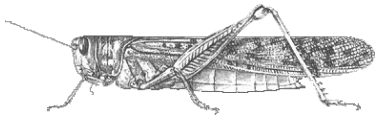
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



17 October 2023

Seasonal precipitation predictions in the Desert Locust summer/winter/spring breeding areas (November 2023 – April 2024)

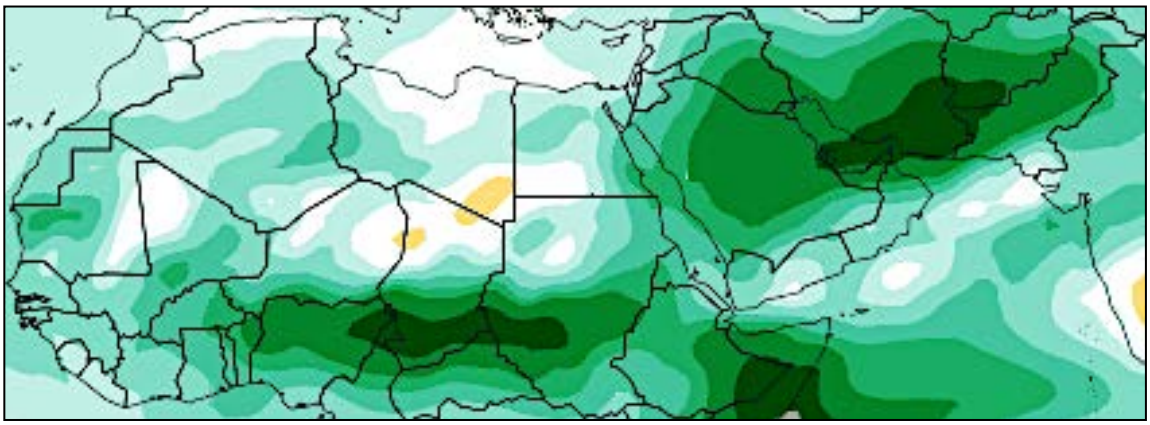
Summer will finish later than normal in northern Sahel with above-normal rains in Mail, Niger and Sudan during parts of November. The latest models predict a wet winter season in the Desert Locust recession from November to February in northwest Somalia and the Gulf of Aden. Farther north along the Red Sea coast of Eritrea, Sudan, Yemen and Saudi Arabia, there is more diversity among the model forecasts. This uncertainty is due to El Nino in the months ahead, where a classical forecast would favour less rainfall. In spring, there may be slightly wetter rains starting in February in southeast Iran, southwest Pakistan, and maybe the interior of Saudi Arabia.

PRECIPITATION ANOMALY	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Algeria (south)						
Chad						
Djibouti						
Egypt (SE Red Sea)						
Eritrea (western–summer, coastal–winter)						
Ethiopia (Afar–summer, Somali–autumn)						
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)						

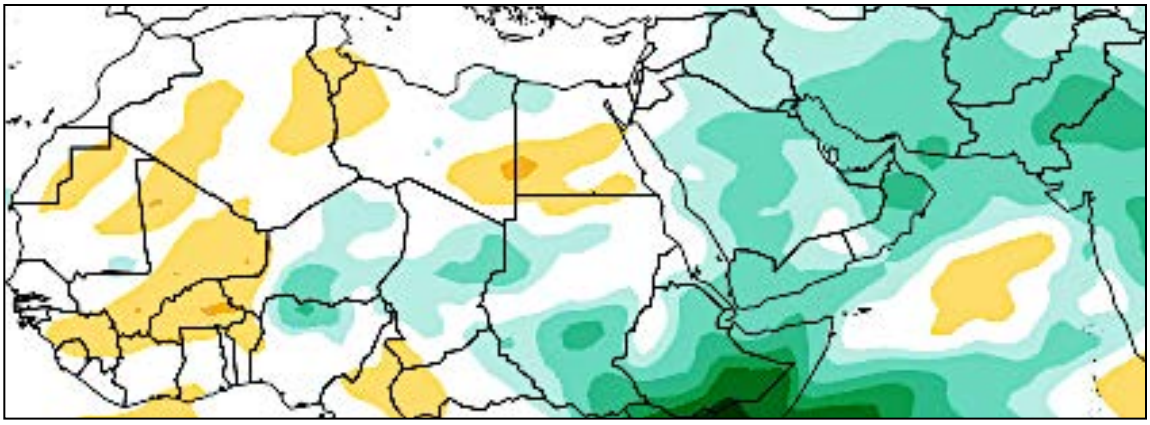
Dry | Slightly drier | Normal | Slightly wetter | Wet

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.

