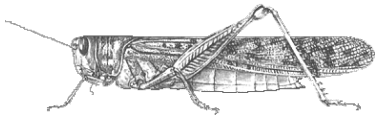
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



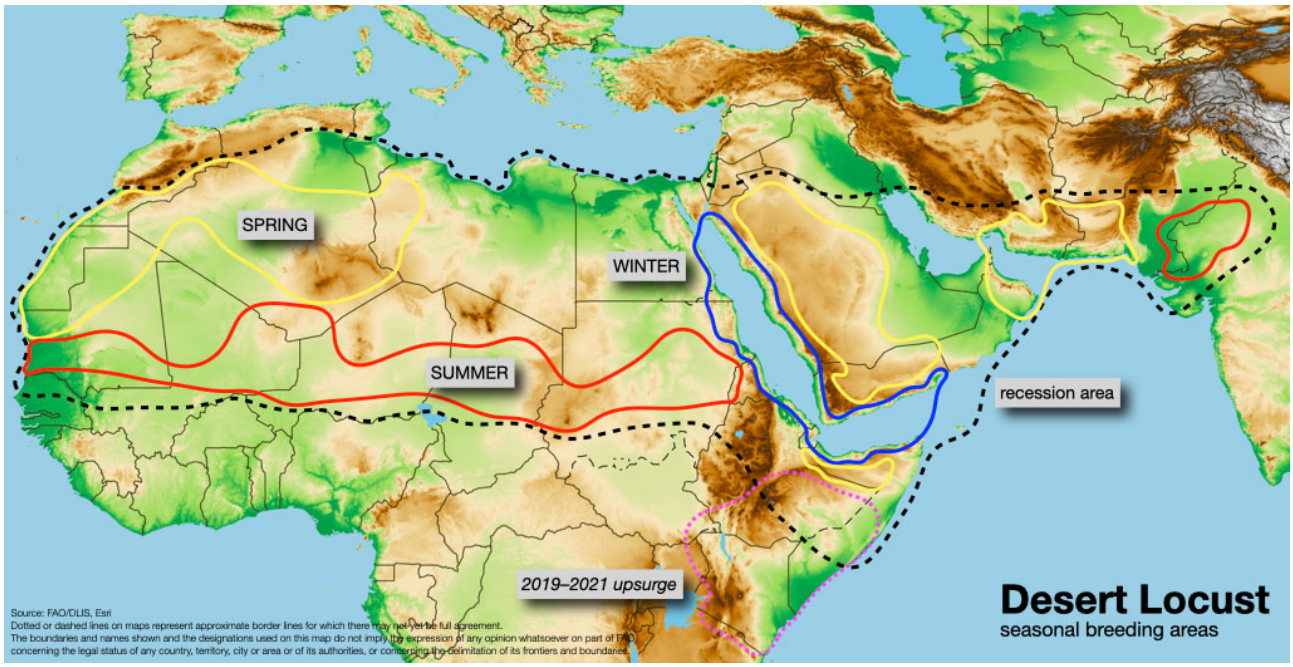
16 July 2024

Seasonal precipitation predictions in the Desert Locust summer/winter breeding areas (August 2024 – January 2025)

Since mid-March, the seasonal precipitation prediction for the past four months expected above-average rainfall and favourable breeding conditions during the summer. Now all of the models have completely reversed. The positive IOD phase is now negative and La Niña is likely to develop during the next few months rather than El Niño. Nevertheless, normal to above-normal rains are expected during the northern Sahel from Niger to Eritrea, across Arabia to Indo-Pakistan for August and September, and continuing during October in Yemen. Mainly dry condition is anticipated in Mali and Mauritania. During the winter, dryness will develop from October onwards along the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden except in southeast Egypt, while normal to above-normal rainfall may occur from November onwards in northwest Mauritania.

PRECIPITATION ANOMALY	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
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)						
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 precipitation predictions

Western Region

According to the subseasonal models, the above-normal rains should improve from this week onward in the northern Sahel of Mali, southern Algeria, Niger and Chad. On the other hand, Mauritania is not likely to have normal or above-normal rains until the beginning of August.

