OatInformation

World Oat Weather/Crop Conditions

Thursday, May 22, 2025

Global Oat Crop Outlook Mixed: Canada, Europe, and Russia Face Moisture Deficits While South America Holds Steady

As of late May 2025, global oat crop conditions are mixed. Western Canada faces notable dryness in key Saskatchewan zones, while southern Manitoba remains near normal. The U.S. northern Plains show some improvement. Eastern Canada is stable but may dry in June. Western Australia is favorable, but eastern regions are dry. In Europe, widespread deficits affect the UK, Germany, and Poland, while Finland and the Baltics are mixed. Spain and Chile's main oat zones have mostly adequate moisture, though Chile's short-term forecast is dry. Brazil's southern states are improving, and Argentina's Buenos Aires and Córdoba remain favorable. Russia is divided—Siberia is moist, but the Central and Urals regions are trending dry.

- Western Canada--Seeding continues in key northern oat regions, with progress near 75%. High-production oat areas in northern and central Saskatchewan face significant soil moisture deficits, with anomalies of -1.0 to -2.0 SD and continued dryness forecast—posing the greatest risk to early yield potential. By contrast, southern Manitoba, another major oat zone, shows near-normal conditions, supporting better emergence. Alberta is mixed, with drier eastern areas offset by more favorable in minor southern zones. Nationally, the oat-weighted soil moisture anomaly is -0.8 SD, worsening to -1.3 SD in the forecast (see map right), highlighting broad stress in core production areas. Rainfall in the next two weeks will be critical for maintaining yield potential
- Eastern Canada - In Ontario and Quebec, soil moisture is currently adequate, supporting normal early crop conditions. However, forecast models indicate a shift toward drier-than-normal conditions into early June, which could slow crop development if rainfall tapers off. These provinces contribute a smaller but stable share of national oat output.
- U.S. Primary U.S. oat regions in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin are experiencing mixed moisture conditions, with dryness persisting in southern Minnesota, eastern South Dakota, and much of Iowa. While observed anomalies show deficits of -0.5 to -1.0 SD, the forecast through early June indicates modest improvement in North Dakota, Iowa, and western Minnesota, where soil moisture may return to near-normal.
- Western Australia--In Western Australia (WA), the key oat-producing zones are showing near-normal to slightly positive moisture, supporting a favorable start to planting. By contrast, eastern oat regions—particularly in Victoria, southern New South Wales, and parts of South Australia—are notably dry, with anomalies ranging from -1 to -3 SD, and little improvement expected in the short term (see map lower left). These areas represent a significant share of eastern production and could face early yield stress if rainfall remains limited. Overall, WA conditions remain stable, but persistent dryness in the eastern oat belt is emerging as a key concern for 2025 crop development. Forecasted soil moisture anomalies for major oat-producing zones in Western Australia show mostly neutral to slightly positive conditions in the core southern and southwestern growing regions. In contrast, Eastern Australia's oat regions, especially across southern New South Wales, Victoria, and parts of South Australia, are facing notable dryness. Forecast anomalies range from -1 to -3 SD, indicating significant subsoil moisture deficits.
- Europe/UK--Oat crop conditions across Europe are highly variable, with widespread dryness in key northern and central regions, but more favorable conditions in parts of the south and northeast. The UK, Germany, and Poland are experiencing significant moisture deficits, with anomalies worsening into early June and little relief in the forecast—posing early yield risks. Sweden remains broadly dry, while Finland and the Baltic states present a mixed picture: southern Finland, Estonia, and northern Latvia show near-normal moisture, while southern Latvia and Lithuania are drying further. In contrast, most of Spain's oat-growing zones—particularly in the northwest and west—are in near-normal to slightly positive condition, with southern and eastern areas drier. Overall, early stress is mounting across northern and central Europe, while some eastern and southern regions are holding steadier for now.

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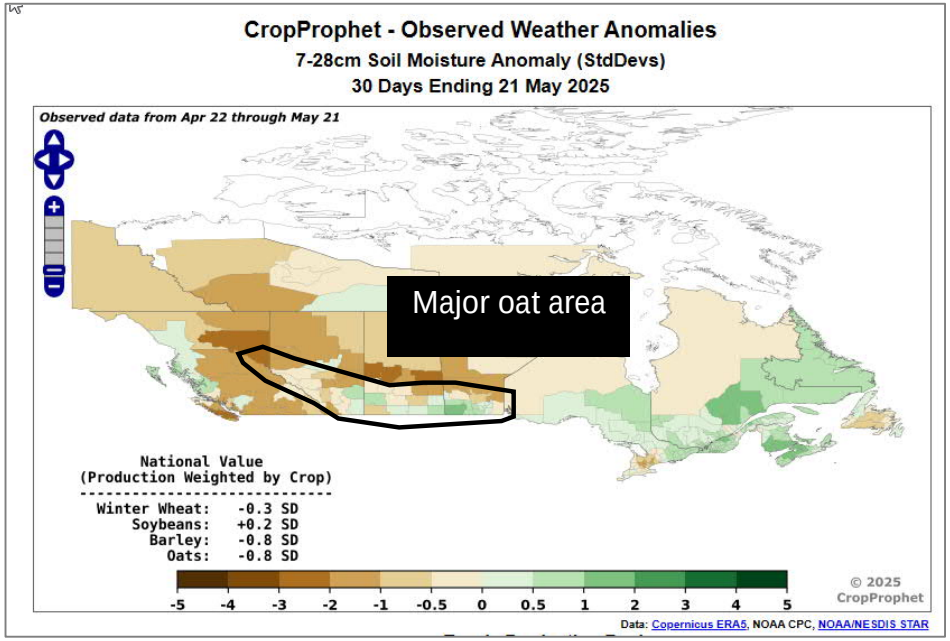
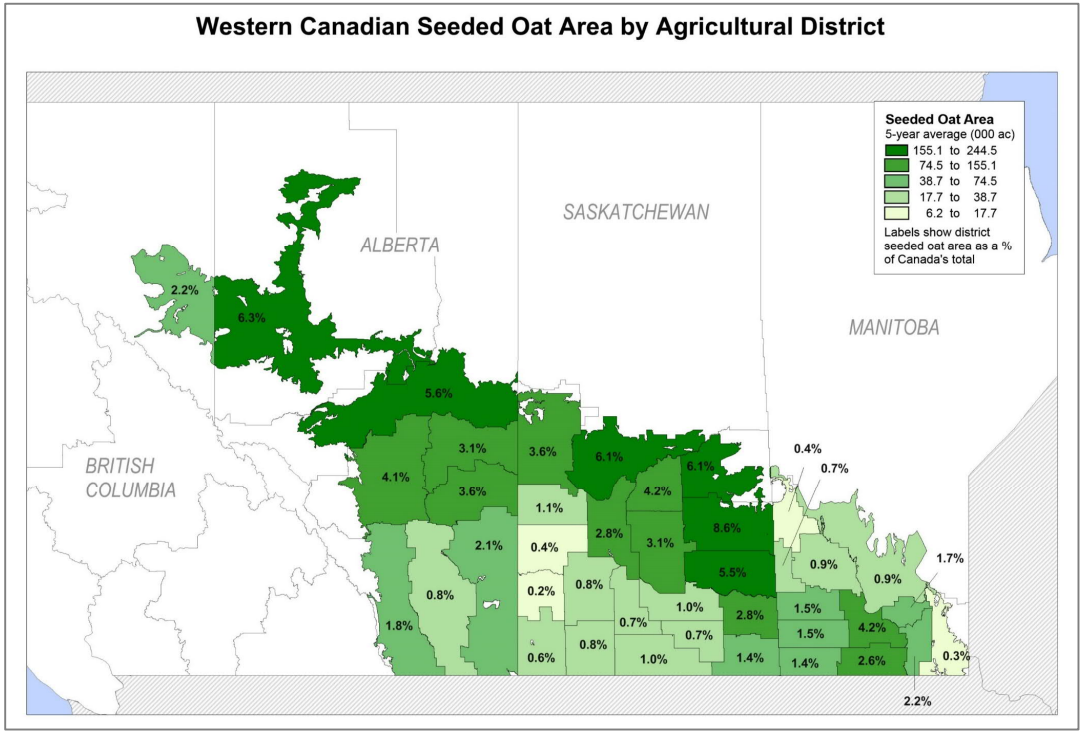
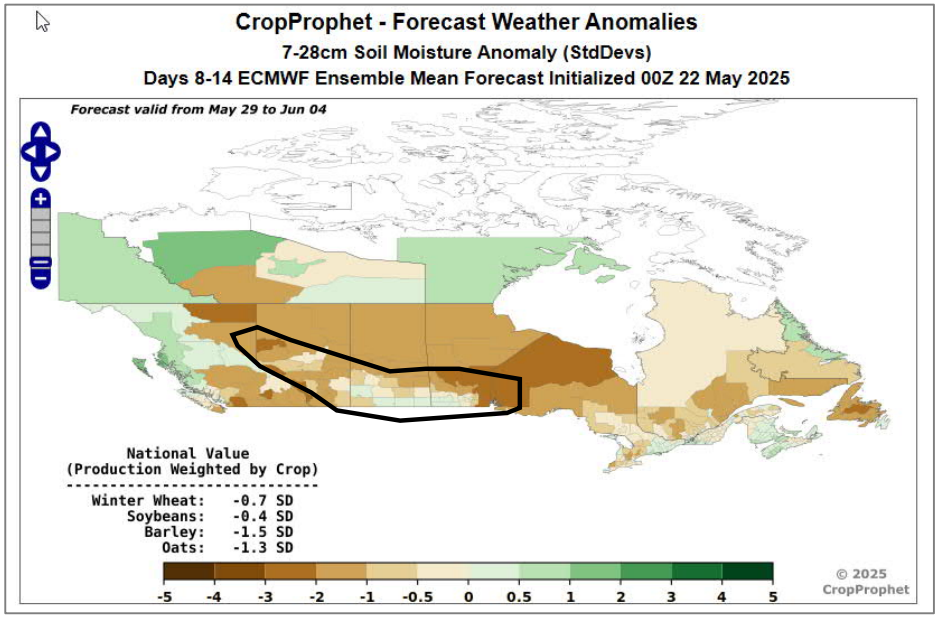
Summary Continued