Predicted rainfall anomaly

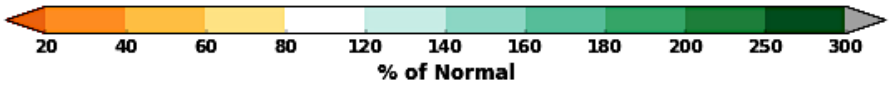


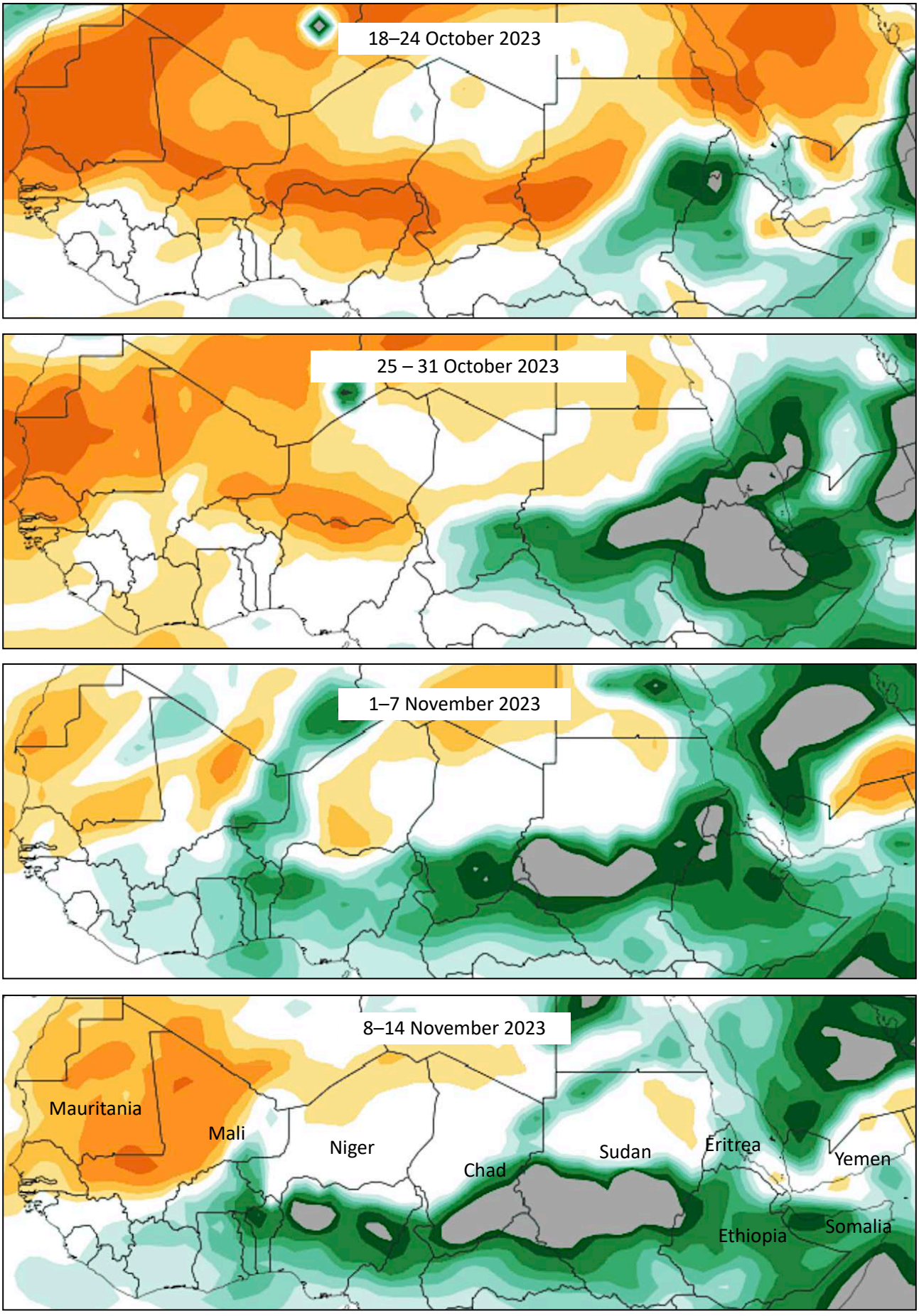
Winter breeding areas (November 2023)