According to the next six-month seasonal models, normal rains are likely to occur during August in Niger and Chad while, in September, normal rains in Mauritania, and above-normal rains from Mali to Chad. In October, no more rain is expected except for central Chad. In Mauritania, normal to above-normal rain could occur in November, followed by more rain through the country as well as southern Morocco in December. One generation of limited small-scale breeding will occur during the summer but numbers are not expected to increase significantly. There is a possibility that a second generation could occur in northwestern Mauritania from autumn until the end of the year.

Central Region

According to the subseasonal models, the summer rains will continue in the interior of Sudan, the western lowland of Eritrea, and parts of the interior of Yemen during the second part of July. In August, normal to below-normal rains are expected during the first two dekads followed by more rainfall at the end of the month.

According to the next six-month seasonal models, normal rains will continue in August in the interior of Sudan and the western lowlands of Eritrea followed by above-normal rain in September and October. In Yemen, above-normal rains are likely from August to October. One generation of breeding will occur in these three countries from July onwards where numbers could expected to increase and then move to the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden coasts. During the winter, the models suggested normal rain starting in December along the Red Sea coasts of Sudan and Saudi Arabia and the Gulf of Aden coast of Yemen, above-normal rain in southeast Egypt, and below-normal rain along the Red Sea coast of Eritrea and Yemen, which will continue in January. As a result, a generation of winter breeding may occur where numbers are not likely to increase significantly.

Eastern Region

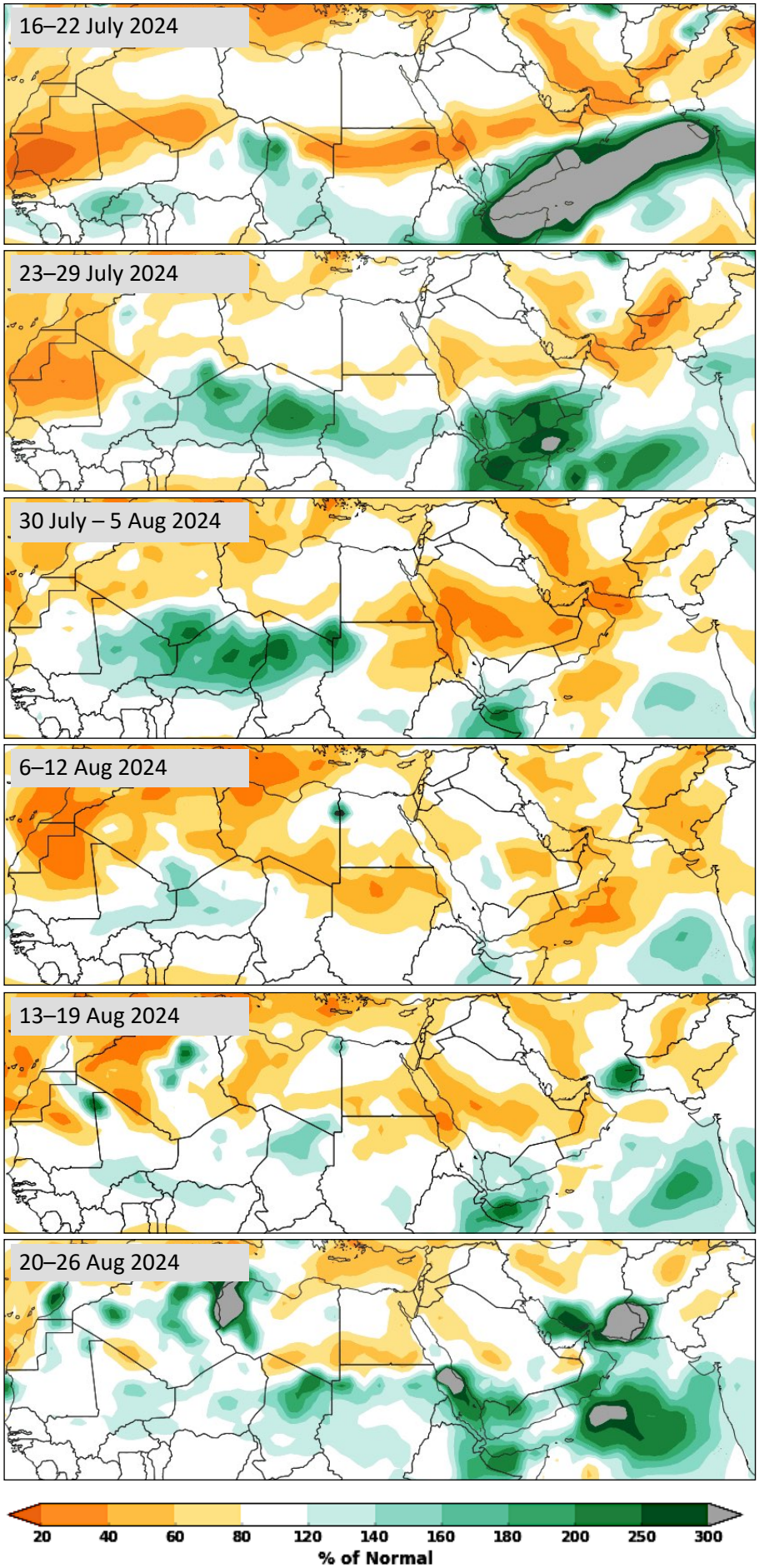
According to the subseasonal models, the summer rains along the Indo-Pakistan border will be below-normal during the rest of July, followed by mainly normal rainfall in August.