- Chile--Soil moisture across Chile's main oat-growing regions—Araucanía, Ñuble, Biobío, and Los Lagos—is generally adequate to abundant, particularly in Araucanía, which produces 65% of the national crop. However, localized areas in Biobío and northern Araucanía show signs of limited moisture. While current conditions are favorable for early crop development, the 7-day forecast indicates below-normal precipitation, suggesting potential short-term drying. If this trend continues, it could begin to impact more moisture-sensitive areas, though for now, crop prospects remain solid.
- Brazil--Oat growing conditions in Brazil's primary production zones—Rio Grande do Sul (73% of national output), Paraná (17%), and Santa Catarina (4%)—remain moderately supportive. Over the past 30 days, soil moisture anomalies in these southern states were mixed but largely near normal to slightly negative. However, the 14-day forecast points to notable improvements, with moisture levels expected to trend upward across much of the south. This improving forecast bodes well for planting progress and early crop establishment, particularly in Rio Grande do Sul, the core production hub. Despite short-term variability, the medium-term outlook supports a positive yield trajectory for Brazil's 2025 oat crop.
- Argentina--Argentina's key oat-producing regions—Buenos Aires and Córdoba—are currently exhibiting favorable moisture conditions. Forecast soil moisture anomalies for late May to early June show slightly above-normal levels (+0.5 SD), with much of Buenos Aires in the neutral to mildly positive range and southern Córdoba similarly stable. These areas represent 89% of the country's oat output. The outlook suggests adequate subsoil moisture for early crop development, though conditions will need continued support to maintain yield potential through later stages. Overall, the current setup supports a positive start to the 2025 oat season.
- Russia--As of late May 2025, growing conditions across Russia's primary oat-producing zones are showing mixed signals. The Siberian region, which accounts for 39% of national production, generally displays adequate to abundant soil moisture, particularly in the northern zones, supporting a favorable early season outlook. The Volga region (28% of production) shows a patchwork of conditions, with many areas trending slightly drier than normal, although not yet at critical levels. In contrast, parts of the Central region (15%) and Urals (10%) are experiencing limited soil moisture, with below-normal anomalies forecast to persist, which may raise yield concerns if dryness deepens. Overall, while eastern zones are off to a promising start, continued dryness across the western oat belt warrants monitoring.

Western Canada







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Nationally, the oat-weighted soil moisture anomaly is -0.8 SD, worsening to -1.3 SD in the forecast (see map left), highlighting broad stress in core production areas. Rainfall in the next two weeks will be critical for maintaining yield potential.

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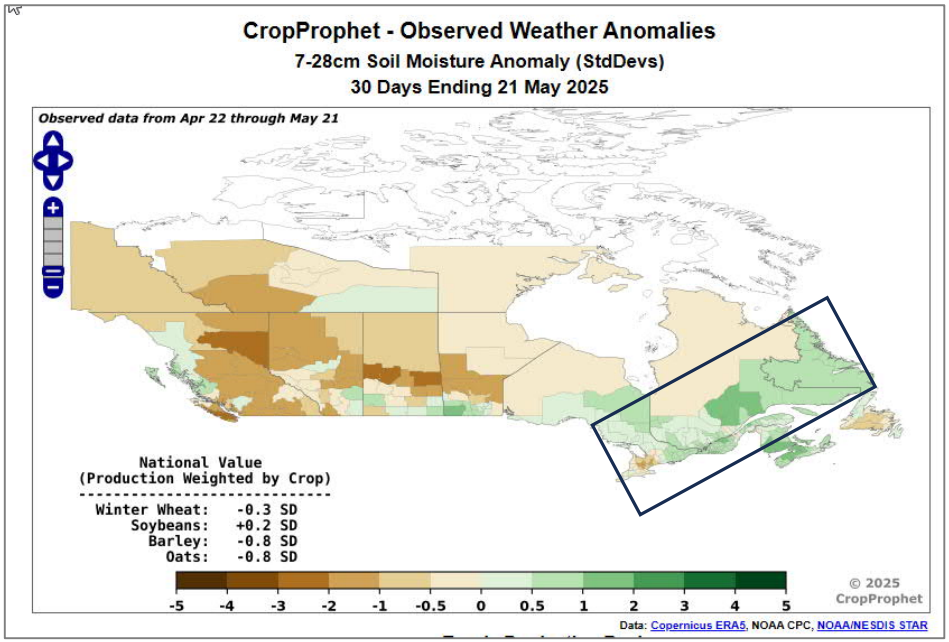
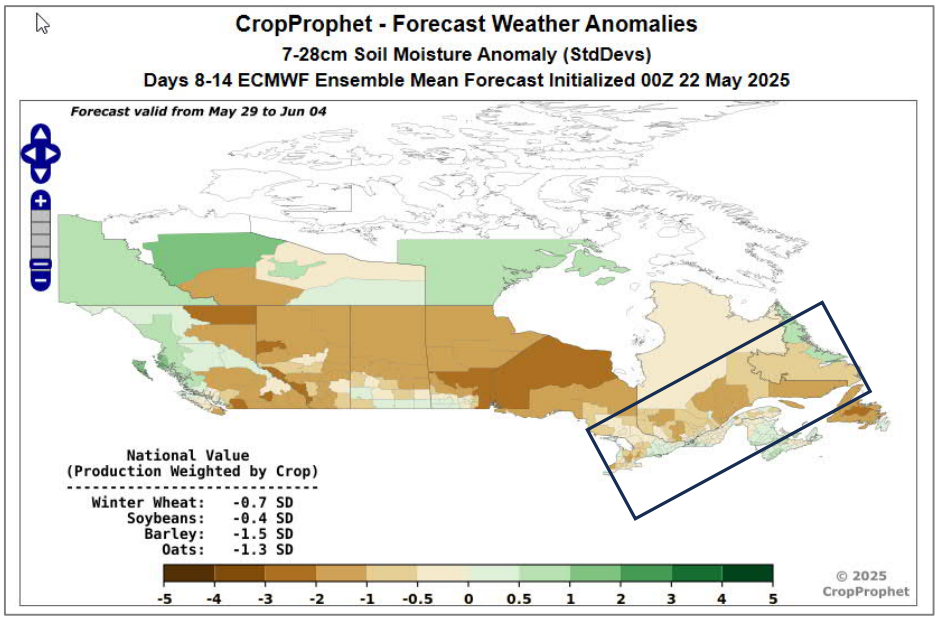
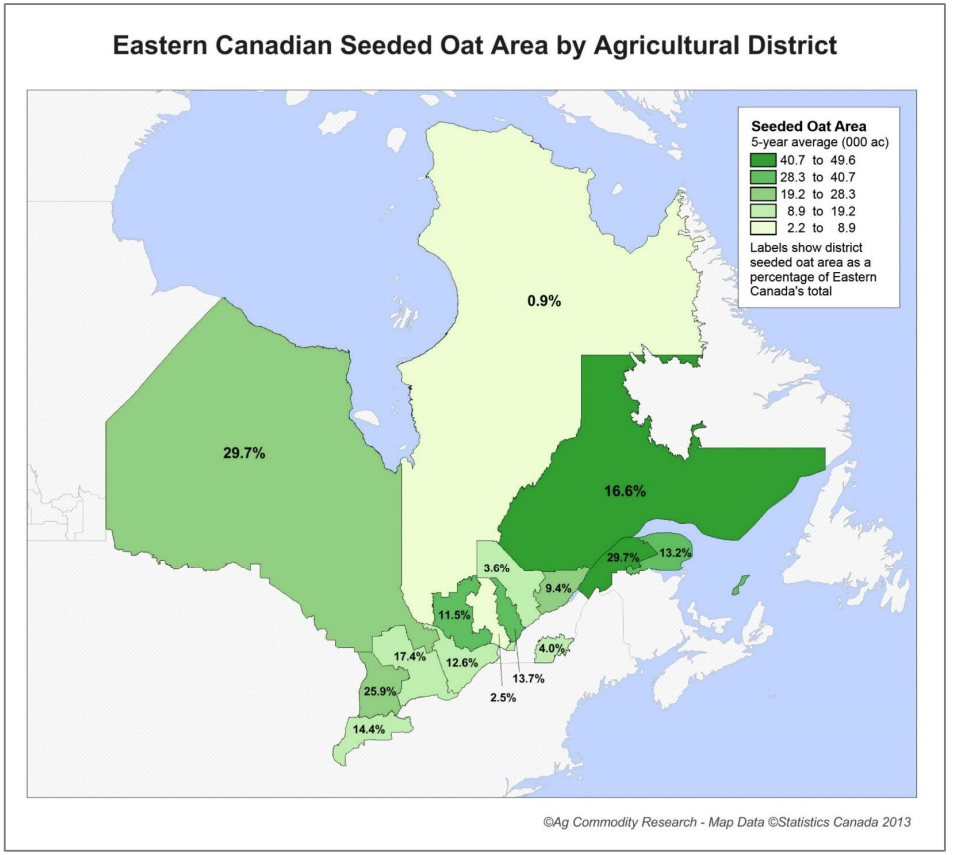
Eastern Canada







In Ontario and Quebec, soil moisture is currently adequate, supporting normal early crop conditions. However, forecast models indicate a shift toward drier-than-normal conditions into early June, which could slow crop development if rainfall tapers off. These provinces contribute a smaller but stable share of national oat output.

