the more favorable spring outlook that World Weather, Inc. has been touting about this year.

The growing season ahead will certainly not be perfect; though, there will be some bouts of relief for the previously driest areas while a few other areas may experience some drier

Departure From Normal Temperatures In Celsius For May 2 - 7, 2025



Mini Heatwave To Create Chills Of Deja Vu (from page 1)

than usual conditions. The outlook for May and June is still poised toward bouts of rain that will present a favorable planting environment for many areas. There will still be some areas of dryness and a few fields may trend a little too wet, but the pattern over the next few months should bring enough variety to induce a relatively good crop production year.

Precipitation in April was little too erratic and light in eastern Alberta and especially in the Peace River Region to seriously bolster soil moisture. Some moisture deficits remain in eastcentral and southern Alberta and across much of the Peace River Region, including that of the British Columbia side of the Alberta border. Some of the greatest soil moisture present at the end of April was noted in portions of southern Manitoba and in a few areas scattered around in central portions of Alberta and eastcentral into southeastern Saskatchewan.

This weekend's heatwave and that which lingers into next week will help raise soil temperatures so that the planting and seed germination environment becomes better. The only negative part of the forecast is that with temperatures so warm in this coming week the odds are relatively good that soil moisture will decrease raising more concern about future crop development.

Most computer weather forecast models have suggested that mid-May temperatures will cool to a more seasonable range with a slight warmer bias. That will certainly help slow down the drying rates, but what will be needed most is greater rainfall.

A wetter scenario is expected to evolve later in May and continue into June for the Prairies. The greatest precipitation anomaly in May should be in the eastern and south-central parts of the Prairies leaving Palliser's Triangle with a classic drier than usual bias— at least for a little while. As late May evolves into June there



Estimated 7-Day Soil Temperatures for April 28, 2025



should be an improving rainfall outlook for the drier areas in the southwest. The precipitation will prove to be exceptionally important for some of the driest areas and also because of the potential for July to trend drier and hotter—at least in the southern Prairies. That makes May and June precipitation biases very important to long term crop development and a close monitoring of the situation is warranted.

Improving Rainfall May Into June, Warm

The month of May is still expected to be one of improved rainfall. The rain advertised is predicted to be relatively well dispersed across the Prairies, although some areas near and east of Highway 2 in Alberta and some areas in the northwestern onethird to one-half of Saskatchewan may experience a lighter bias to the rainfall.

Rainfall in northern parts of the Peace River Region and far southern Manitoba may be a little less than usual . However, most areas in the Prairies should get some timely rain during May to support spring fieldwork and early season germination, emergence and establishment. There will be a desire for greater rain in those areas that have not seen much precipitation in recent weeks.

The best news is that as May comes to an end and June begins

there will be potential for improved rainfall in the lighter rain-biased areas. Some analog years based on the solar cycle, the 18-year cycle and EN-SO have suggested the potential for some significant rain during the month of June. In some of the analog years the rainfall became excessive and that needs to be kept in the backs of the minds of many producers in the west and south parts of the Prairies.

Confidence in the wetter June outlook is high except for the northern and east-central parts of Saskatchewan and northwestern Manitoba where rainfall will likely be a little less than usual. The improved rainfall in June could lead to some disruption of spraying activity and routine farming activity.

One of the primary reasons for being conservative with the rainfall forecast in May and June is the fact that portions of the western Prairies are coming off multiple years of drought or dryness. Breaking down a drought pattern can sometimes be very difficult as was demonstrated in 2024; however, there is support for better precipitation this year and "some" potential for heavy rain—at least in June.

July is still expected to be the driest month of the growing season for the southern Prairies. Precipitation is projected to be lighter than usual during that month in the south while it is greater across the northern Prairies.

Temperatures over the next two months are predicted to be near to above normal except in areas of heavy June rainfall in which a below- normal bias is expected. There may still be a threat of frost and light freezes infrequently in Manitoba and northeastern Saskatchewan during May.



Selected Weather Images From Around The World



Much improved soil moisture has evolved in a part of the central and southern U.S. Great Plains and western Corn and Soybean Belt in recent weeks. The change improved the outlook for winter wheat and for the planting of spring and summer crops. The region will trend wetter. China's weather has stagnated with very short soil moisture in the North China Plain and Yellow River Basin where some drought has evolved. In the meantime, southern China has been a little too wet for optimum rapeseed filling and maturation. Southern Russia, Ukraine and western Kazakhstan are drying out again after trending wetter in March and early April. Frost and freezes may have damaged a few crops in late April. Australia needs rain in its wheat, barley and canola production areas. Brazil soil moisture is rated favorably in key Safrinha crop areas, but timely rain is needed to maintain production potentials. North Africa rainfall has seen some improvement in soil and crop conditions, although this will not be a stellar production year.

Peace River Region Drought Relentless

Drought has been plaguing the British Columbia side of the Peace River Region for months and the only thing that has changed recently is the expansion of driest conditions. Instead of most of the drought being confined to the British Columbia portion of the Peace Country it has now expanded to the east and north including a larger part of the Alberta production region.