According to the next six-month seasonal models, the monsoon will continue during August and September along the Indo-Pakistan border where rainfall will be above normal until November. As a result, one generation of limited breeding will occur from July onwards but numbers are not expected to increase significantly.

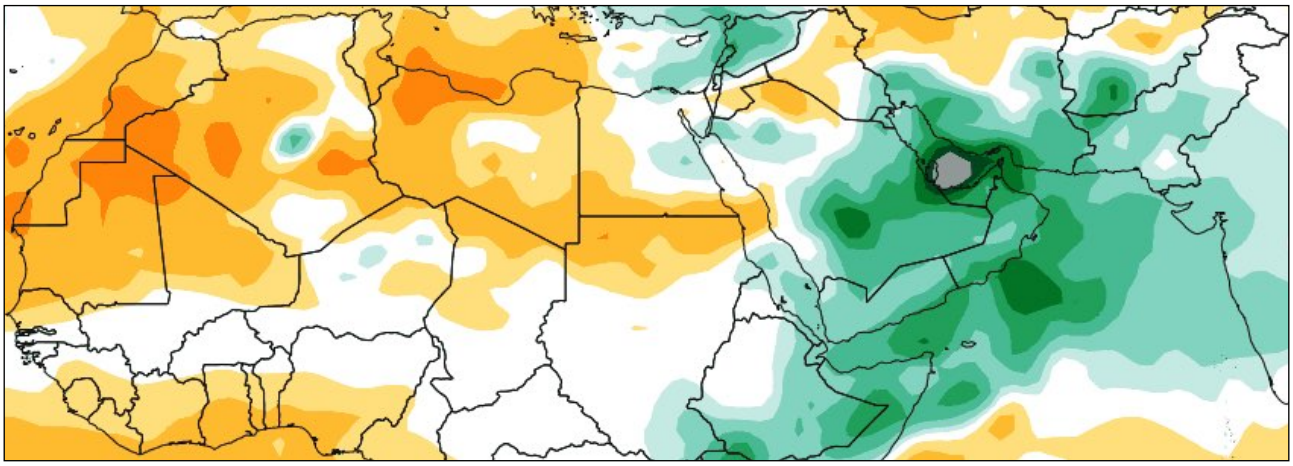
Model forecast charts. The latest seasonal precipitation predictions provided by the World Climate Service (WCS) cover the spring, summer and winter breeding areas of the Desert Locust. This is one of the most sophisticated products available, derived from **eight** models: CFSv2, ECMWF, and Copernicus (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.