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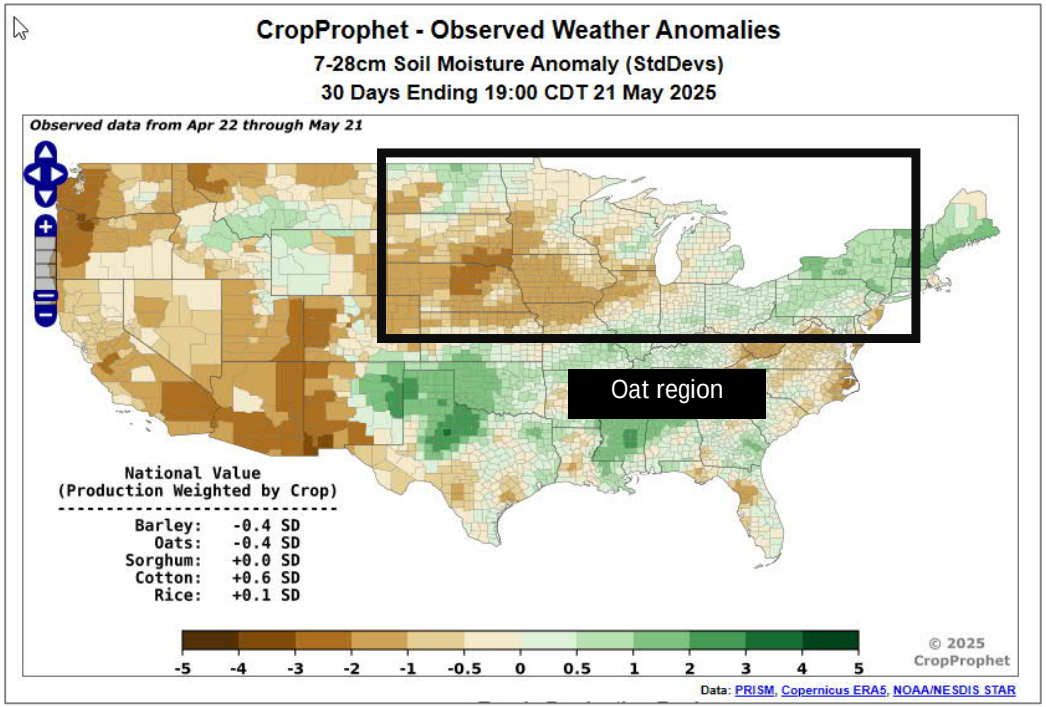
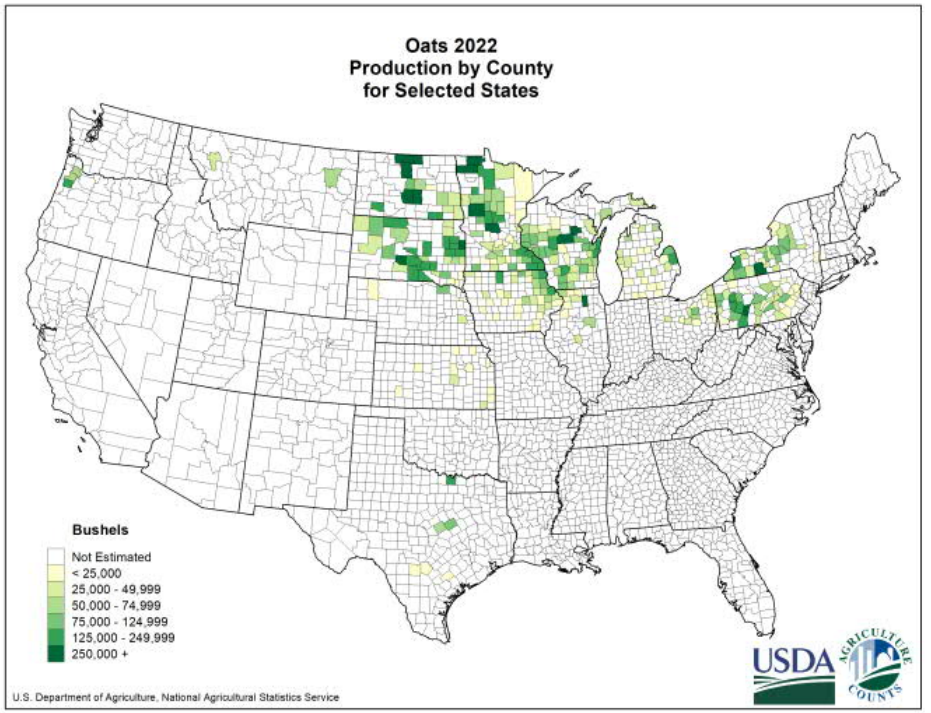
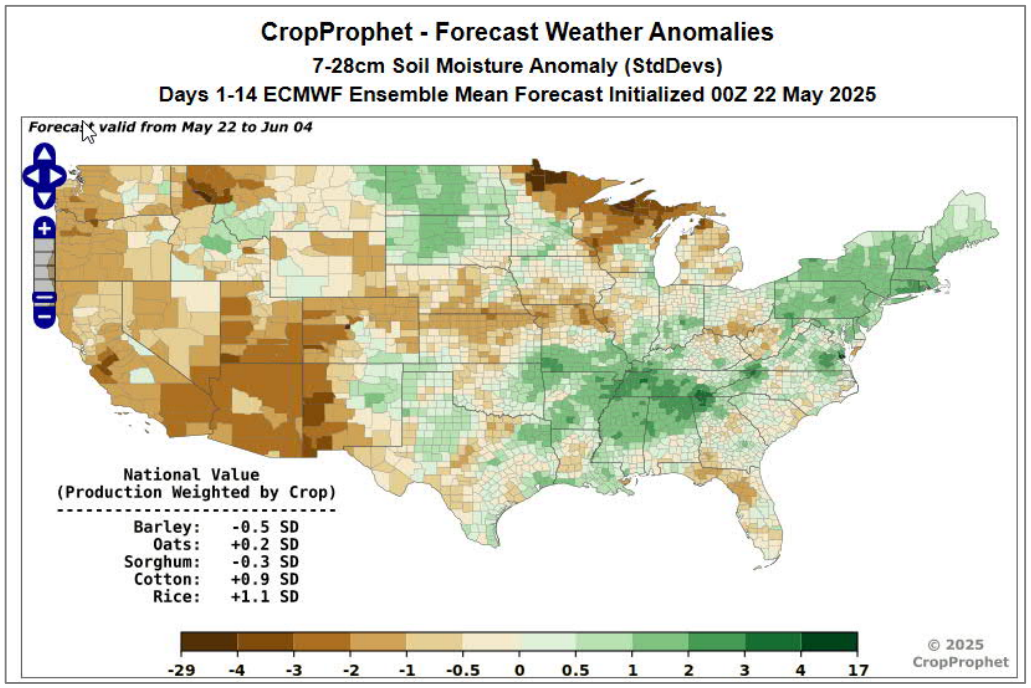
U.S.A.