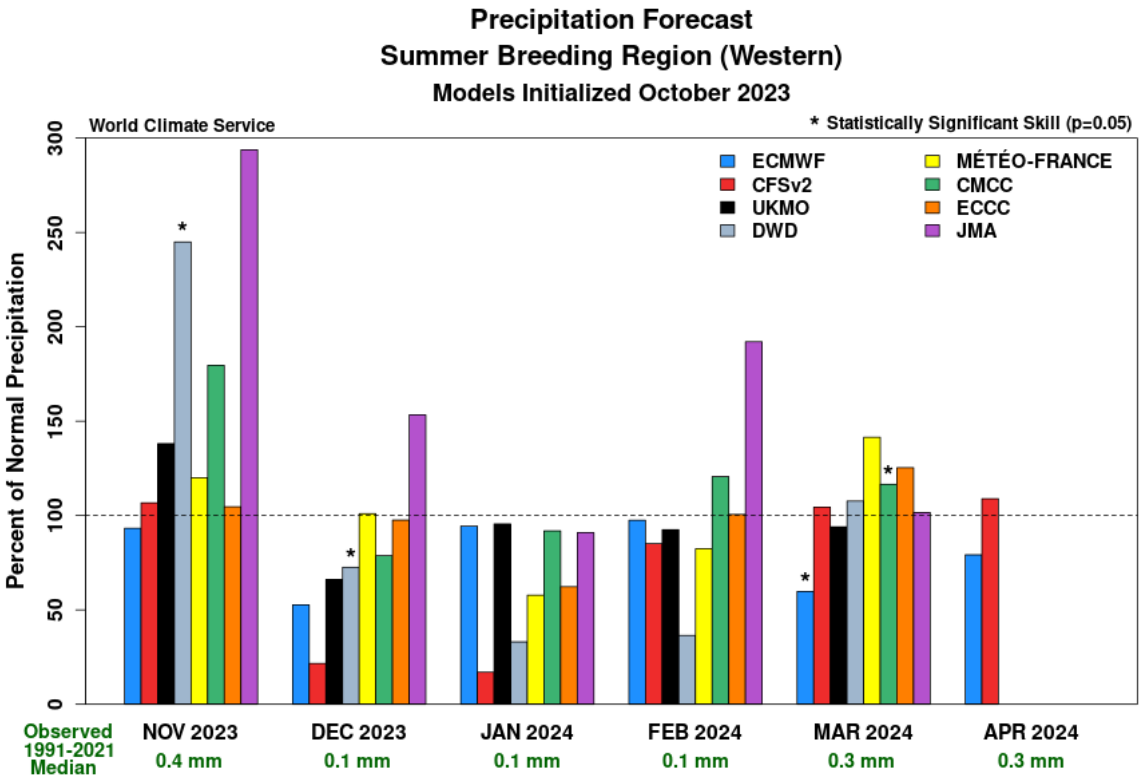


Winter breeding areas (February 2024)

