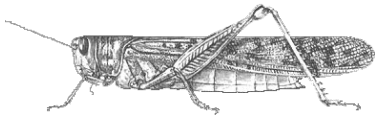
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



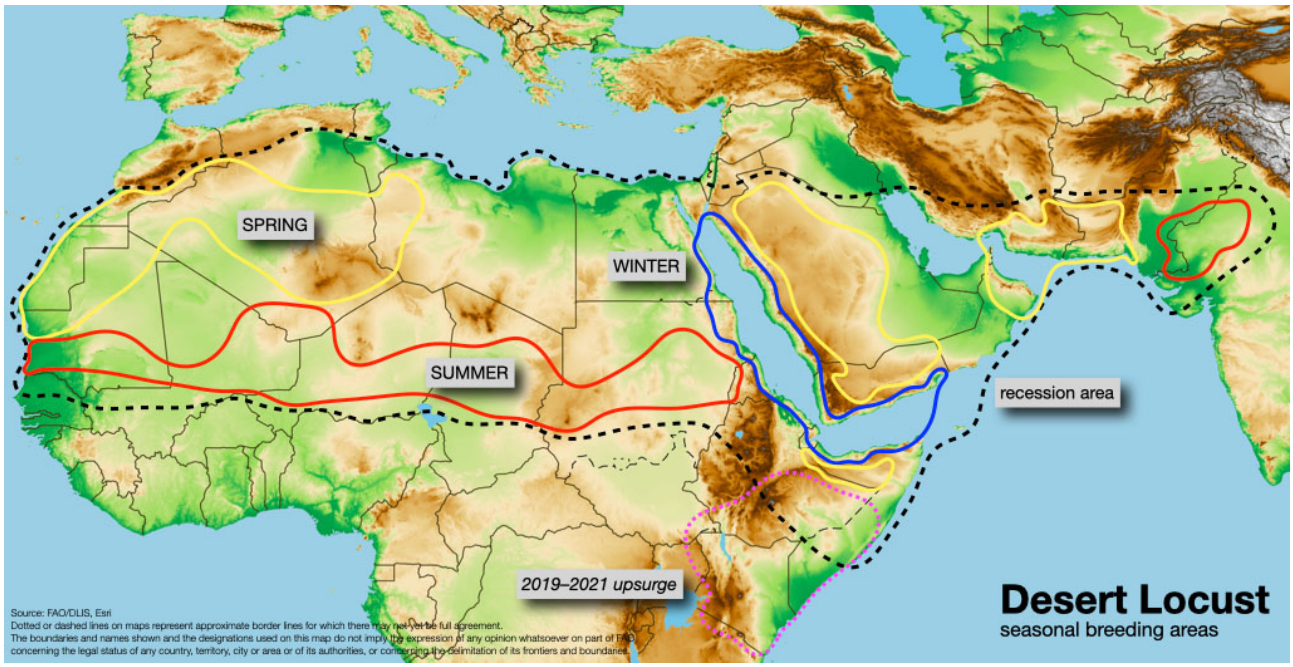
18 March 2025

Seasonal precipitation predictions in the Desert Locust spring/summer breeding areas (April–September 2025)

The latest seasonal dynamical models predict a change in northern Africa compared to last month. Consequently, the widespread above-normal rainfall during spring in Algeria and Libya from April to June is no longer indicated. Instead, precipitation is likely to be normal or slightly dry in these regions. Dry conditions will persist across the Red Sea, the interior of the Arabian Peninsula, and the Horn of Africa, as well as southeastern Iran and southwestern Pakistan. For the summer, the models suggest wet conditions from July to August or September along the northern Sahel from Mali to Eritrea, extending further north to northern Sudan and southern Egypt, and along both sides of the Indo-Pakistan border. The primary cause of this summer's anomaly is a typical La Niña event.

PRECIPITATION ANOMALY	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Algeria (central/south)						
Chad						
Djibouti						
Egypt (SE Red Sea–winter, Nile–summer)						
Eritrea (western–summer, coastal–winter)						
Ethiopia (Somali–spring, Afar–summer)						
India (Rajasthan, Gujarat)						
Iran (south–spring)						
Libya (southwest–spring)						
Mali (northeast)						
Mauritania (south–summer, NW–autumn)						
Morocco (W Sahara–autumn, Atlas–spring)						
Niger (Tamesna, Air)						
Oman (spring)						
Pakistan (southwest–spring, east–summer)						
Saudi Arabia (Red Sea, interior–spring)						
Somalia (N coast–winter, N interior–spring)						
Sudan (interior–summer, coastal–winter)						
Yemen (interior–summer, coastal–winter)						

Dry | Slightly drier | Normal | Slightly wetter | Wet



Desert Locust and precipitation predictions

Western Region

According to the subseasonal models, no rain is forecasted for the last two weeks of March and the first week of April. After that, above-normal rainfall may occur in northeastern Mali, southern and central Algeria, western Libya, and possibly southern Tunisia during the second week of April. Southern Libya as well as northern Niger and Chad may anticipated rain during the third week. There is a chance of some rains in Mauritania during the last week of April.

According to the next six-month seasonal models, April may experience mostly normal or below-normal rainfall, except in southwestern Algeria during the spring. May may see slightly above-normal rainfall in southwestern Libya and northern Niger. The Sahel region in the summer is expected to receive above-normal rainfall in July, extending from northeastern Mali to Chad and further north to southern Algeria and Libya. This pattern continues into August and southeastern Mauritania. However, September is forecasted to bring below-normal rainfall, except in northeastern Mali and nearby areas of southern Algeria.

Central Region

Subseasonal models predict above-normal rainfall along the Red Sea coasts of southern Sudan and Eritrea, northeastern Ethiopia to the northern Red Sea coast of Yemen, and the southern and central coasts and interior of Saudi Arabia during the third week of March. This pattern persists into the end of the month, extending from the Red Sea coast of northeastern Sudan to the central Saudi Arabia coast and interior. In the first week of April, normal rainfall is anticipated in Saudi Arabia, followed by above-normal rainfall in parts of northern and central Sudan. Conversely, mainly below-normal rainfall is expected during the latter half of April in the affected countries.