Winter snowfall was abundant in the Fort Vermillion and High Level areas and relatively favorable in the Manning area, but areas to the south and west from the town of Peace River to all of the agricultural region on the British Columbia side of the Alberta border received much less precipitation.

Moisture totals in the past 60 days have been less than 40% of normal in British Columbia with no more than 15 millimeters resulting. Many other areas in the remainder of the Peace region reported 15-30 millimeters with a few areas from Grande Prairie into the Slave Lake region getting 30-50 millimeters. All of the precipitation was welcome, but for crop areas of British Columbia the roots of dryness extend much farther back in time making the drought much more severe.

Rain is needed throughout the Peace region, although the melting of snow in the far north has soil conditions rated relatively well. Soil moisture from the Grande Prairie area into the Slave Lake region was always in better shape than that to the west and north, although there is need for more precipitation in that region as well.

The next ten days of precipitation (shown to the right) clearly leaves some of the Peace River region drier than usual. The region does get some moisture, but areas near the British Columbia/Alberta border fail to get more than 0.25 inch (6mm). Other areas in the region may get upwards to 0.50 inch (13mm), but none of the precipitation is going to eliminate the three-month moisture deficits that range from nearly 2.00 to almost 6.00 inches (50-150mm). Much more precipitation will be required and now that the growing season has arrived very few producers want that kind of rain right away.

Some computer forecast models have suggested that greater rain may evolve in the Peace River Region near mid-month while other models are suggesting little to no change to the drier bias and World Weather, Inc. agrees that the precipitation bias is likely to remain below normal for an extended period of time. There will be some potential for greater rain in the second half of May while the greatest opportunity for wetter biased conditions



may hold off until June. Totally dry weather is not expected in May, although with temperatures ebbing their way above normal and dryness already present in the soil much of the precipitation will prove to be too light for a lasting improvement in drought conditions.

June and July rainfall is expected to be much improved in the Peace River region and producers will have to pray for timely rainfall between now and then to generate enough moisture to support newly planted and emerged crops. Some rain is certainly expected over the next 30 days, but resulting amounts are going to be a little too light for a lasting improvement to soil and crop conditions.

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U.S. May Weather Warmer Biased, Drier in Parts of Midwest

The most anomalously great precipitation in U.S. crop areas during May will be that which occurs in the southern Great Plains over the coming week to ten days. There will also be a boost in rainfall across the northern Plains and in Canada's Prairies during the middle to latter well. In contrast, the southeastern states from central Gulf of Mexico coast region into northern and central Florida and the Carolinas will receive less than usual rain as will a part of the central Plains and upper Midwest. There is some potential that the World Weather, Inc. precipibiased in the southwestern desert region and southern California and near to below normal precipitation is also expected in a part of the Pacific Northwest. However, the northwestern U.S. will see increasing rainfall during the middle and latter part of May as a persistent ridge of high

part of the month while the Midwest experiences a lighter than usual precipitation bias after this first week. Temperatures will be warmer than usual in many areas during May excepting the rainy areas of the southern Plains and some coastal areas in the west and eastern states where readings will be close to normal on average for the month.

A spring parallel to 1968 will continue over the next few weeks. The month of May will be warmer than usual in much of the contiguous United States with some early month cooler than usual conditions likely in the southern Plains and immediate neighboring areas resulting from great cloudiness and frequent precipitation. A drier

and warmer pattern should evolve later in the month that will bring temperatures more in line with normal

Rainfall will not only be greater than usual in the southern Plains, but into a part of the lower Delta as



tation outlook in the upper Midwest is too dry, but the reason for the outlook is the lighter than usual precipitation that is slated for the early part of this month.

Weather in the western United States is expected to be dry pressure sets up in the Great Plains. That ridge of high pressure should also help generate greater rainfall in late May and June across the Canadian Prairies as well as a part of the northern Plains.

The eastern and northern Midwest may experience less rain less often during May, although the environment will be very good for spring planting. There may be some increasing need for late month precipitation, although none of that region is expected to be too dry.

The outlook is expected to support good planting progress across most key U.S. crop areas, although there will be some growing need for greater rain by the end of the month in parts of the Midwest and certainly in the

southeastern states. The wet bias in the southern Plains will eventually support better planting conditions for summer grain and cotton, although there may be some concern for wheat quality and the protein levels if the rainy weather does not shut off soon.

North China Plain Dryness Becoming More Significant

Dryness has become more notable in the North China Plain and Yellow River Basin as well as in areas as far to the north as Inner Mongolia and southward to the northern Yangtze River Basin. Rainfall was quite limited in these areas during the past

week and temperatures were warm enough to accelerate drying rates. Unirrigated winter wheat development conditions may be deteriorating, although a large portion of the crop is irrigated. The dryness may have a bigger impact on spring and summer crop planting and establishment, although it is still early in the season leaving plenty of time for change. At least another week to ten days of drier and warmer weather is slated and the environment will further deteriorate for both drvland winter wheat and summer crop planting

Little to no rain fell during the past week from the central and western parts of Inner Mongolia southward through the North China Plain and Yellow River Basin to areas just north of the Yangtze River.