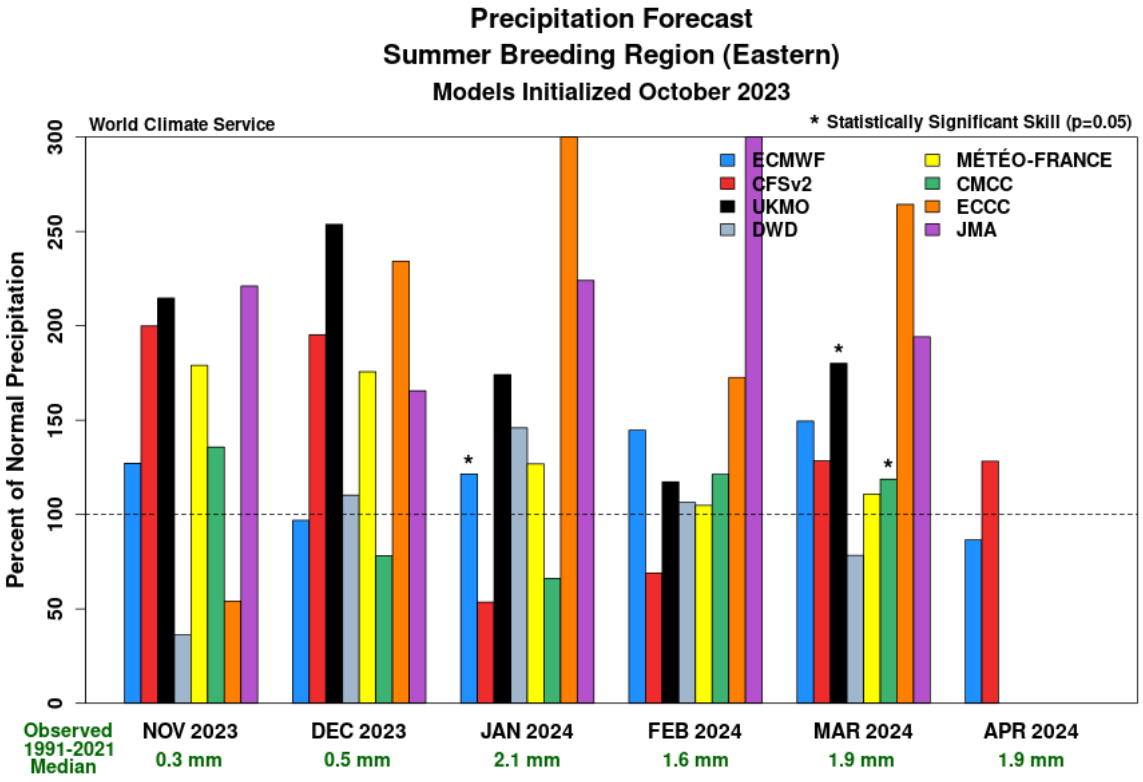
How to interpret the precipitation forecast charts (see following pages). A value of 100 on the left axis indicates normal rainfall; values less than 100 indicates drier than normal conditions; more than 100 indicates wetter than normal. Little variation between models suggests greater confidence and 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.