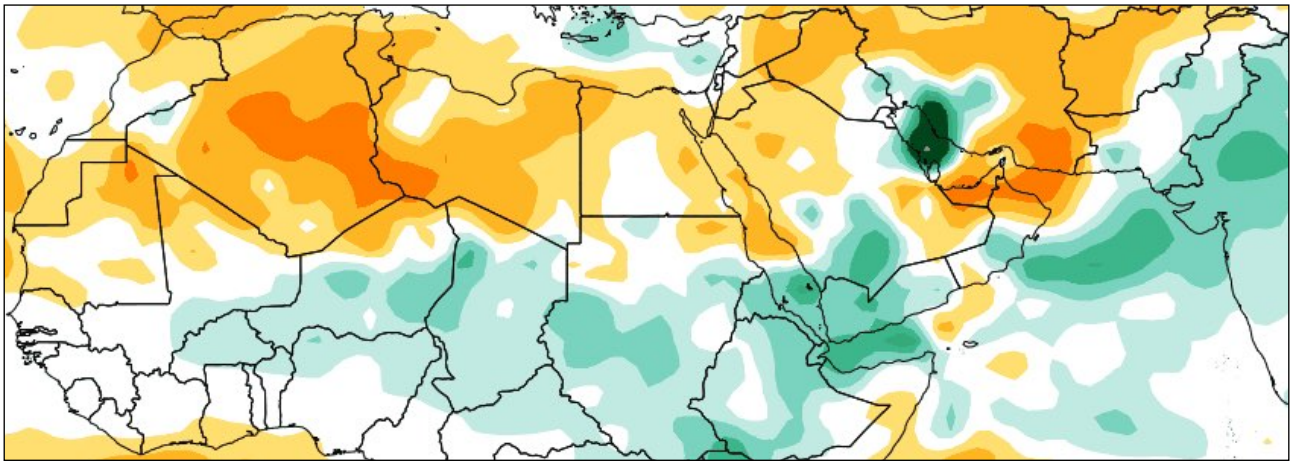
Subseasonal forecast multi-model precipitation (the next six weeks)



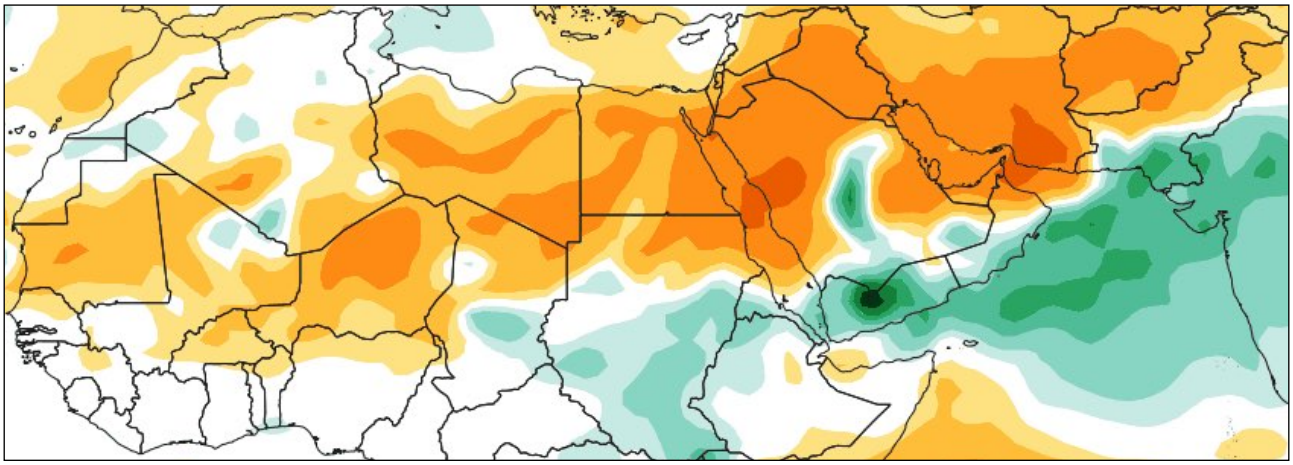
Seasonal forecast multi-model precipitation (August 2024 – January 2025)