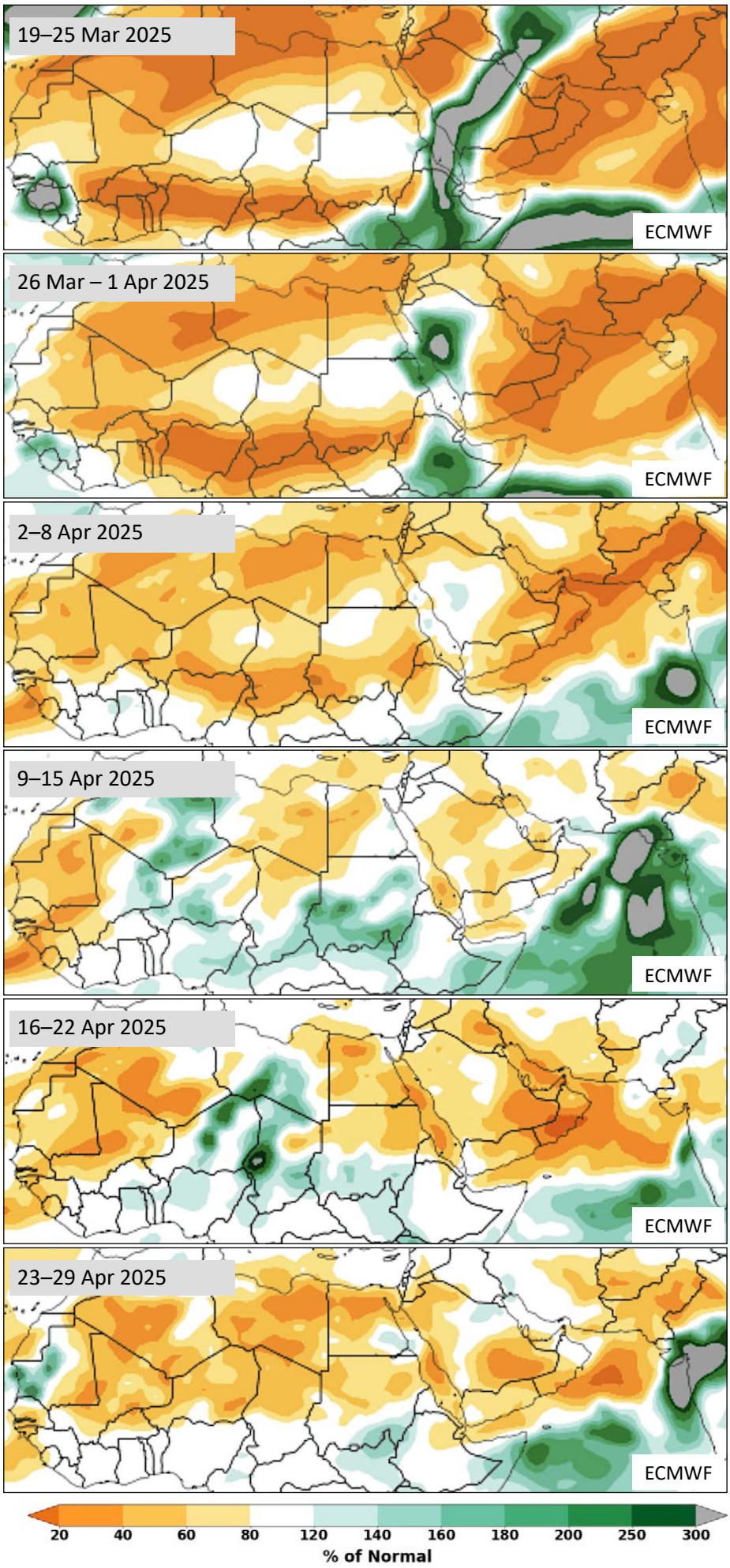
According to the subseasonal models, the Nile Valley of northern Sudan and southern Egypt, as well as northern Saudi Arabia, can expect slightly above-normal rainfall during the spring in April. Mainly dry conditions are forecasted in May and June, except for above-normal rainfall in parts of the interior of Saudi Arabia and northern Oman in June. During the summer, above-normal rains are anticipated from Sudan and Eritrea to Yemen, as well as further north into Saudi Arabia and southern Egypt during July and August. This rainfall could persist in September in the interior of Yemen and certain regions of northern Sudan and southern Egypt.

Eastern Region

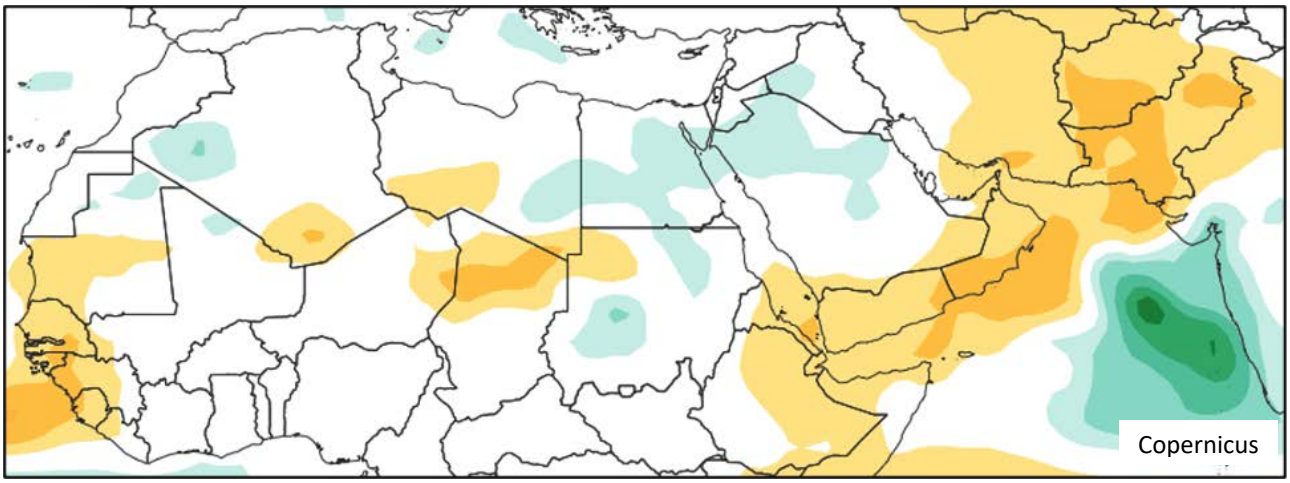
According to the subseasonal models, below-normal rains will occur during the last half of March and the first week of April in southeastern Iran and southwestern Pakistan. Above-normal rains may occur during the second week of April along the coast and subcoastal area of both regions, followed by below-normal rainfall during the last half of the month.