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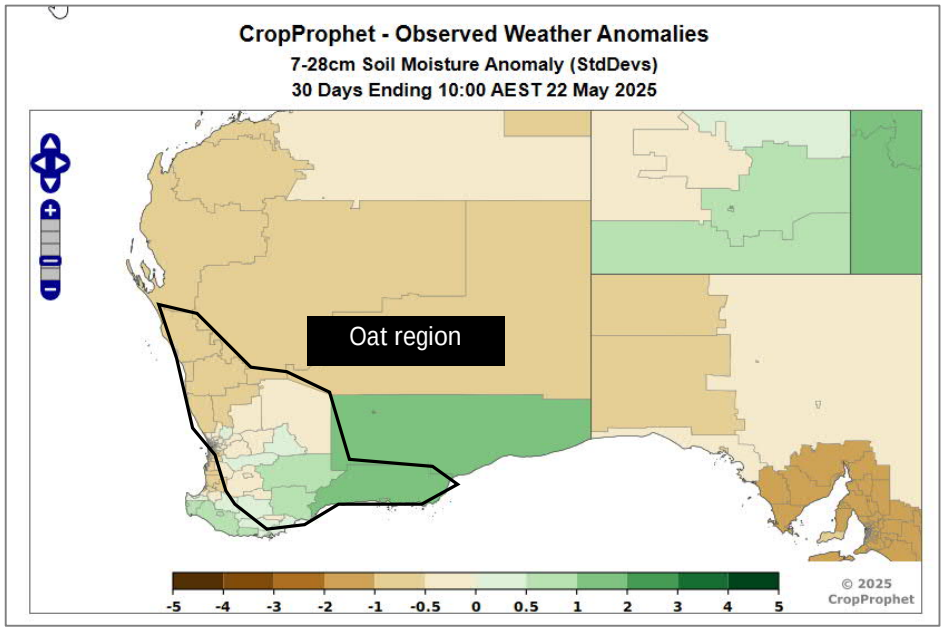
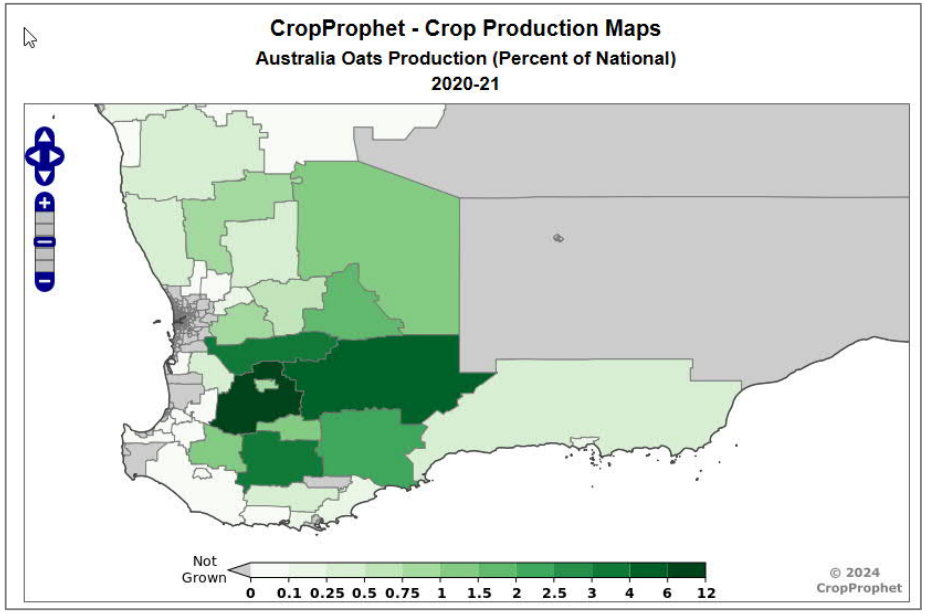
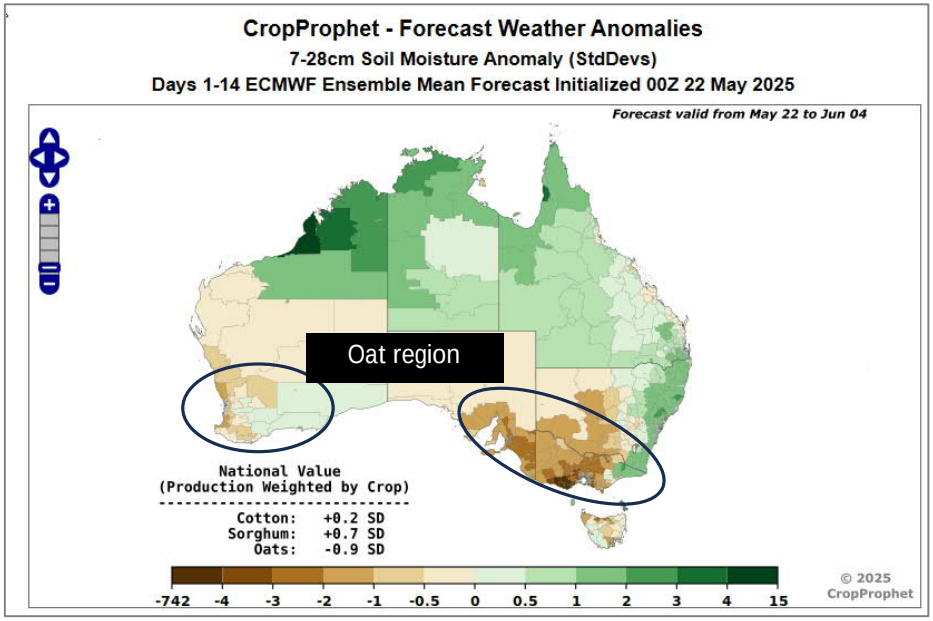
Australia







In Western Australia (WA), the key oat-producing zones are showing near-normal to slightly positive moisture, supporting a favorable start to planting. By contrast, eastern oat regions—particularly in Victoria, southern New South Wales, and parts of South Australia—are notably dry, with anomalies ranging from -1 to -3 SD, and little improvement expected in the short term (see map lower left). These areas represent a significant share of eastern production and could face early yield stress if rainfall remains limited. Overall, WA conditions remain stable, but persistent dryness in the eastern oat belt is emerging as a key concern for 2025 crop development.

Forecasted soil moisture anomalies for major oat-producing zones in Western Australia show mostly neutral to slightly positive conditions in the core southern and southwestern growing regions. In contrast, Eastern Australia's oat regions, especially across southern New South Wales, Victoria, and parts of South Australia, are facing notable dryness. Forecast anomalies range from -1 to -3 SD, indicating significant subsoil moisture deficits.

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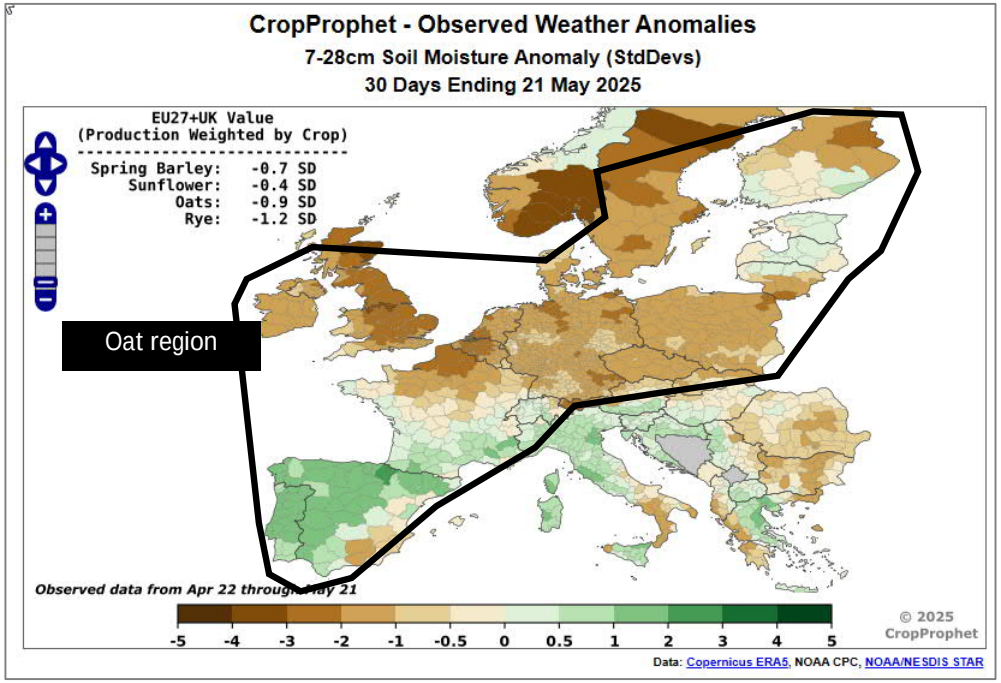
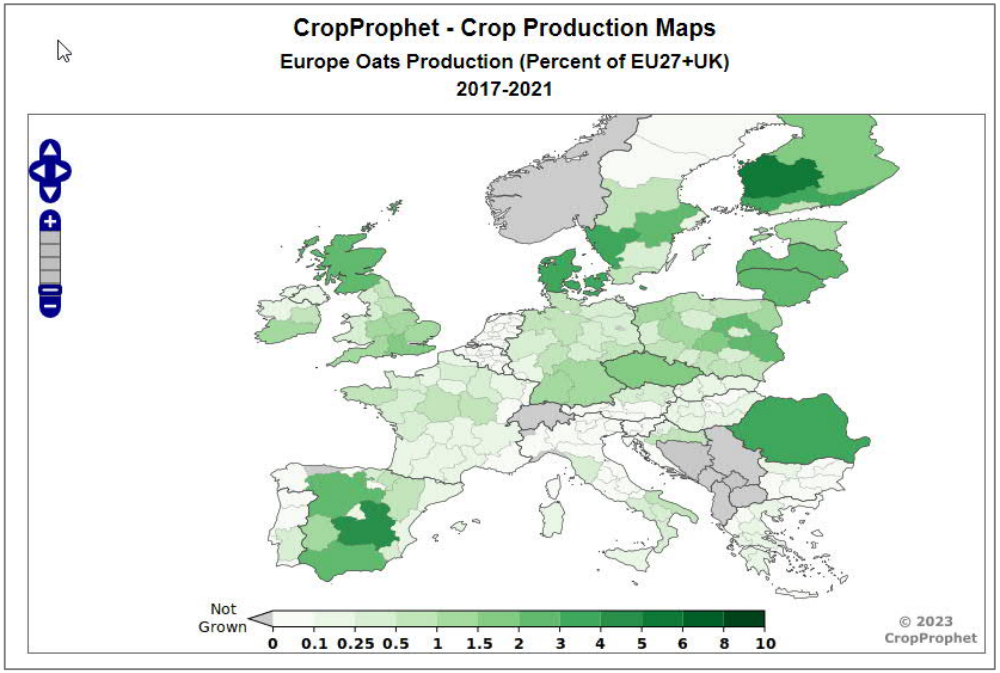
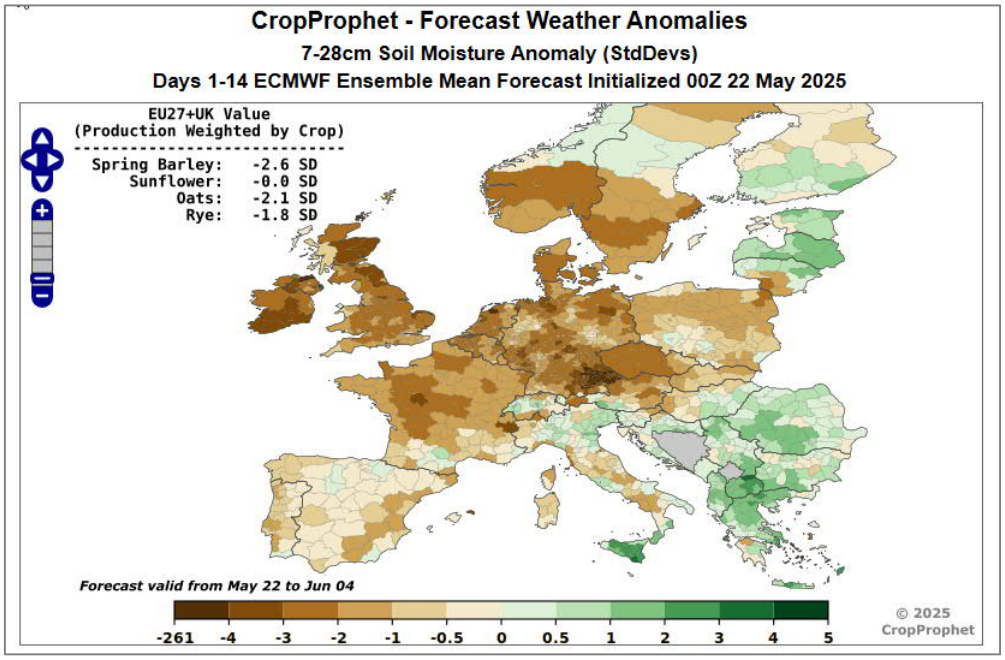
Europe/UK