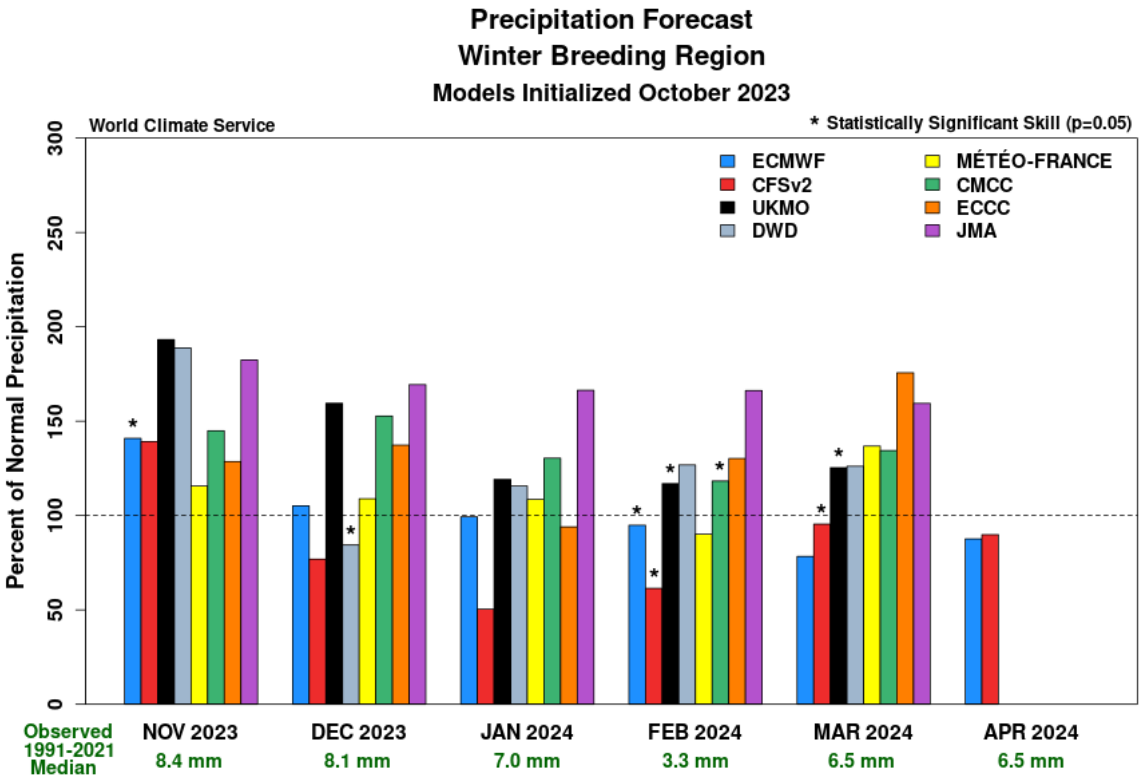

18–24 October 2023
25 – 31 October 2023
1–7 November 2023
8–14 November 2023
Mauritania
Mali
Niger
Chad
Sudan
Eritrea
Yemen
Ethiopia
Somalia
20
40
60
80
120
140
160
180
200
250
300
% of Normal



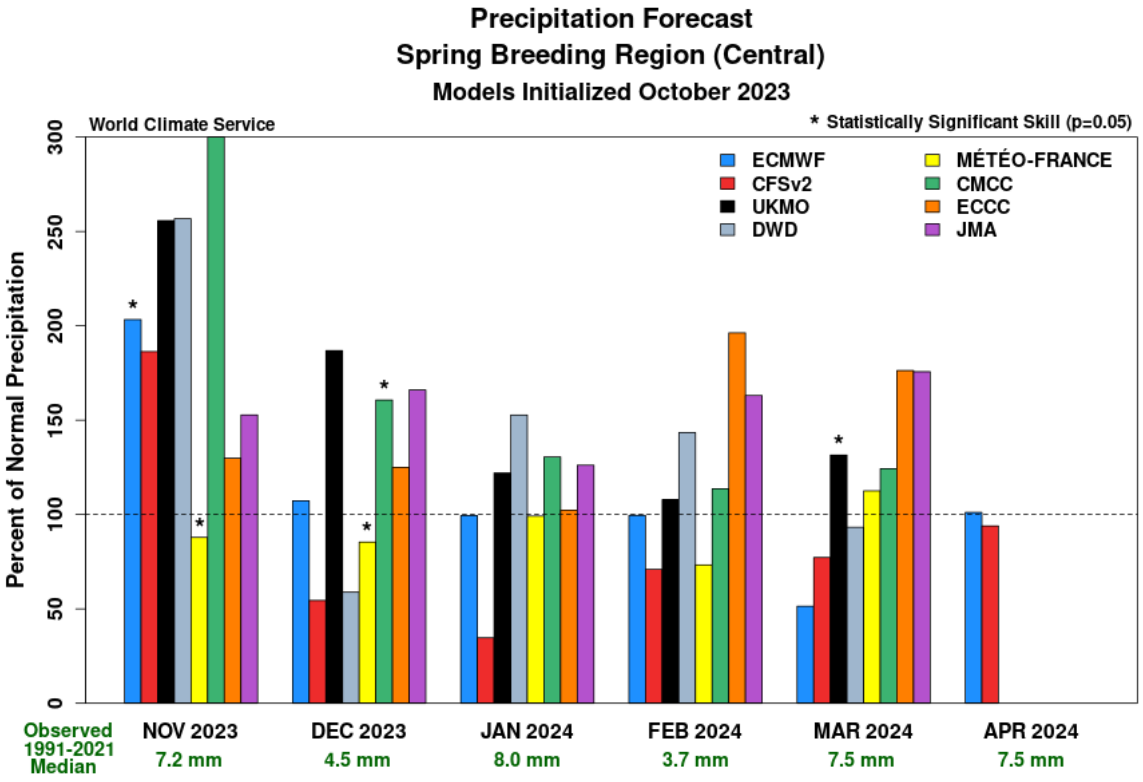
End of summer breeding, November (Sahel of W Africa to Sudan/Eritrea)