Seasonal models for the next six months predict below-normal rainfall across southeastern Iran and southwestern Pakistan in the spring from April to May. During the summer, rainfall is expected to be above-normal along the Indo-Pakistan border from June to September, with the monsoon beginning at the end of June or early July.

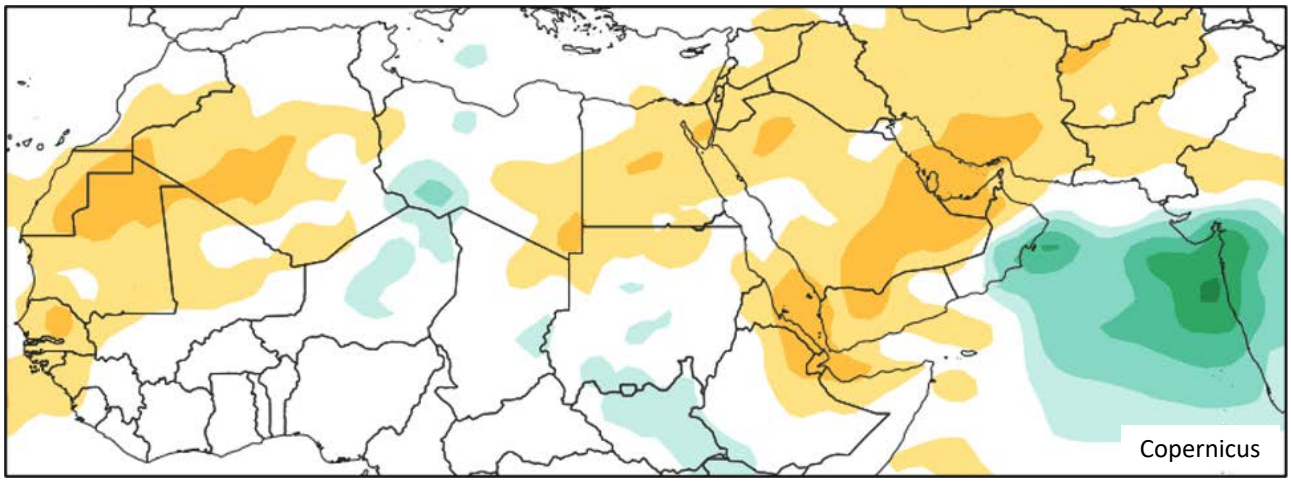
Subseasonal forecast multi-model precipitation (the next six weeks)



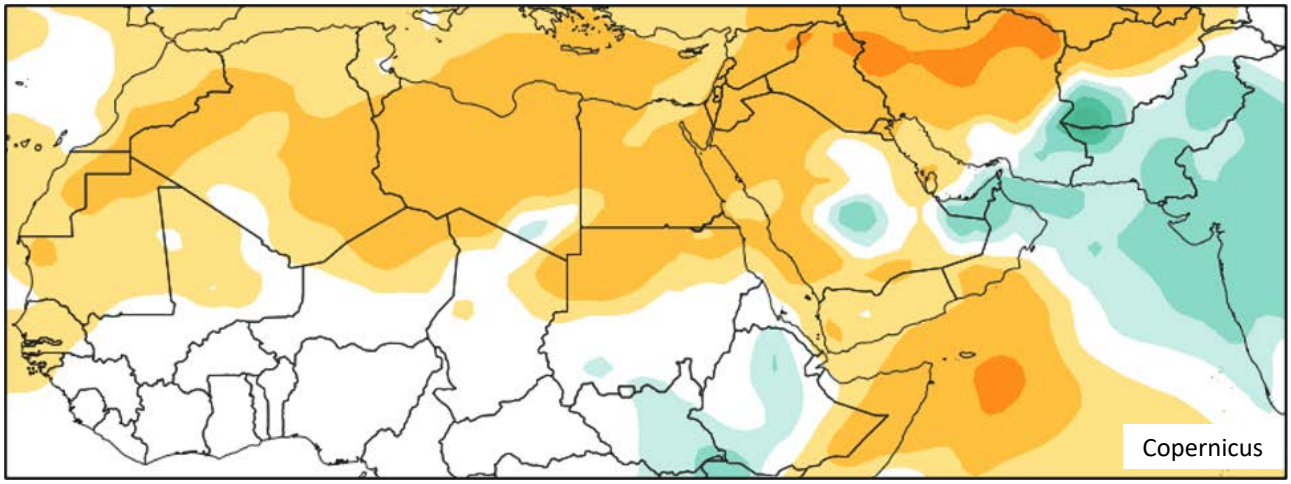
Seasonal forecast multi-model precipitation (April–September 2025)