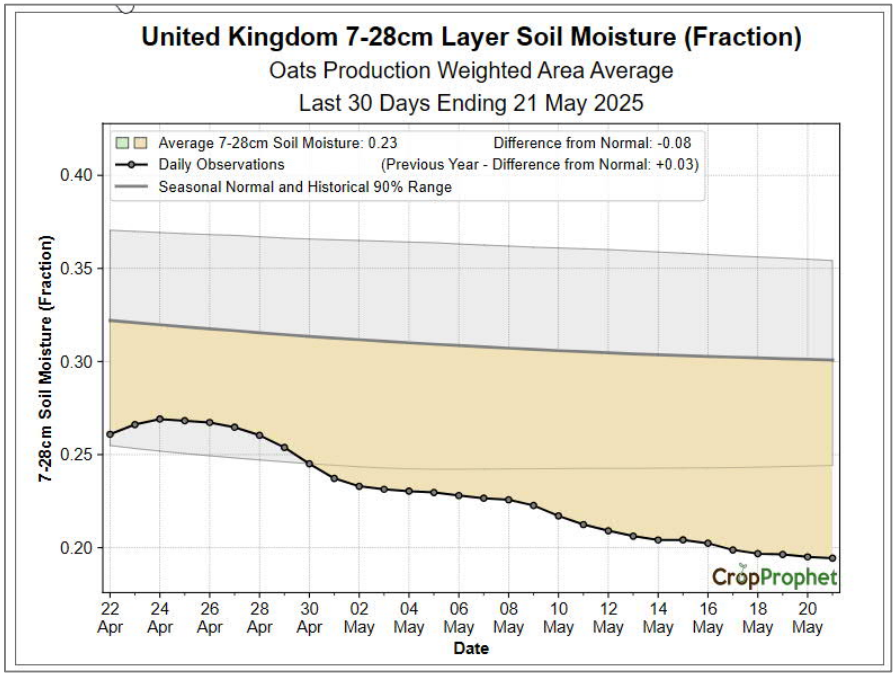


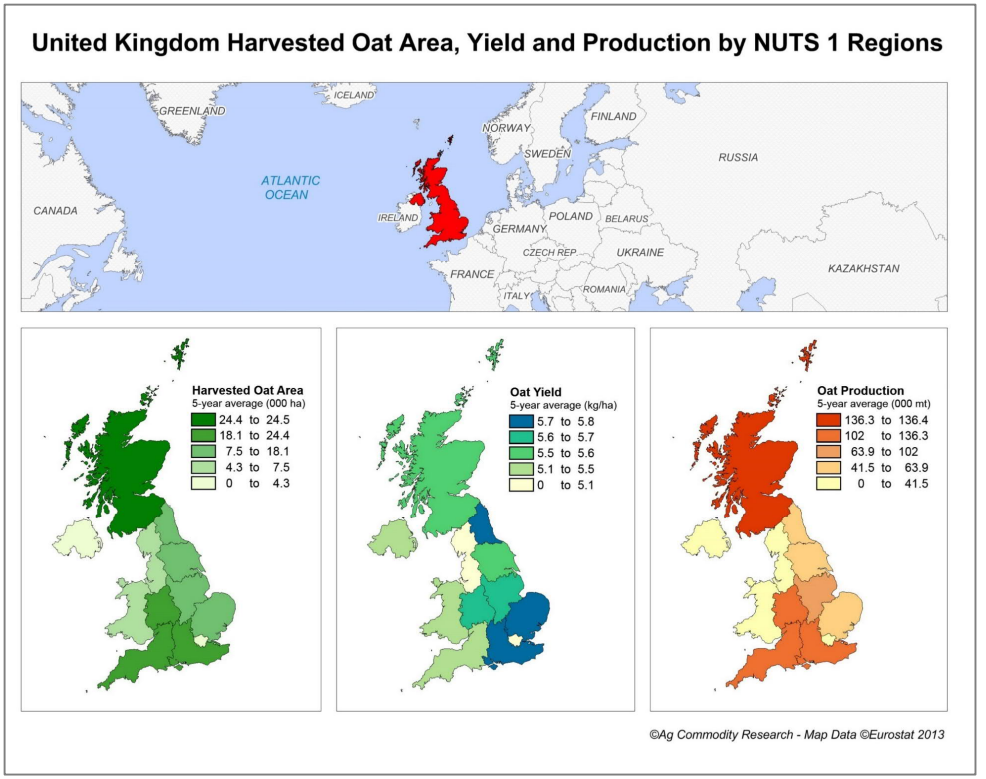


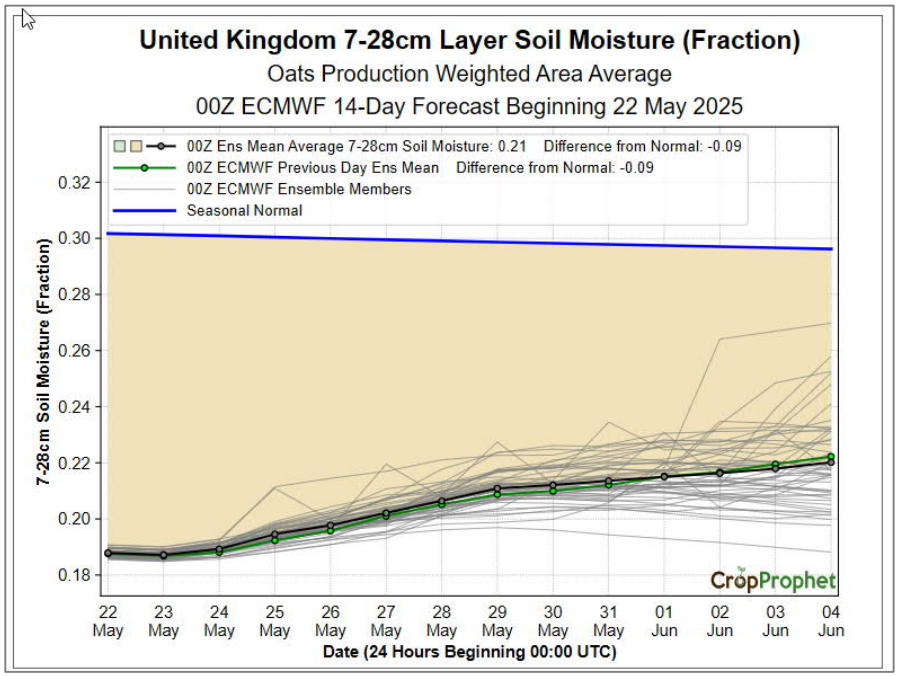
Oat crop conditions across Europe are highly variable, with widespread dryness in key northern and central regions, but more favorable conditions in parts of the south and northeast. The UK, Germany, and Poland are experiencing significant moisture deficits, with anomalies worsening into early June and little relief in the forecast—posing early yield risks. Sweden remains broadly dry, while Finland and the Baltic states present a mixed picture: southern Finland, Estonia, and northern Latvia show near-normal moisture, while southern Latvia and Lithuania are drying further. In contrast, most of Spain's oat-growing zones—particularly in the northwest and west—are in near-normal to slightly positive condition, with southern and eastern areas drier.

