

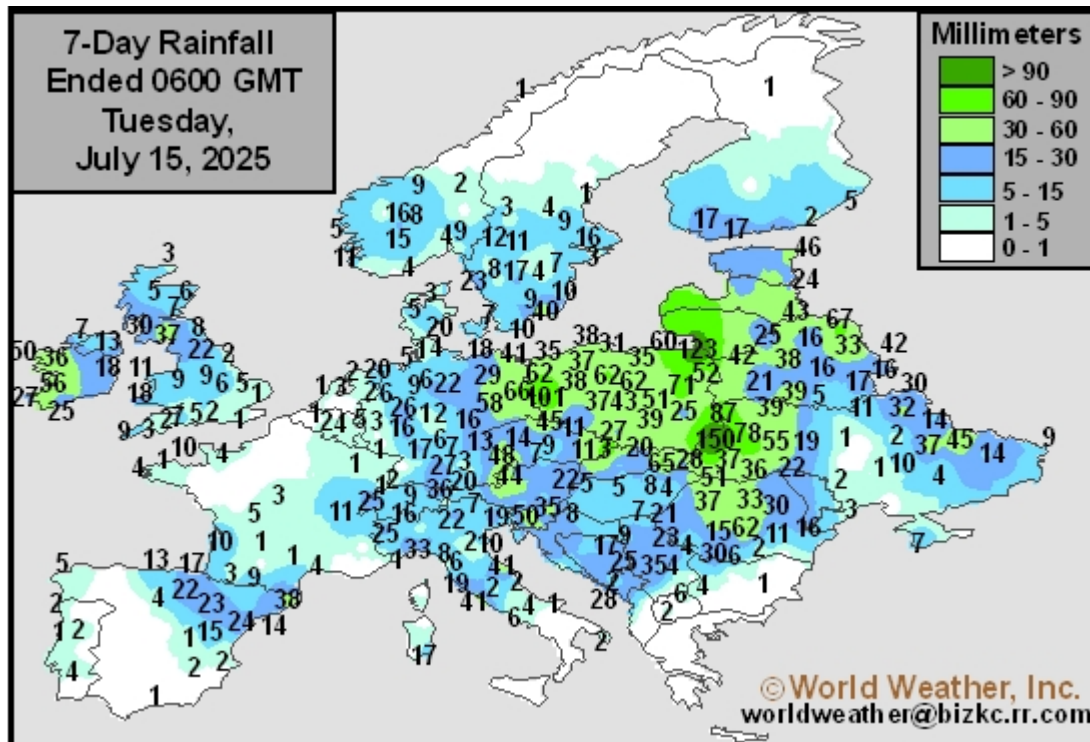
Western Europe Drought To Be Eased; SE Europe To Stay Dry

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, July 16 (World Weather Inc.) – [Crop moisture stress and downward pressure on this year's spring and summer crop production potential continued over the past week in unirrigated fields of France, parts of the U.K., western Germany, the Low Countries and the lower Danube River Basin.](#) These areas experienced very little rain and seasonably warm (not hot) temperatures. [France, southern England, Belgium, Netherlands and Germany will receive some rain through the middle of next week that will alleviate some of the dryness; however, much more will be needed to restore soil moisture and water supply to normal.](#) Meanwhile, [the lower Danube River Basin will remain drier and warmer biased through the middle of next week resulting in additional crop moisture stress.](#) Other areas in Europe will see a good mix of rain and sunshine that will maintain good crop conditions.