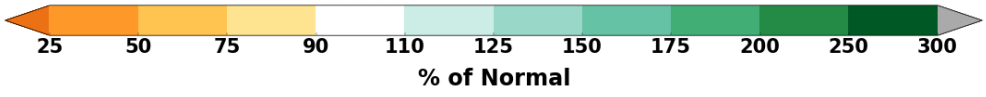
April 2025



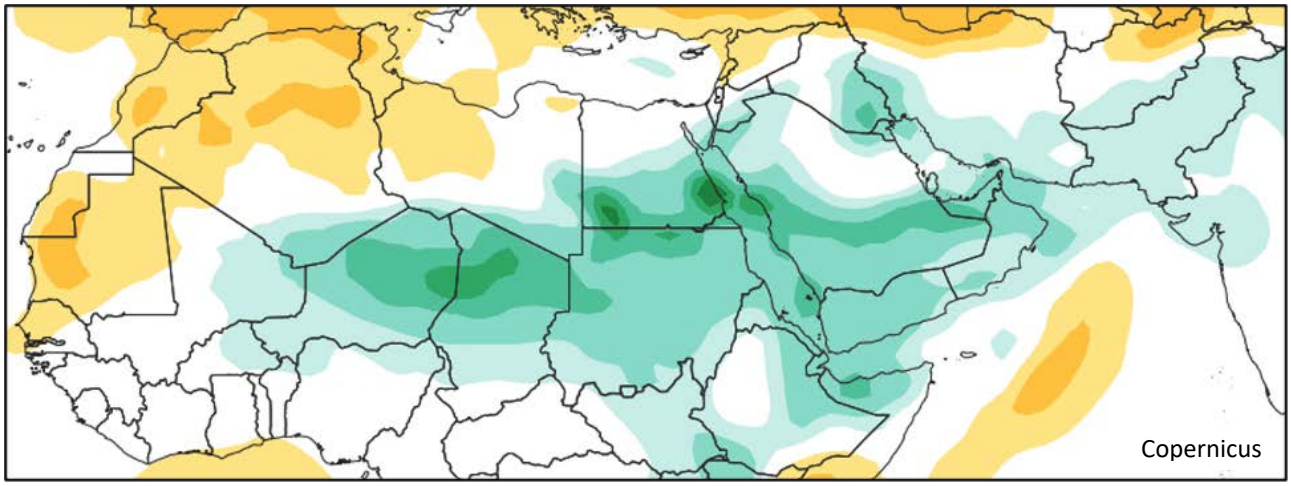
May 2025



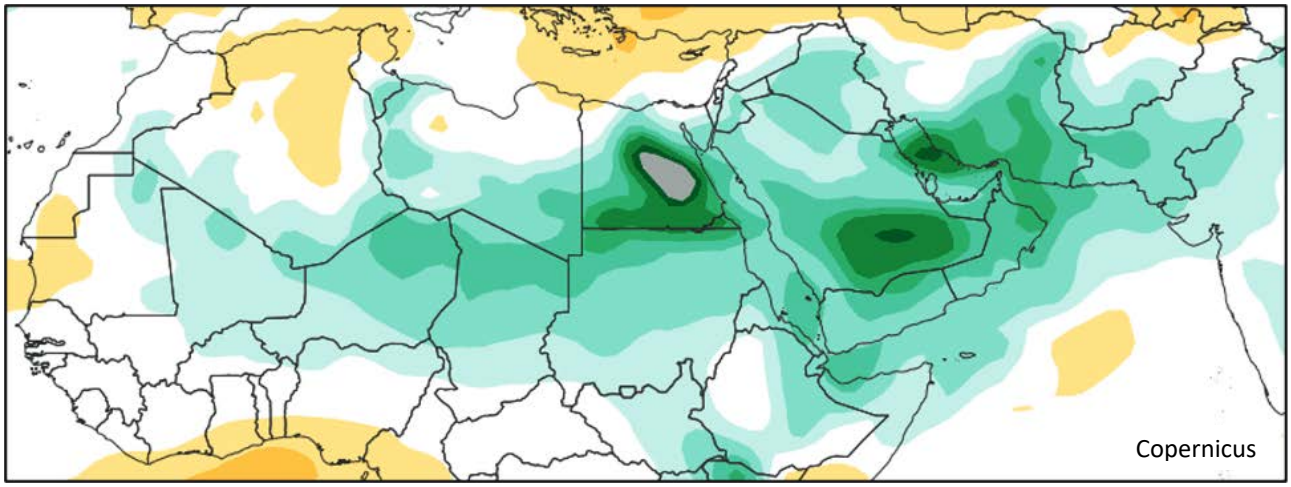
June 2025



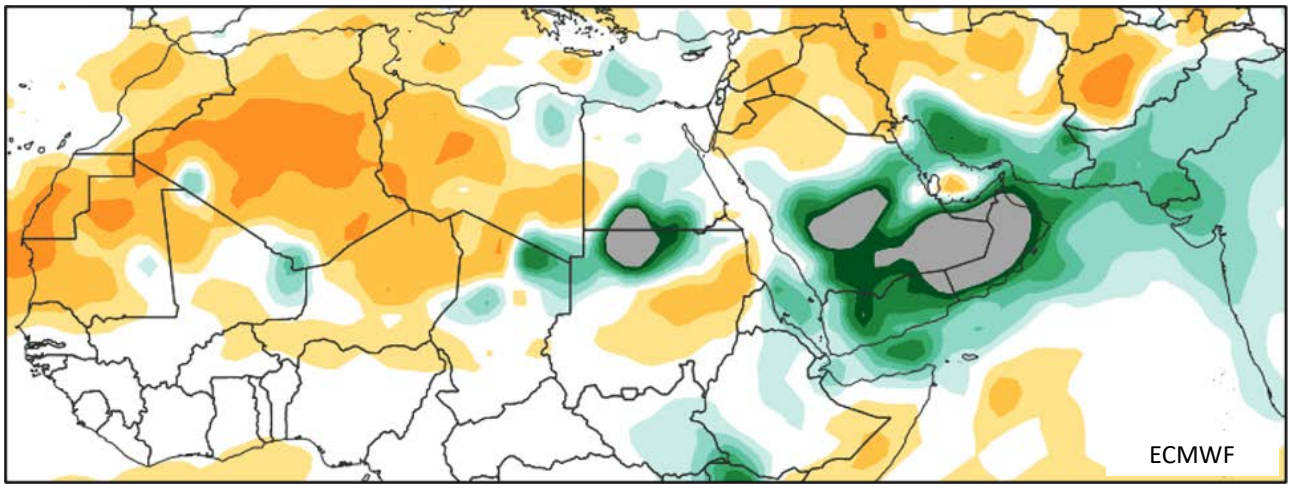
Seasonal forecast multi-model precipitation (continued)