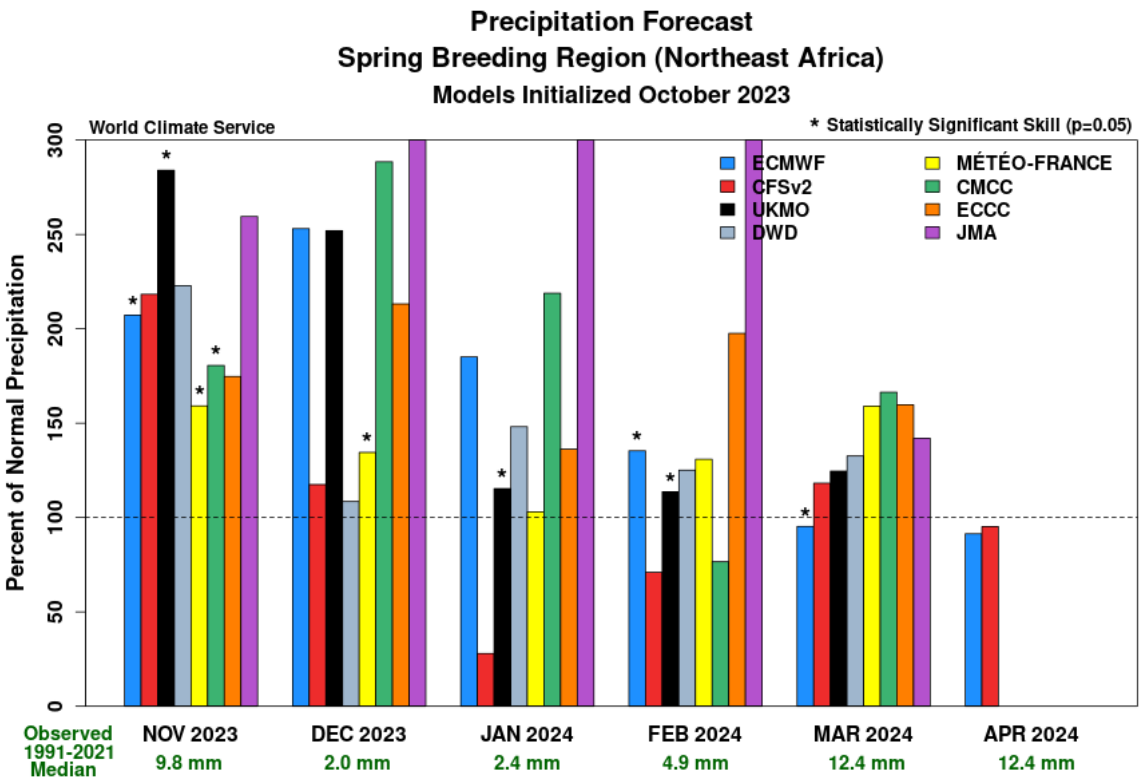
End of summer breeding, November (India/Pakistan)



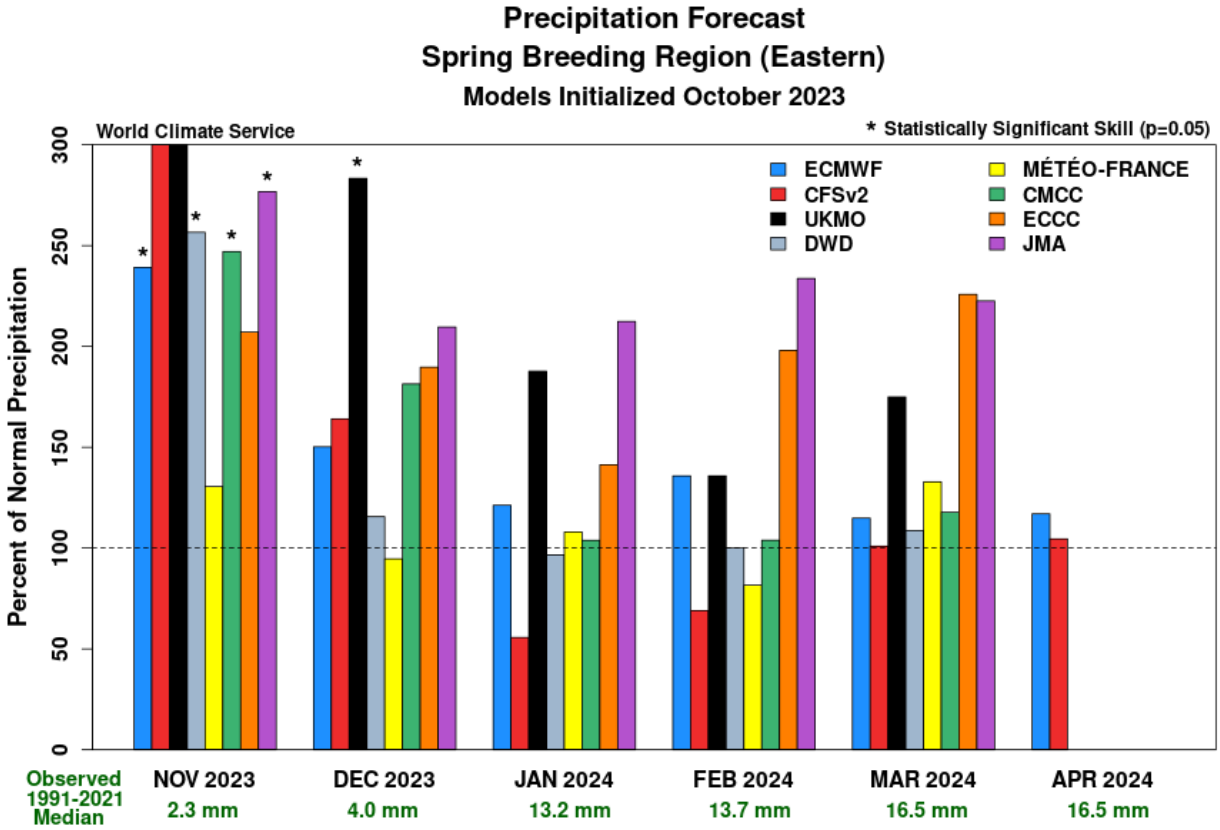
Winter breeding, November–March/April (Red Sea / Gulf of Aden)