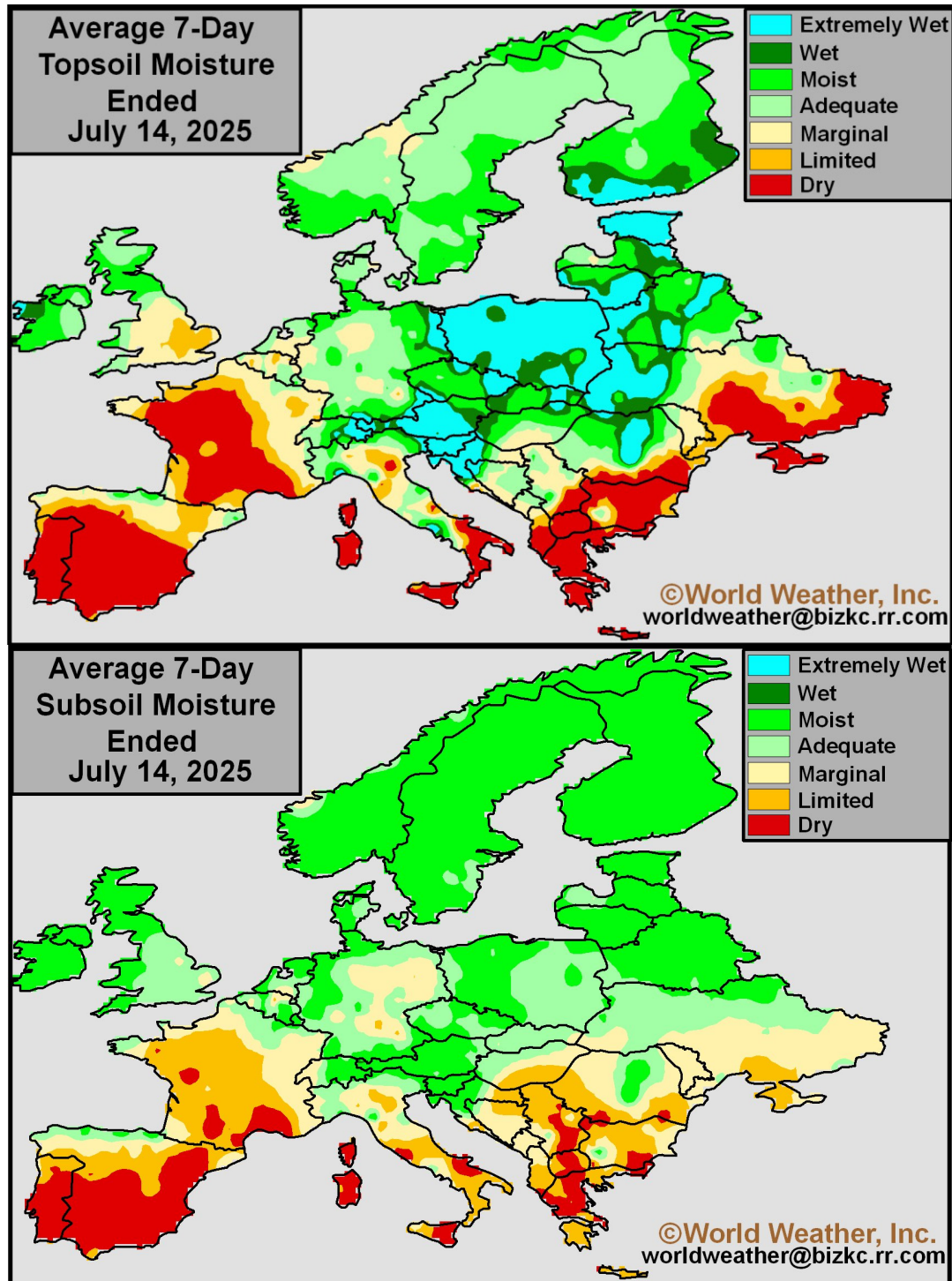
Precipitation varied across the main production areas in Europe during the past week. Poland, northeastern Germany, western Ukraine, and portions of the Baltic States received 1.00 to 3.50 inches of rain with local amounts up to 5.91 inches for the seven-day period ending July 15. Belarus, Romania, portions of northern Ukraine, Czechia, Slovakia, Croatia, northern Serbia, other areas in Germany, northern and central Italy, northeastern Spain, Ireland, and Scotland received 0.35 to 1.61 inches of rain. Pockets in eastern and southern France and other areas in the United Kingdom received 0.12 to 0.71 inch of moisture. Little to no rain was noted elsewhere.

Temperatures were near to above normal during the past week. Highest readings were in the 80s and 90s Fahrenheit with pockets in northern Europe only warming to the 70s.