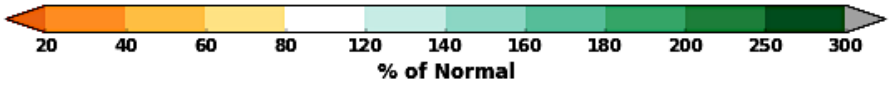
July 2025



August 2025

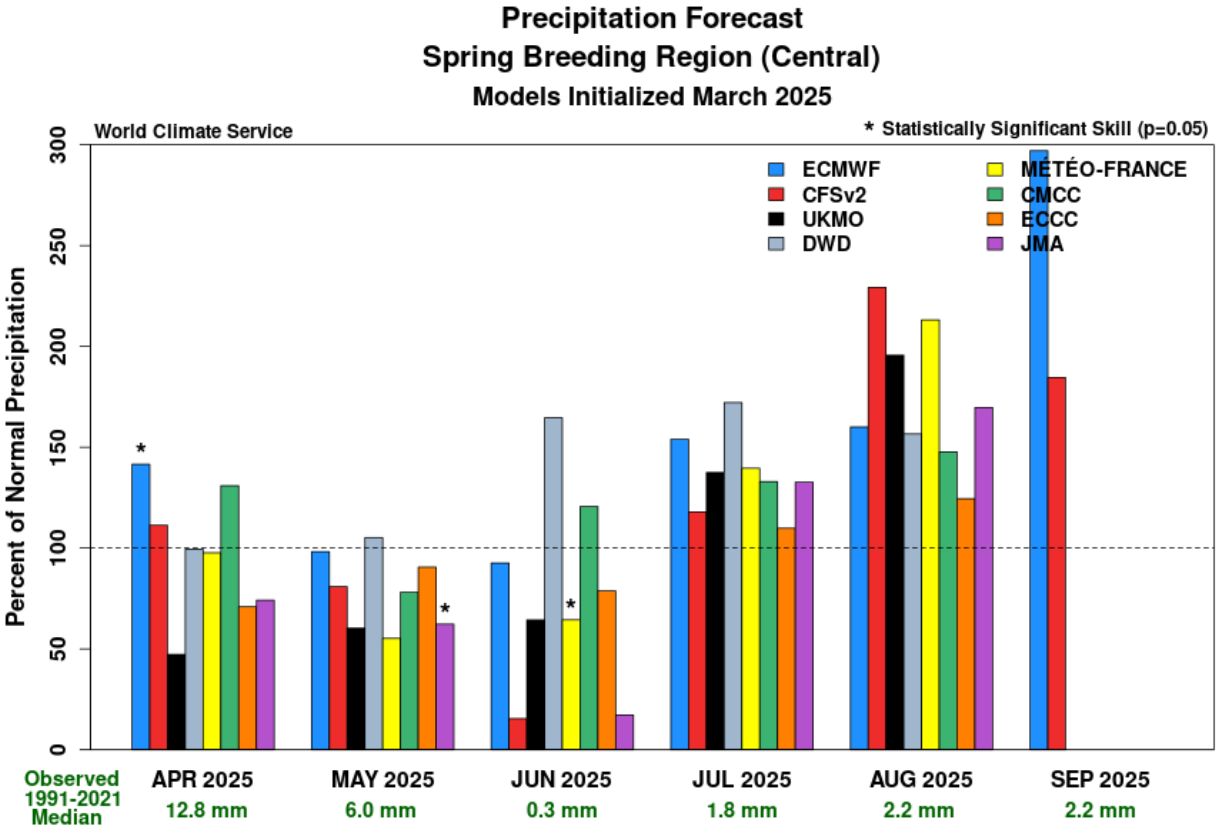


September 2025

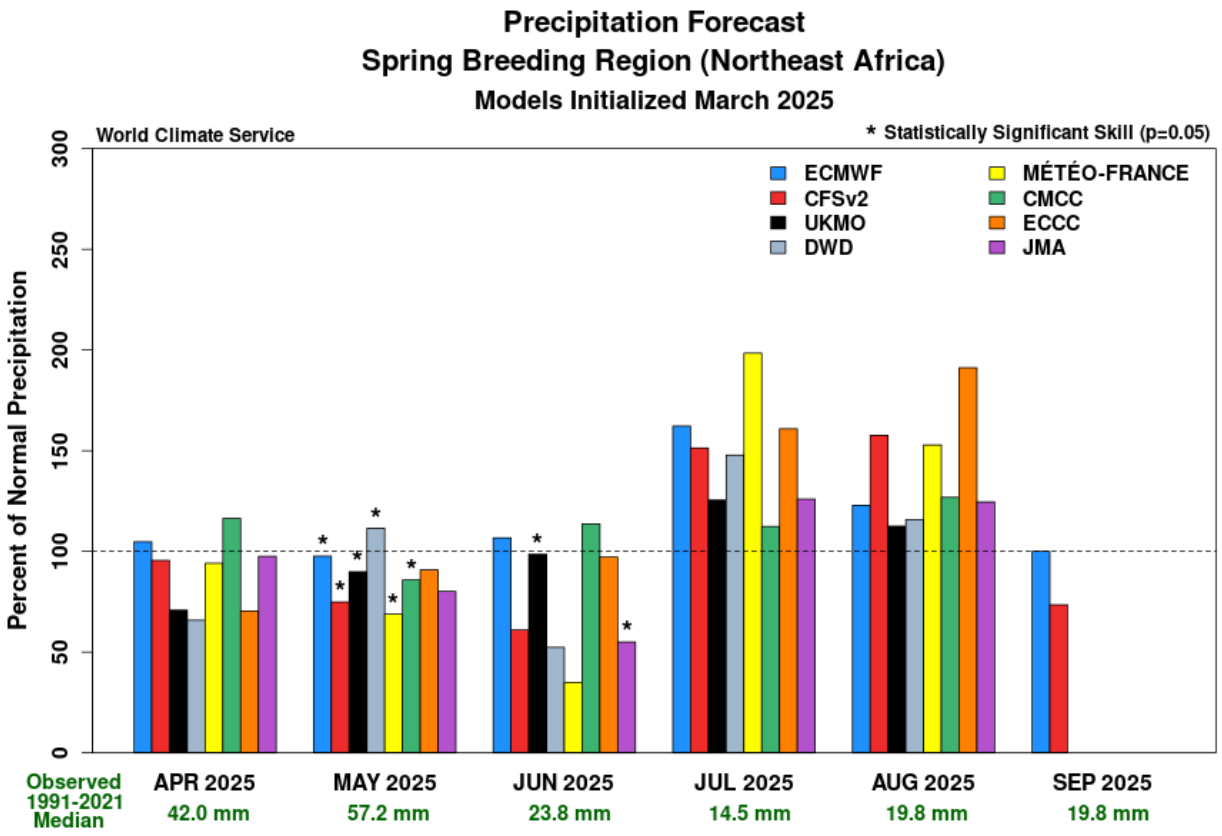


Model forecast charts. The latest seasonal precipitation predictions provided by the World Climate Service (WCS) cover the spring, summer and winter breeding areas of the Desert Locust. This is one of the most sophisticated products available, derived from **eight** models: CFSv2, ECMWF, and Copernicus (CMCC, DWD, ECCC, JMA, Météo-France, UKMO). The results of each model are presented below.