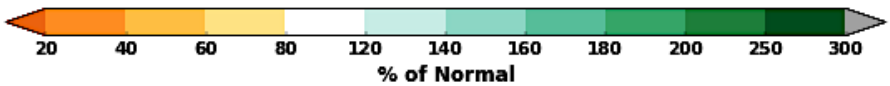
August 2024



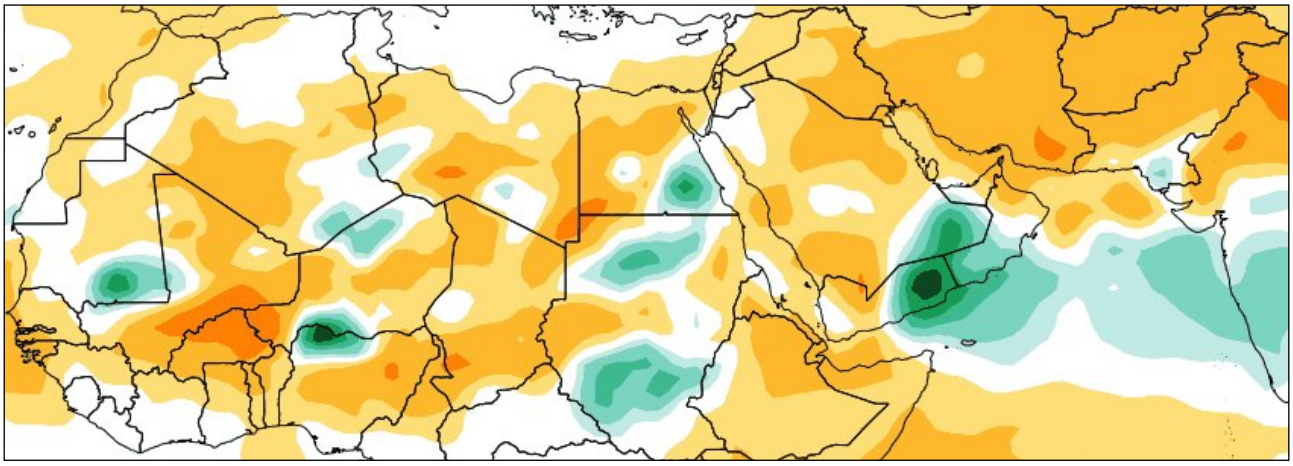
September 2024



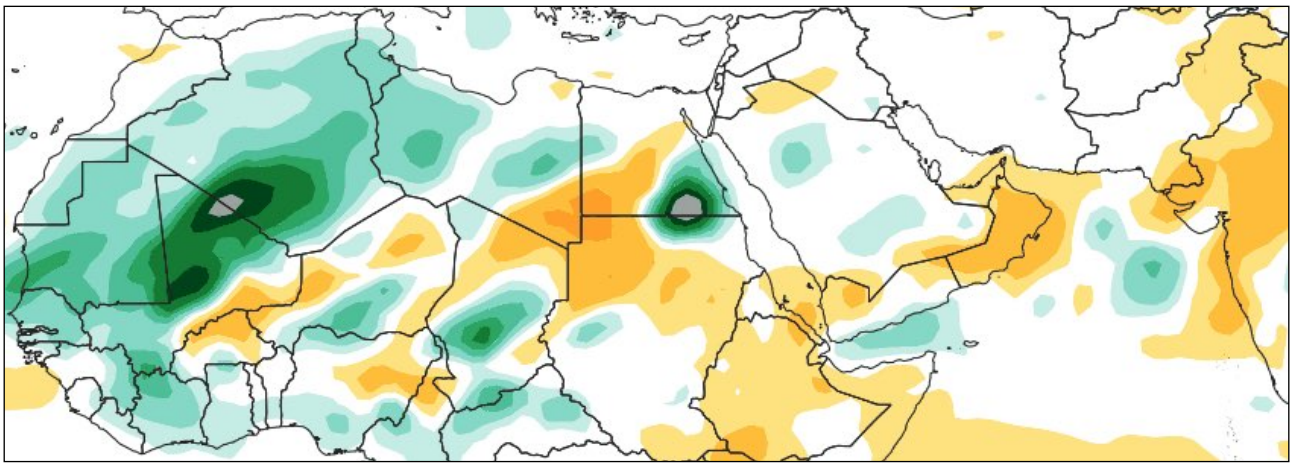
October 2024



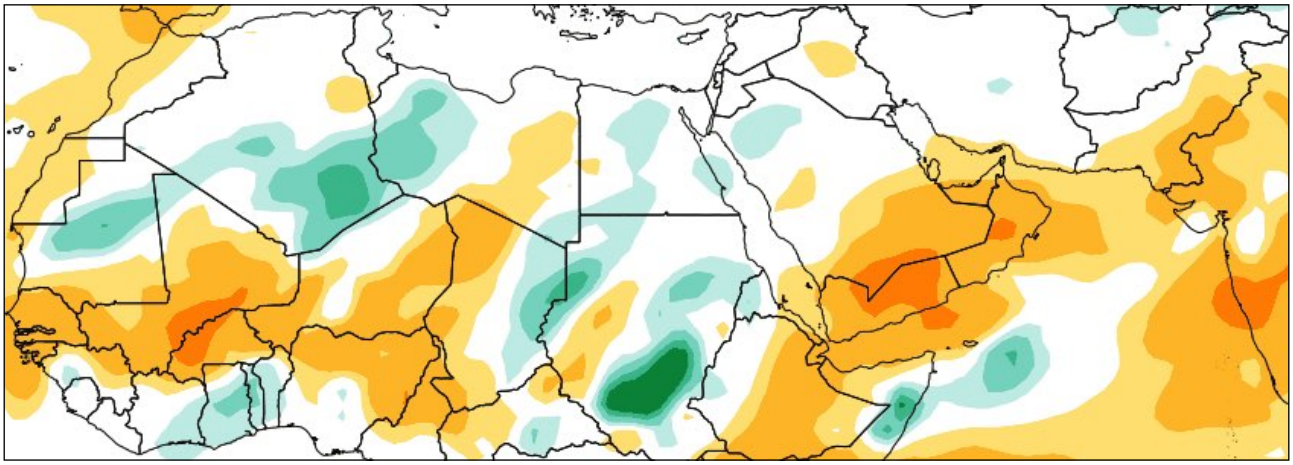
Seasonal forecast multi-model precipitation