Overall, early stress is mounting across northern and central Europe, while some eastern and southern regions are holding steadier for now.

United Kingdom







UK oat-growing regions have seen a steady decline in soil moisture over the past month, with current 7–28 cm soil moisture averaging 0.23, slightly below normal by -0.08 SD. This trend reflects gradual drying since late April, particularly across central and southern oat areas. However, the 14-day forecast points to a modest recovery, with soil moisture expected to rise to 0.21, narrowing the deficit to -0.09 SD.

Ensemble forecasts suggest increasing rainfall support, though levels remain below seasonal normal. Overall, conditions are not yet critical, but early-season development could be affected if the improving trend stalls or reverses. Timely follow-up rainfall will be important to avoid further stress on crop establishment and early vegetative growth.

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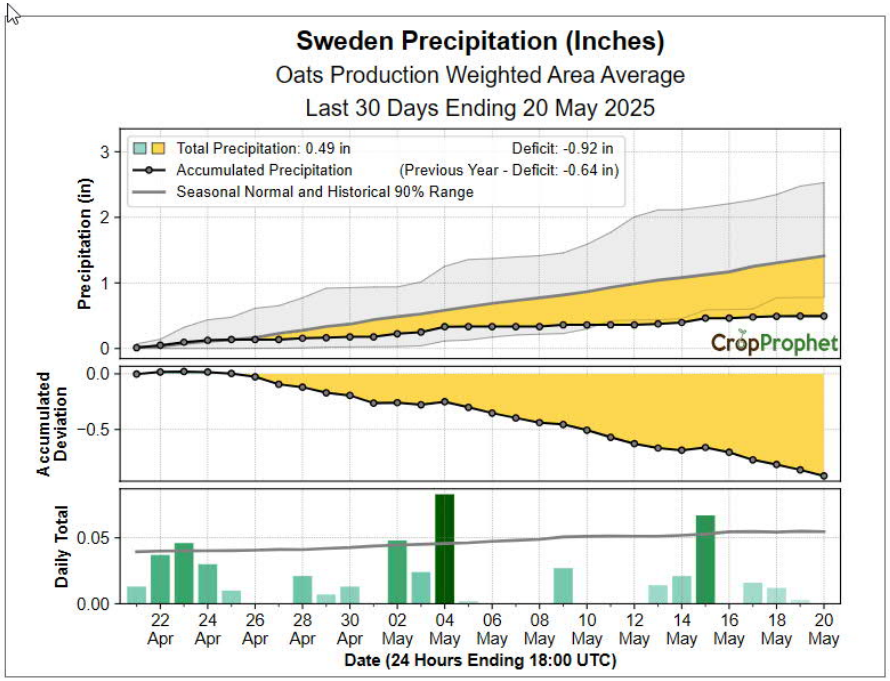
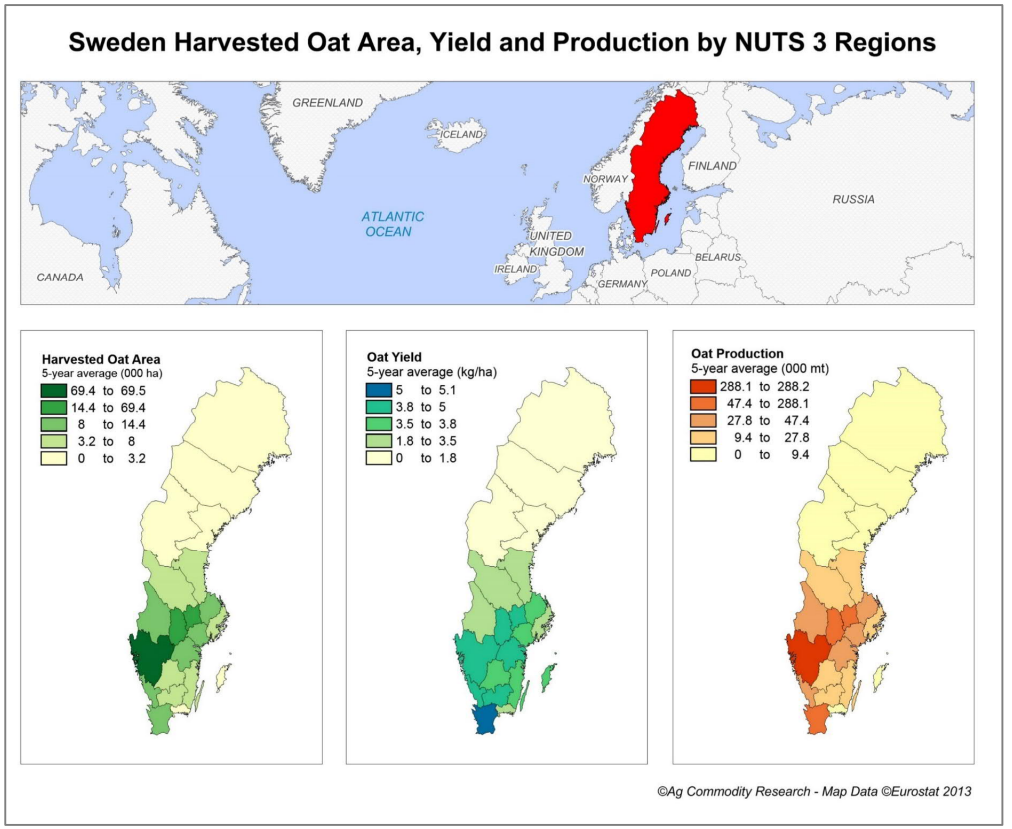
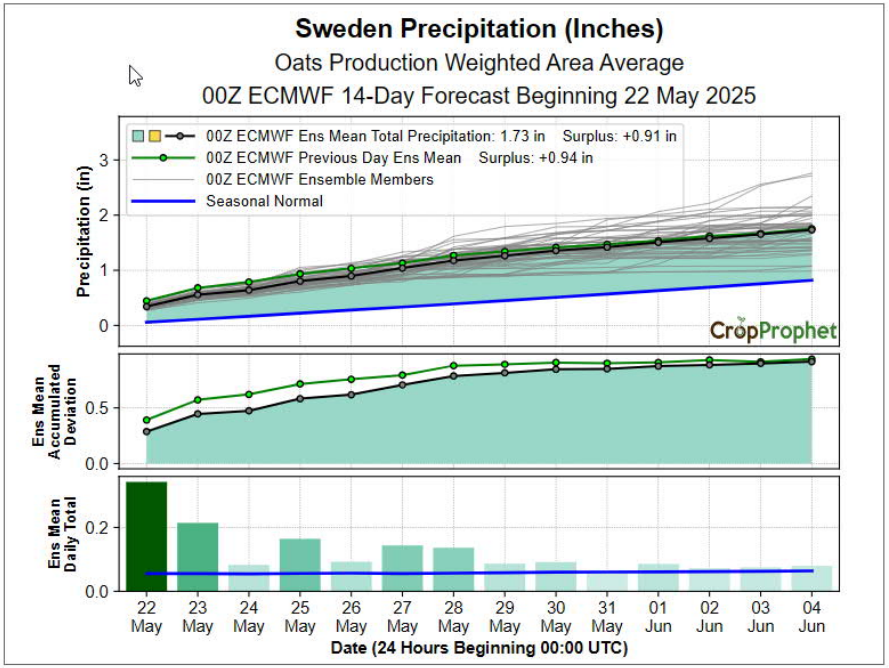
Sweden







Sweden's oat-growing regions have faced a significant moisture shortfall over the past month, with just 0.49 inches of precipitation recorded—0.92 inches below normal. This prolonged dryness has pushed accumulated moisture well below seasonal trends, raising early concerns for crop development.

However, the 14-day forecast shows a strong recovery, with expected rainfall totaling 1.73 inches, nearly 1 inch above normal. If this forecast verifies, it should reverse recent deficits and support oat emergence and early vegetative growth. Overall, while conditions have been dry, the outlook is increasingly favorable, offering relief at a critical stage of the season.