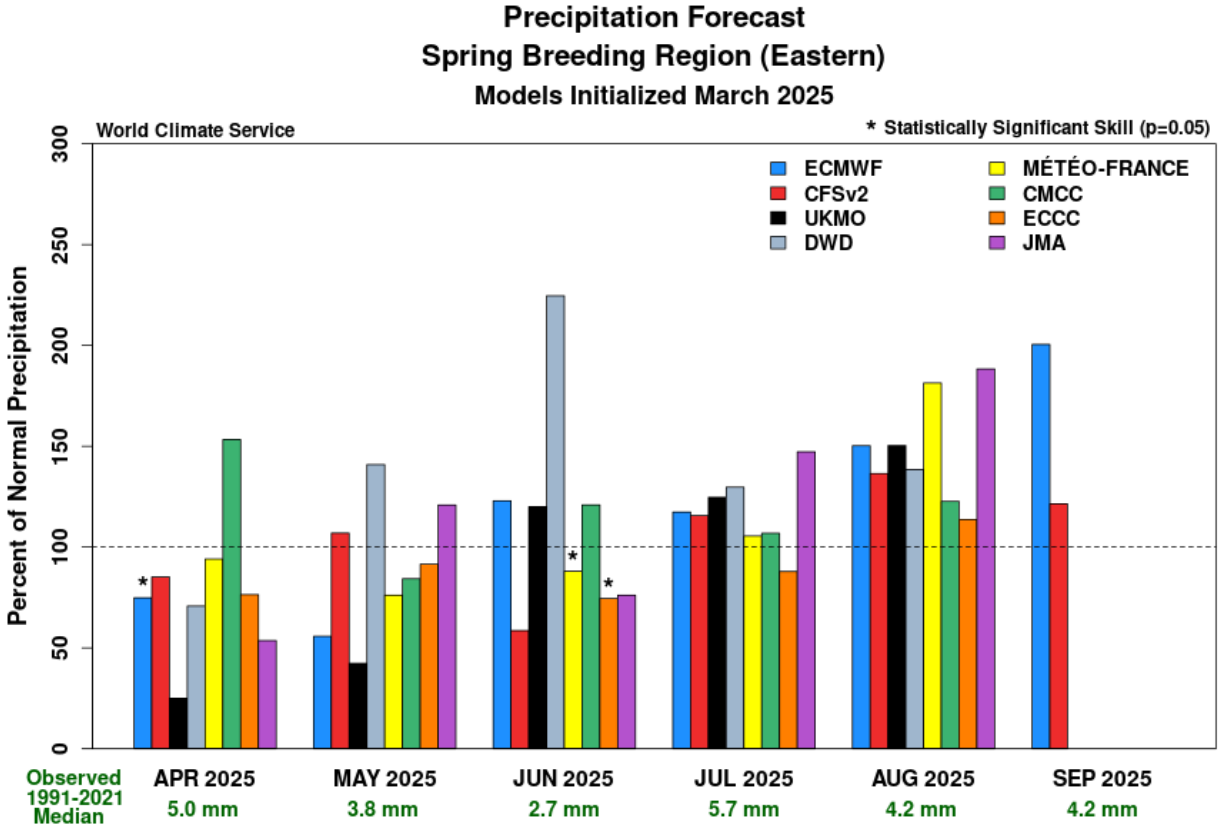
How to interpret the precipitation forecast charts. A value of 100 on the left axis indicates normal rainfall; values less than 100 indicate drier than normal conditions; more than 100 indicates wetter than normal. Little variation between models suggests greater confidence and reliability. An asterisk indicates the most reliable model in each month. When available, the historically best model during the entire forecast period in the region is indicated in the caption.