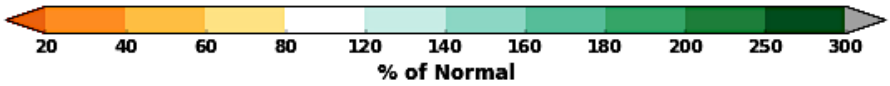
November 2024

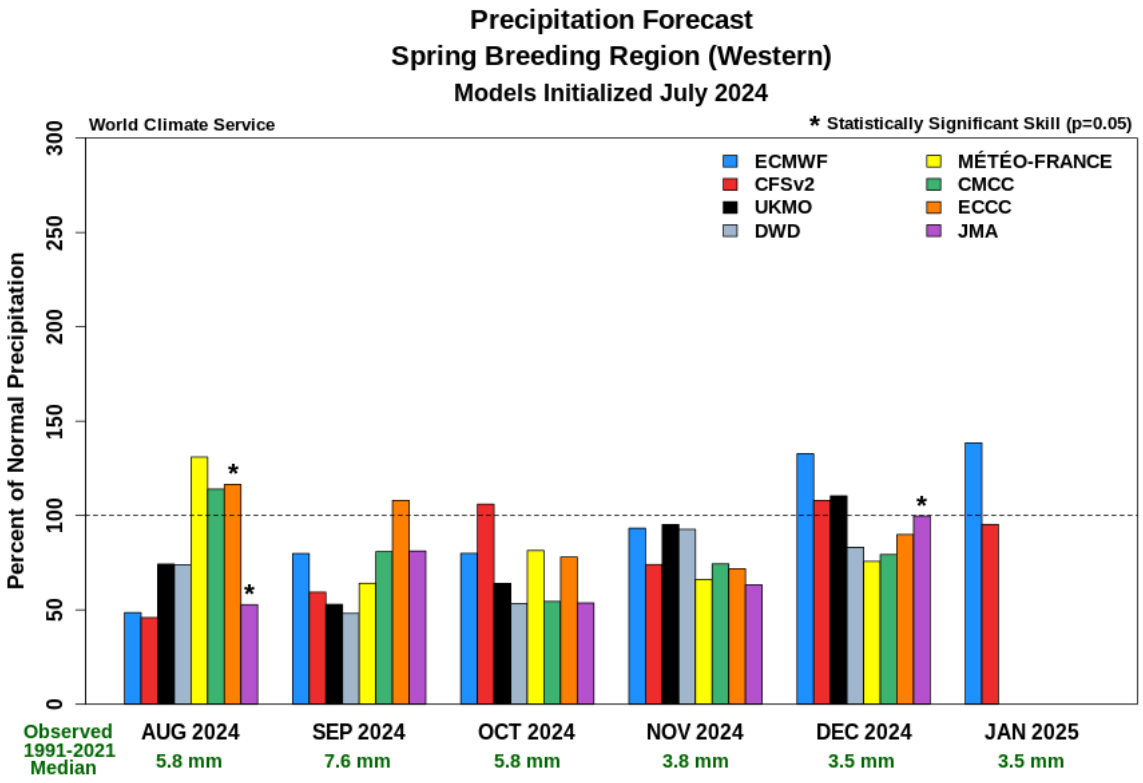


December 2024

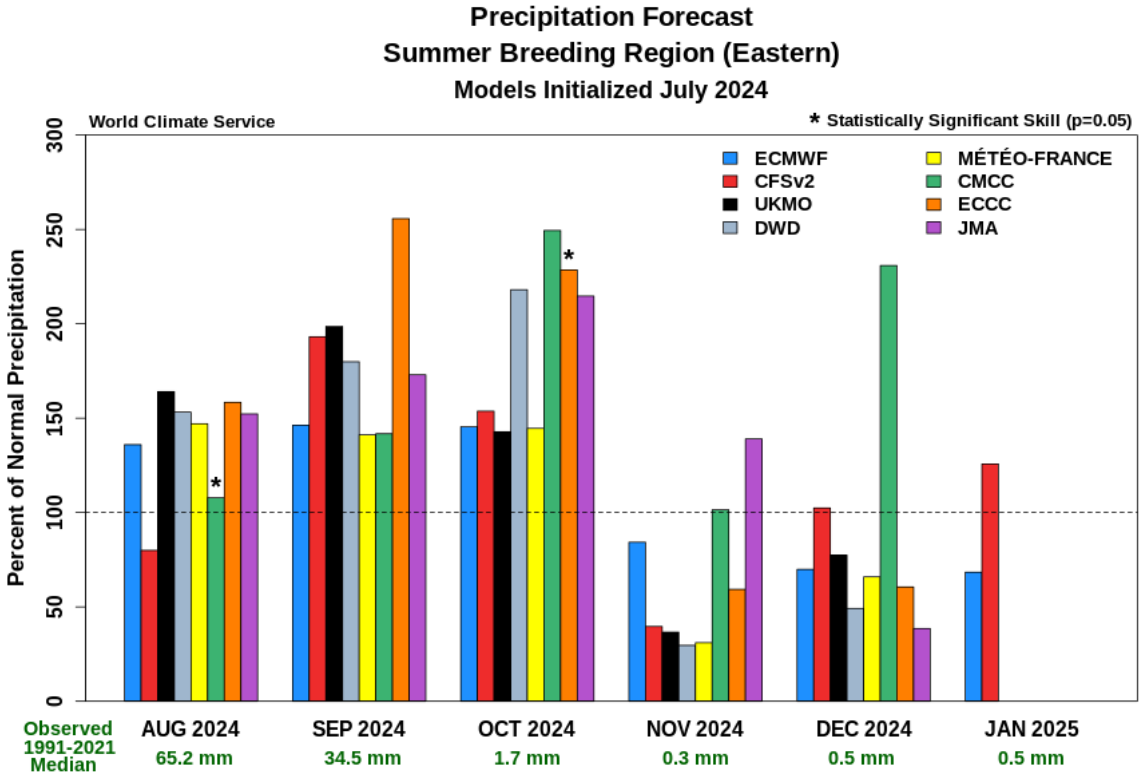


January 2025

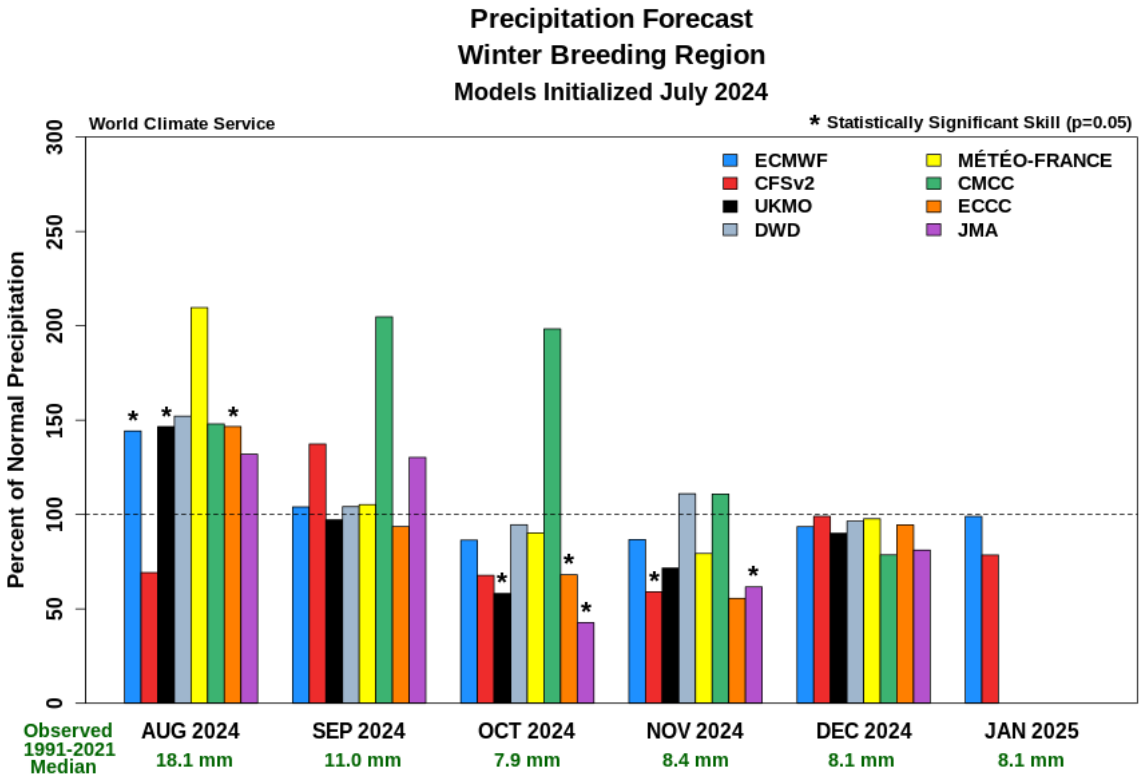




Summer breeding, August–October (Sahel of W Africa to Sudan/Eritrea)



Summer breeding, August–October (India/Pakistan)



Winter breeding, October–January (Red Sea / Gulf of Aden)

Weather and breeding forecast summary

Western Region

Subseasonal outlook (July–August)
- Northern Sahel (Mali), southern Algeria, Niger, Chad: above-normal rains are expected to improve from mid-July onward
- Mauritania: normal or above-normal rains are not expected until early August

Six-month seasonal outlook (August–December)
- August: normal rains in Niger and Chad
- September: normal rains in Mauritania; above-normal rains from Mali to Chad