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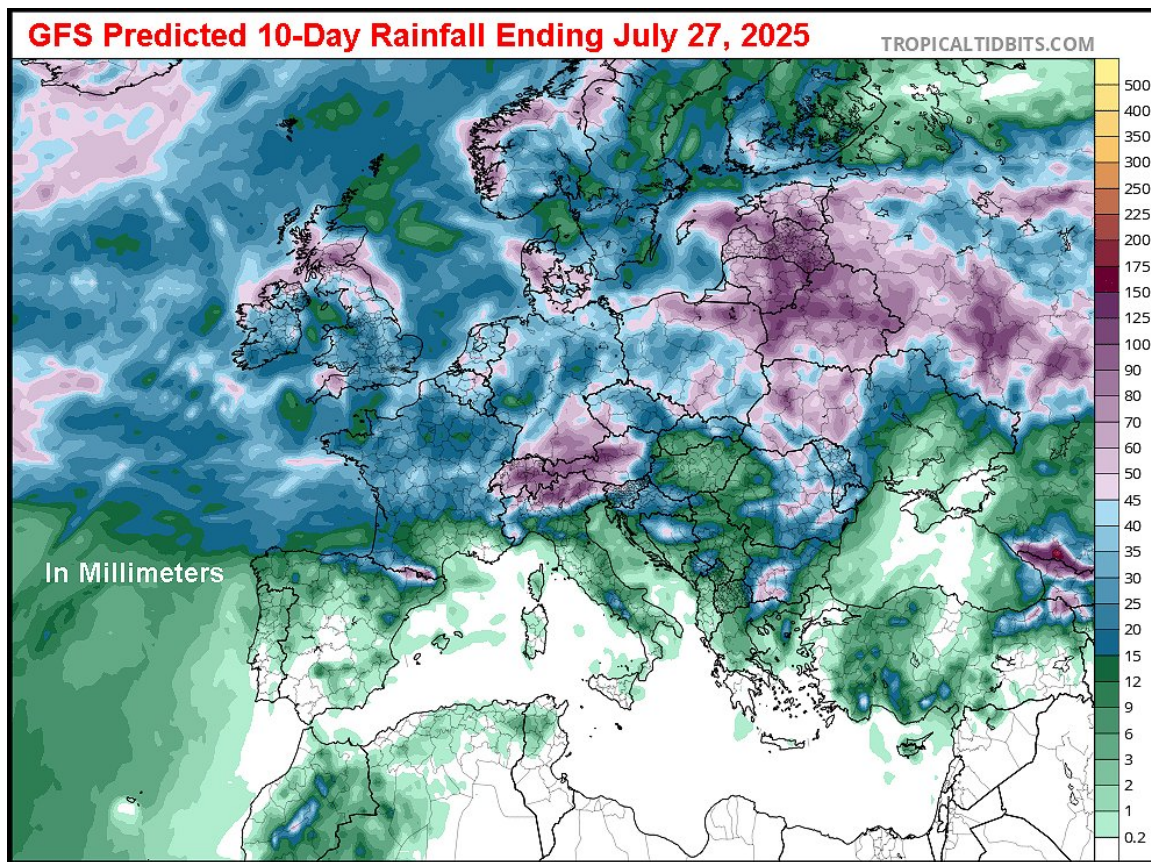
Moisture shortages are prevailing in much of France, southern England and portions of both Italy and Germany as well as in the lower Danube River Basin and the eastern two-thirds of Ukraine due to the lack of rain and warm weather during the past week. Dryness in Spain and Portugal is normal for this time of year. Other locations generally have adequate to excessive soil moisture, though pockets in Germany have marginally adequate moisture.



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France, southern England, the lower Danube River Basin, and eastern Ukraine remain too dry to support unirrigated spring and summer crops. Production cuts have already been widespread this year since the below normal precipitation bias began in January and February and has prevailed in some areas since that time. Significant rain must fall immediately to stop the decline in production potential.

Other production areas in Europe generally have enough moisture to maintain a good environment for aggressive crop growth. Rainfall was spread out enough to limit flooding in most locations. As long as timely rain continues in the coming weeks, production potentials will remain relatively favorable.