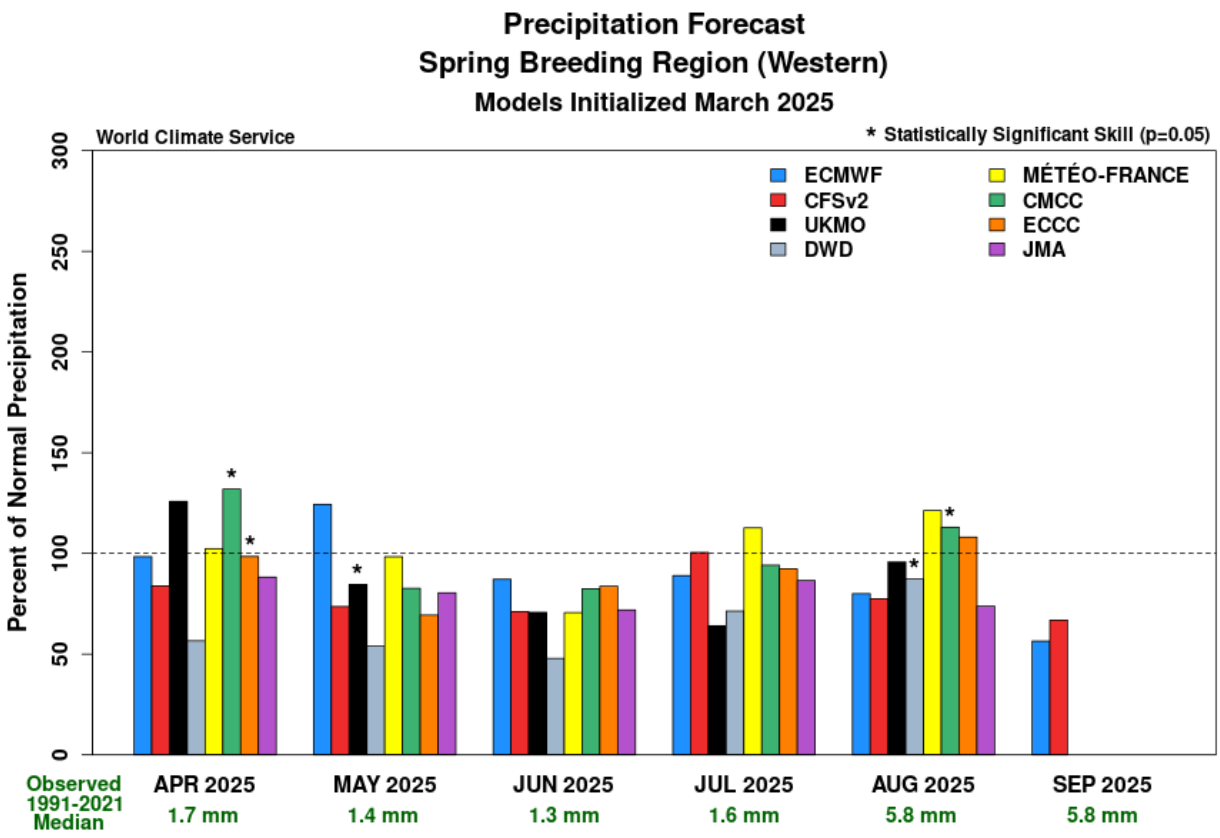
Spring breeding, April–May/June (Arabian Peninsula)



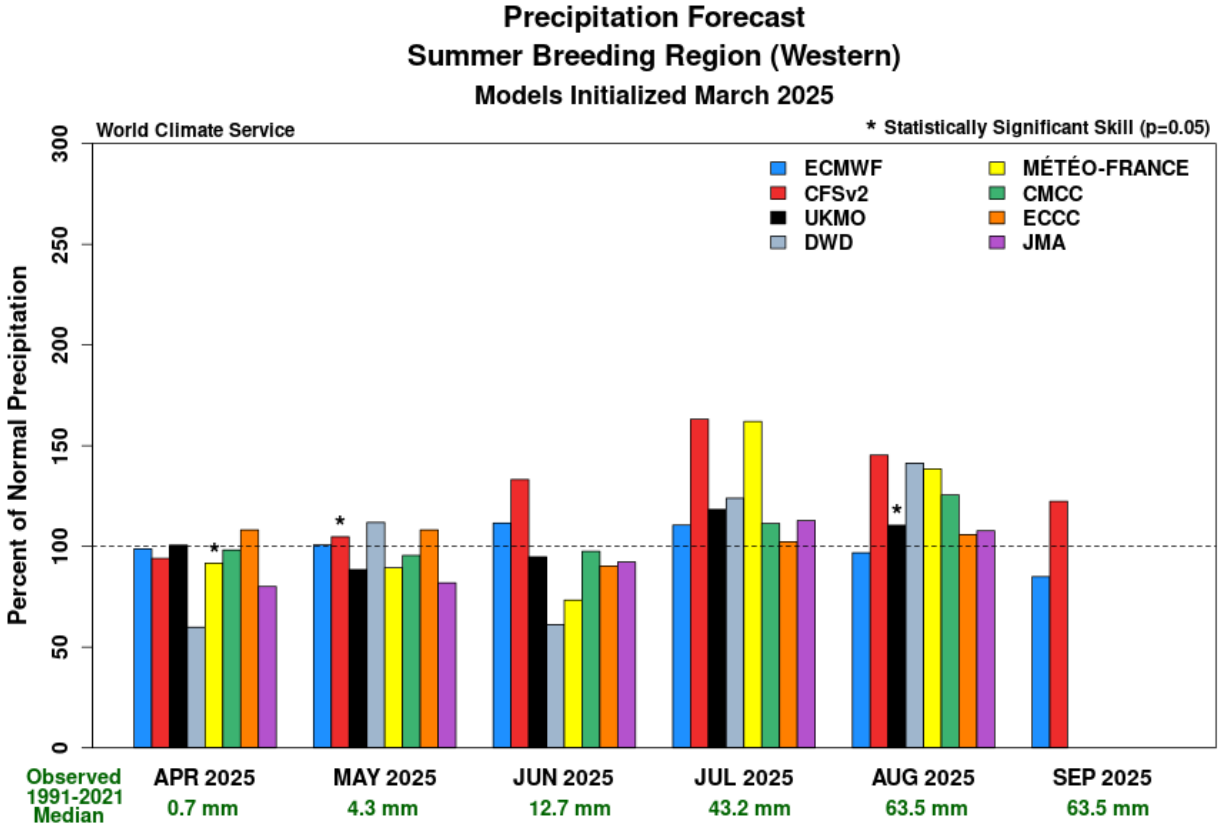
Spring breeding, April–May/June (Horn of Africa)