Temperatures were also warmer than usual at times in China during the past week with highest readings in the 80s and

90s Fahrenheit from southern China and the Yangtze River Basin into the North China Plain and central Yellow River Basin. That was one of the larger contributing factors to the accelerated moisture loss. Milder weather with greater rain occurred in other areas especially in the northeastern provinces.

Top and subsoil moisture are rated short to very short in the dry areas noted above while rated adequate to



excessive in much of the Yangtze River Basin and southeastern China. Northeast China has adequate soil moisture favoring spring and summer crop planting where soil temperatures are warm enough to support germination.

Concern is rising for the ongoing drying trend in the North China Plain and central Yellow River Basin. Several locations are too dry to support favorable late-season win-

ter wheat growth, although the vast irrigation that supports winter crops should minimize the negative impact of ongoing dryness. A good shot of rain would be welcome in the near future and would not only benefit winter crops, but also improve planting and emergence conditions for unirrigated spring and summer crops. Planting normally persists through late-May and early-June leaving plenty of time for better rainfall.

Drier-than-usual conditions will prevail across the North China Plain and central Yellow River Basin through the middle of next week. The main production areas will either be dry or not receive enough rain to counter evaporation. Daytime highs will often surge into the 70s and 80s with pockets warming to the 90s. There is potential for some spotty rainfall May 8-14 as disturbances track near or into the region; however, resulting rainfall will be too light to

significantly improve the moisture profile.

Aggressive drying will continue for the North China Plain and central Yellow River Basin for at least

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North China Plain Dryness More Significant (from [page 7)

the next seven to ten days. The lack of moisture and warm weather in unirrigated fields may cause some of the wheat to mature early, reducing yield potentials. Irrigated crops should not be seriously impacted. Planting and establishment conditions for summer crops will also deteriorate, leaving the need for significant rain high heading into the second half of May.

Winter rapeseed harvesting likely

advanced around the periods of rain in the Yangtze River Basin during the past week. Yields are suspected of being good due to timely rain over the growing season. Rice, corn, and sugarcane conditions may otherwise vary across southern China and the Yangtze River Basin. Dryness remains a concern in Yunnan, Guangxi, and neighboring areas despite some spotty rain. Crops may be developing unevenly or poorly in the driest locations.

Areas near and south of the Yangtze River will have several opportunities for rain through the middle of next week. A

frontal boundary will promote the first round of rain today. Light and erratic rain will occur in a few locations Thursday and Friday before more widespread rain returns over the weekend and the first part of next week. Moisture totals by next Wednesday morning will range from 1.50 to 4.00 inches and local amounts of 6.00 inches or more in Fujian, Guangdong, Jiangxi, Hunan, and neighboring locations. Other locations in southern China and the Yangtze River Basin will receive 0.50 to 3.00 inches of rain with portions of Hubei, southern fringes of Anhui and Jiangsu, and Yunnan only receiving 0.10 to 0.50 inch of moisture. Temperatures will be near normal with daytime highs often peaking in the 80s and 90s. However, pockets will only warm to the 70s during periods of more significant rain. Southern China and the Yangtze River Basin will again see a mix of rain and sunshine needed.

Planting in Northeast China usually begins in May. Early-season planting prospects are relatively favorable across the region due to timely precipitation over the winter and earlier this spring.

Northeast China will receive varying amounts of precipitation through the middle of next week. Precipitation will often be scattered across the region as disturbances

> advance near or into the region. Some of the most significant precipitation will occur today. Moisture totals by next Wednesday 20 morning will range from 0.75 to 3.00 inch-12 es in Liaoning, central and southern Jilin, 90 and southern Heilongjiang. Other loca-61 tions will receive 0.10 to 0.75 inch of mois-Δſ ture and locally greater amounts. Temperatures will be near normal with daytime 15 highs often reaching 12 the 50s and 60s. However, portions of northern Heilongjiang and northeastern Inner Mongolia will only warm to the 30s and

40s at times. The region will again have several opportunities for erratic precipitation May 8-14.

Additional precipitation in Northeast China in the coming weeks will help keep soil moisture at adequate levels. Early-season planting may be sluggish in the wettest fields, though most producers should be able to begin planting between precipitation events.

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May 8-14.

Winter rapeseed harvesting will continue around the periods of rain through the middle of next week in much of the Yangtze River Basin. Rice, corn, and sugarcane development conditions will either improve or remain favorable near and south of the Yangtze River; however, Yunnan and Guangxi will not receive enough rain to completely fix the moisture deficits and additional rain will be



East Europe, Russia Small Grain, Rapeseed Freeze

APRIL 28, 2025 LOWEST TEMPERATURES IN CELSIUS

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.

Sunday through Tuesday of this week was quite cold across eastern Europe and western parts of the former Soviet Union. The cold came af-

ter 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 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

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East Europe, Russia Small Grain, Rapeseed Freeze (from page 9)

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.

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 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 development especially since soil moisture was improved over that of last autumn and crops were already in early developmental stages.



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 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.

The highest

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

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

made until the dataset is recovered on Wednesday morning.

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