WEATHER OUTLOOK

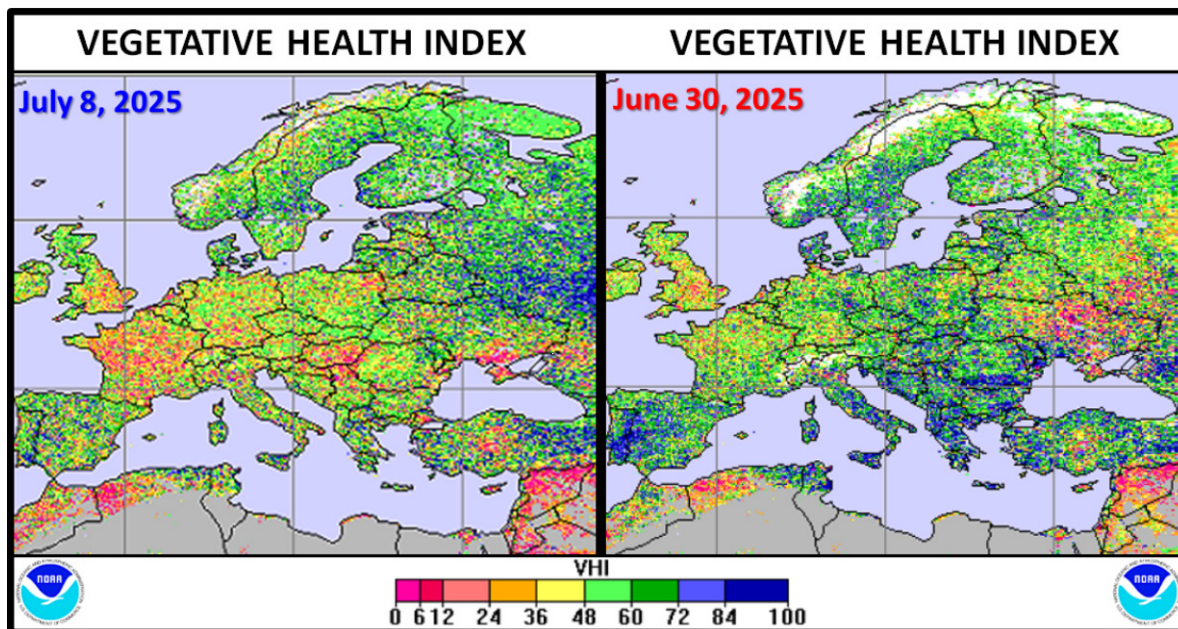
Western Europe will receive varying amounts of rain through the middle of next week. A ridge will initially restrict precipitation for most locations today. Light rain will evolve in the United Kingdom and Ireland Thursday before a strong trough helps promote erratic rainfall for most locations outside the Iberian Peninsula Friday into early next week. Moisture totals by next Wednesday morning for most locations outside the Iberian Peninsula will range from 0.50 to 2.00 inches with locally greater amounts in the United Kingdom and Germany. However, portions of southern France will only receive 0.10 to 0.50 inch of rain. Northern fringes of Spain will also receive 0.10 to 0.50 inch of rain while Portugal and the remaining portions of Spain are mostly dry. Temperatures will still be warm with daytime

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highs often reaching the 70s and 80s in mainland Western Europe. Many areas in the Iberian Peninsula and southern France will often warm to the 90s as well while portions of the United Kingdom and Ireland only warm to the 60s at times.

Precipitation may again be restricted for Western Europe July 24 – 30. The ridge may return to the eastern Atlantic Ocean and could divert disturbances away from the region. Temperatures will also trend above normal at times as the ridge funnels warmer air into Western Europe.

Rainfall through the middle of next week will be very important for improving short-term development conditions in the driest areas of France. Precipitation totals will be too light to fix the dryness in most locations. With drier and warmer weather potentially returning later this month, conditions for the crops may again deteriorate for France and southern England. Other locations in Western Europe will have some moisture to support new growth late in July, though the need for timely rain will likely increase.



Eastern Europe will receive varying amounts of rain through the middle of next week. Drier-biased conditions will prevail for the lower Danube River Basin. Periods of light rain will still occur, though resulting rainfall will be lost to evaporation. Other locations in Eastern Europe will see a good mix of rain and sunshine. An upper-level disturbance will promote the first round of rain through early Sunday with another system promoting rain late Sunday into early next week. Moisture totals by next Wednesday morning will range from 0.75 to 3.00 inches with locally greater amounts in Poland. Belarus, the Baltic States and portions of Hungary will only receive 0.10 to 0.75 inch of rain.

Warm weather will prevail for the lower Danube River Basin with daytime highs reaching the 70s and 80s. Several locations will also warm to the 90s over the weekend and the first part of next week. Other locations will warm to the 70s and 80s, though pockets will only warm to the 60s during periods of more significant rain.

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With a ridge of high pressure potentially building over the northeastern Atlantic Ocean July 24 – 30, a weak trough may build over Eastern Europe. The main production areas will likely see a mix of rain and sunshine with temperatures trending near or slightly below normal for this time of year.

The ground will continue to firm in the lower Danube River Basin through the middle of next week. The lack of rain and warm weather may further stress crops. Production may be reduced due to the ongoing dryness. Other locations in Eastern Europe will either receive enough rain or have enough moisture to maintain aggressive growth.

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