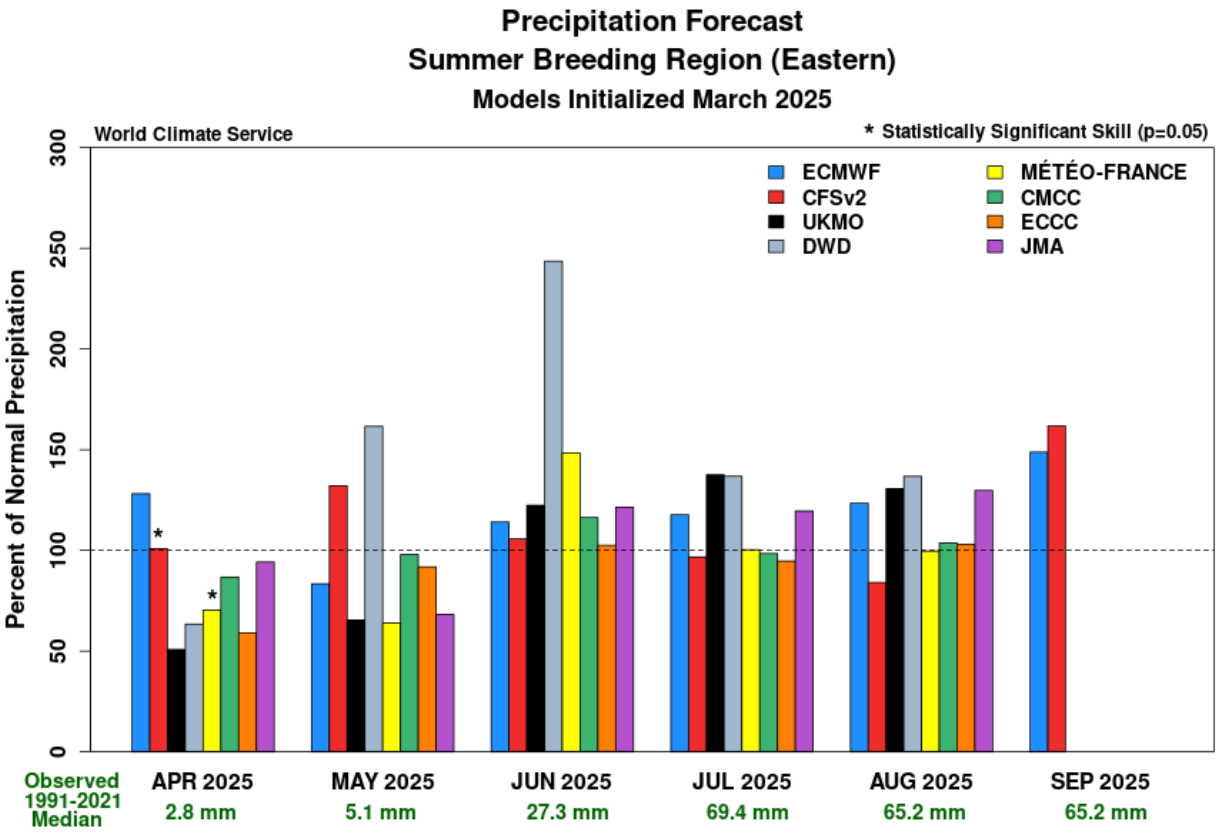
Spring breeding, April–May (SE Iran / SW Pakistan)



Spring breeding, April–May (NW Africa)



Summer breeding, July–September (Sahel of W Africa to Sudan/Eritrea)



Summer breeding, July–September (India/Pakistan)

Weather and breeding forecast summary

Western Region

Subseasonal outlook (March–April)
- Above-normal rains in parts of northeast Mali, north Niger and Chad, south and central Algeria, west Libya, and south Tunisia during the second or third week of April

Six-month seasonal outlook (April–September)
- Spring: slightly above-normal rains only in parts of southwest Algeria in April and southwest Libya in May
- Summer: above-normal rains northeast Mali to Chad and southern Algeria and Libya in July and August, and parts of southeast Mauritania and northeast Mali in September

Breeding outlook
- Spring: breeding with groups and bands increasing in Algeria and western Libya; limited breeding in Morocco
- Summer: breeding in northern Sahel from July onwards, including migration south from the Sahara

Central Region

Subseasonal outlook (March–April)
- Above-normal rains in parts of southern Red Sea coast of Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, and interior of Saudi Arabia during the rest of March and parts of the first half of April, including interior of Sudan

Six-month seasonal outlook (April–September)
- Spring: slightly above-normal rains in the Nile Valley of northern Sudan and southern Egypt in April
- Summer: above-normal rains in Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Oman from July to September

Breeding outlook
- Spring: breeding in northern Sudan, southern Egypt, and parts of the Red Sea coast and interior of Saudi Arabia
- Summer: first generation of breeding from July onwards in the interior of Sudan, Eritrea and Yemen

Eastern Region

Subseasonal outlook (March–April)
- Below-normal rains in southeast Iran and southwest Pakistan

Six-month seasonal outlook (April–September)
- Spring: below-normal rainfall in southeast Iran and southwest Pakistan from April to May
- Summer: above-normal pre-monsoon rainfall along Indo-Pakistan border in June, above-normal rains in July and August

Breeding outlook
- Spring: very limited breeding in southeast Iran and southwest Pakistan
- Summer: limited breeding starting in July along the Indo-Pakistan border