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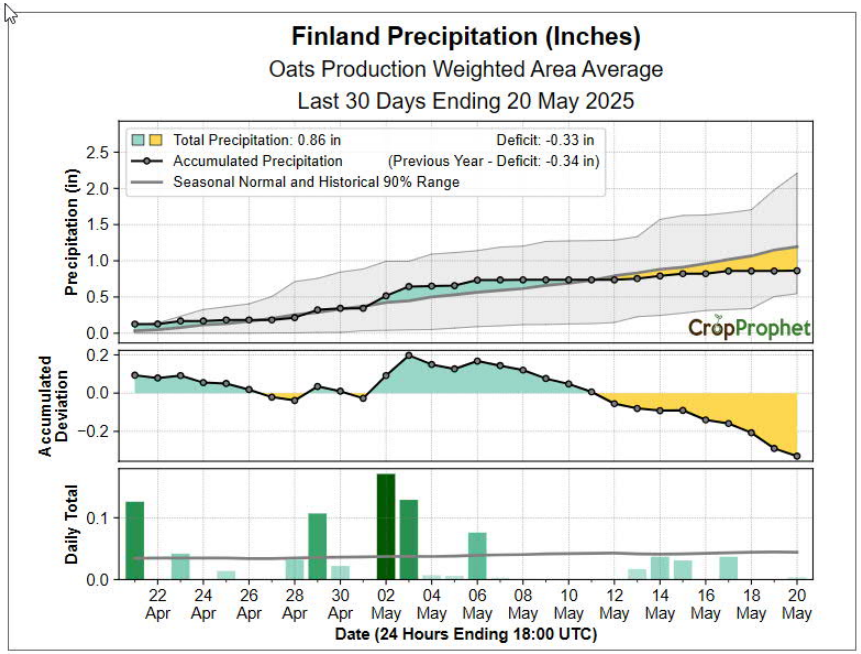
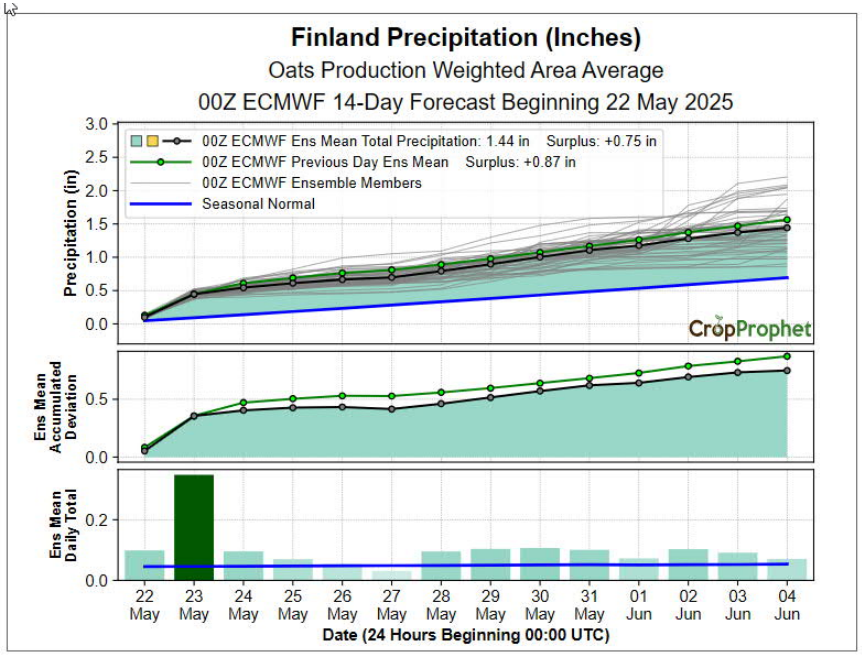
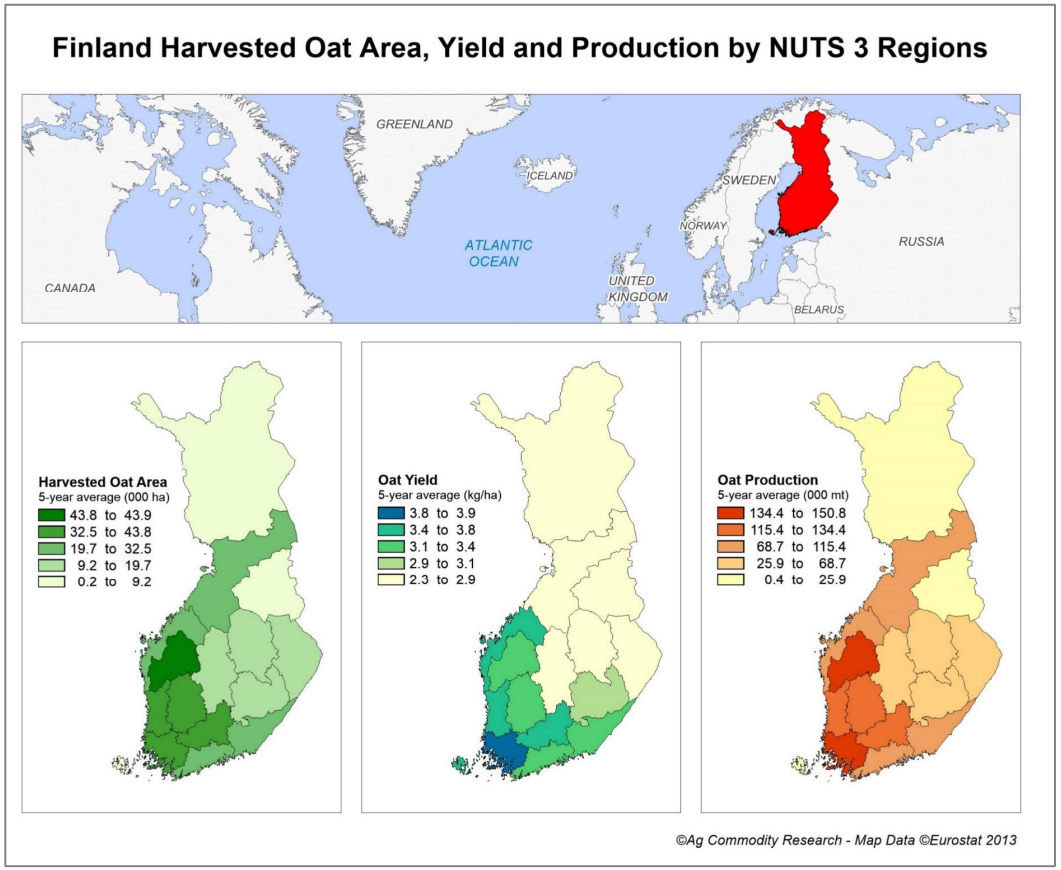
Finland







Finland's primary oat-producing zones—central and western regions such as South Ostrobothnia, Central Finland, and Pirkanmaa—have experienced below-normal precipitation, with a 0.33 inch deficit over the past 30 days. This has gradually reduced subsoil moisture during early crop development.

However, the 14-day forecast indicates strong recovery, with 1.44 inches of rain expected, translating to a +0.75 inch surplus. If realized, this rainfall will be well-timed to replenish moisture reserves and support crop emergence and early growth in key production areas. While recent dryness posed concerns, conditions are now trending favorably, improving prospects for yield stabilization across Finland's oat belt.