- October: rain ceases except in central Chad
- November: normal to above-normal rains in Mauritania
- December: increased rains in Mauritania and southern Morocco

Breeding outlook
- Limited small-scale breeding is expected in the summer
- Potential for a second generation in northwestern Mauritania from autumn to the end of the year

Central Region

Subseasonal outlook (July–August)
- Interior of Sudan, western lowland of Eritrea, parts of interior Yemen: continued summer rains in the second half of July
- August: normal to below-normal rains in the first two dekads, increasing towards the end of the month

Six-month seasonal outlook (August–December)
- August: normal rains in Sudan's interior and Eritrea's western lowlands
- September–October: above-normal rains in Sudan and Eritrea; above-normal rains in Yemen
- Winter (December–January): normal rains along the Red Sea coasts of Sudan and Saudi Arabia and the Gulf of Aden coast of Yemen; above-normal rains in southeast Egypt; below-normal rains along the Red Sea coast of Eritrea and Yemen

Breeding outlook
- One generation of breeding from July onwards in Sudan, Eritrea, and Yemen, with numbers potentially increasing and moving to coastal areas
- Winter breeding may occur but numbers are not expected to increase significantly

Eastern Region

Subseasonal outlook (July–August)
- Indo-Pakistan border: below-normal rains for the rest of July, normal rainfall expected in August

Six-month seasonal outlook (August–November)
- Monsoon season (August–September): continued rainfall with above-normal levels until November along the Indo-Pakistan border

Breeding outlook
- One generation of limited breeding is expected from July onwards, with no significant increase in numbers anticipated