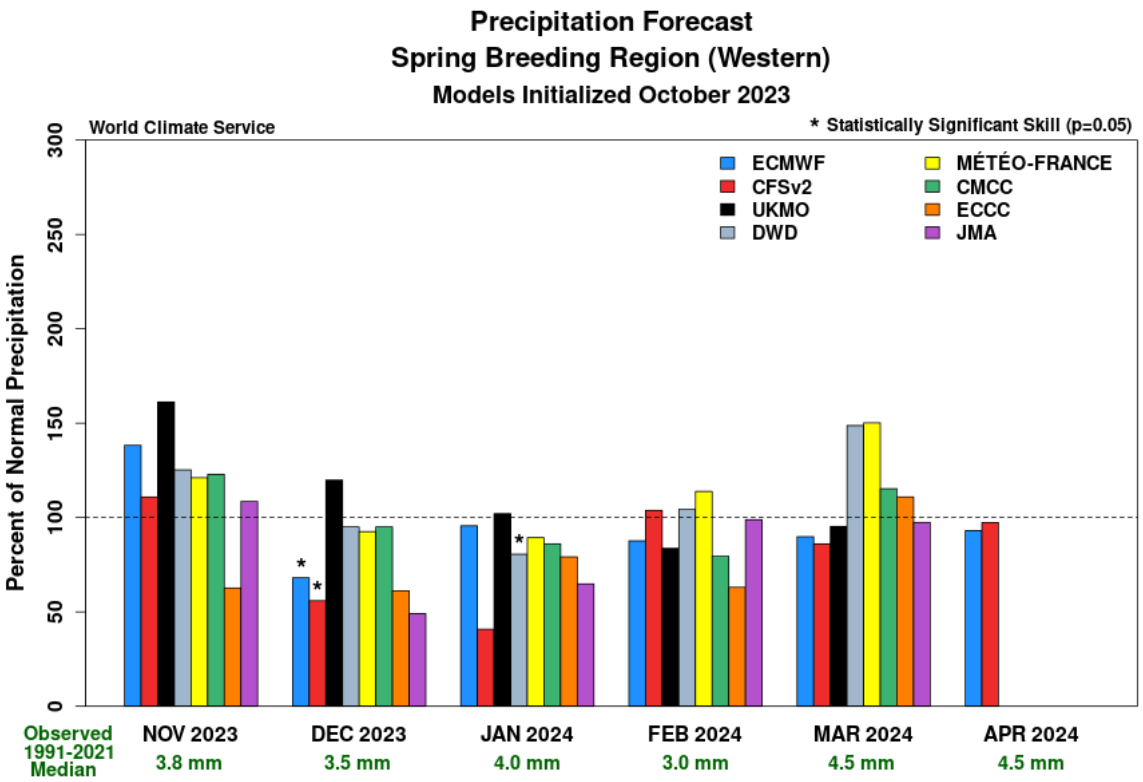
Spring breeding, March–April (Arabian Peninsula)



Spring breeding, March–April (Horn of Africa)



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



Spring breeding, March–April (NW Africa)