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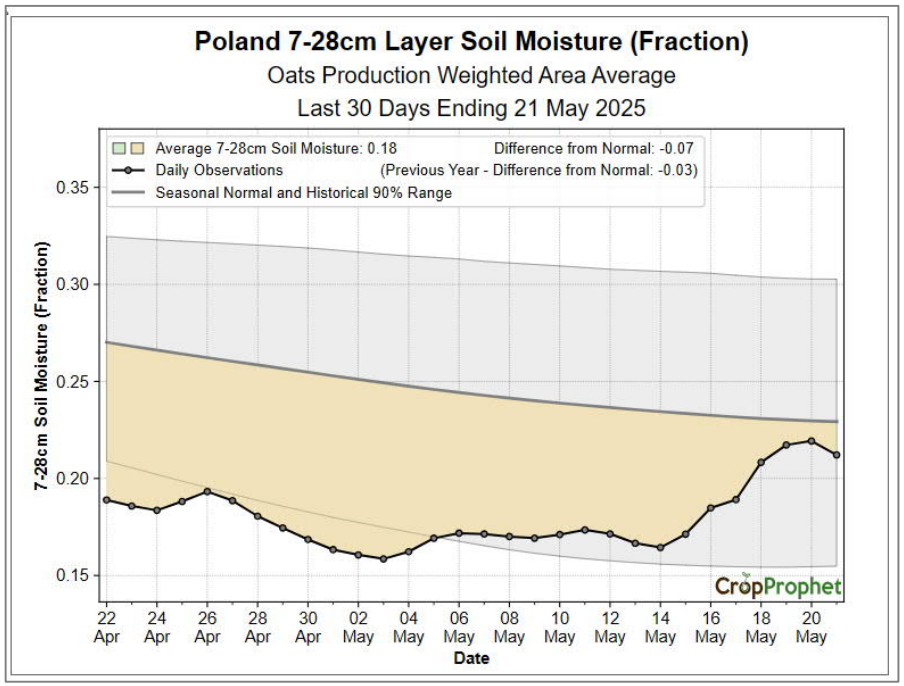
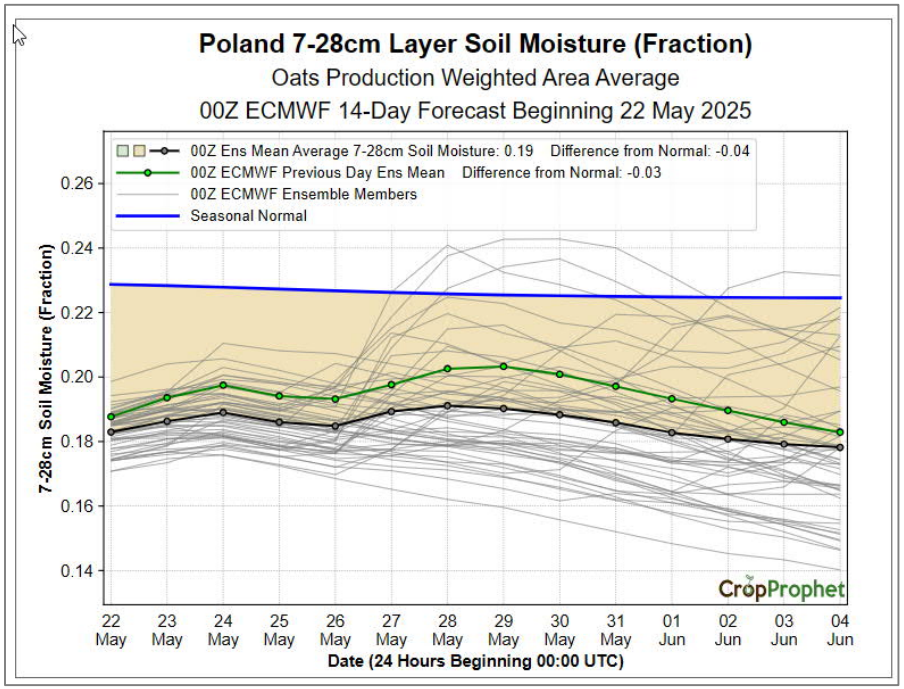
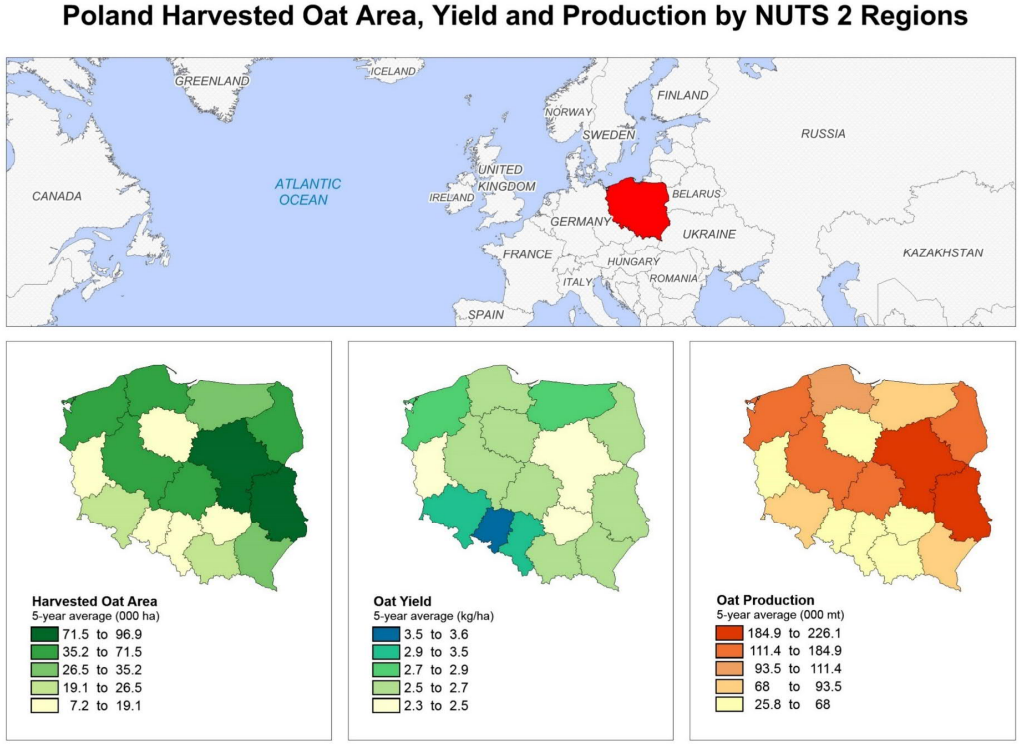
Poland







Oat-producing regions in northeastern and central Poland have experienced moderately below-normal soil moisture over the past 30 days, with anomalies of -0.5 to -1.5 standard deviations.

While the 14-day forecast shows slight improvement in the southeast, much of the key growing zones remain dry. This could hinder early crop development in major production areas like Podlaskie, Warmian-Masurian, and Lublin unless rainfall improves in early June. Despite the dryness, Poland is in better shape than Western Europe and could still achieve average yields if conditions stabilize soon.

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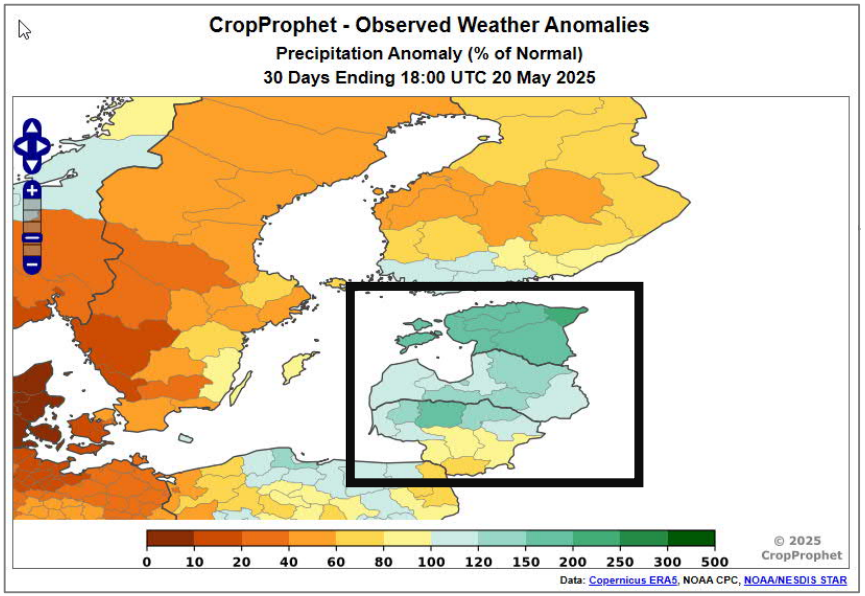
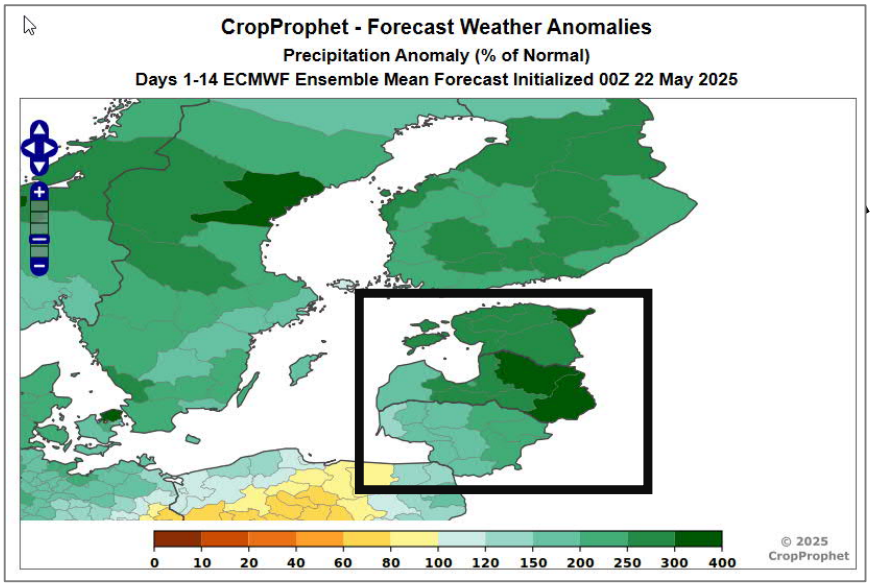
Baltic States





The outlook for oat-growing regions in the Baltic States is broadly positive, supported by both recent and forecasted precipitation trends. Over the past 30 days, Estonia, Latvia, and much of northern and central Lithuania received 110% to over 150% of normal rainfall, reinforcing positive soil moisture anomalies across key regions (see map upper left). Only southern Lithuania exhibited mild moisture deficits.

Looking ahead, the 14-day precipitation forecast (through early June) suggests continued strong rainfall, with many areas expected to receive 150% to 250% of normal precipitation, particularly in eastern Latvia and central Lithuania (see map lower left). This sustained moisture input is likely to further support early crop development and root establishment, enhancing yield potential heading into summer. These favorable conditions stand in stark contrast to Western and Central Europe, where persistent deficits continue to stress cereal crops.

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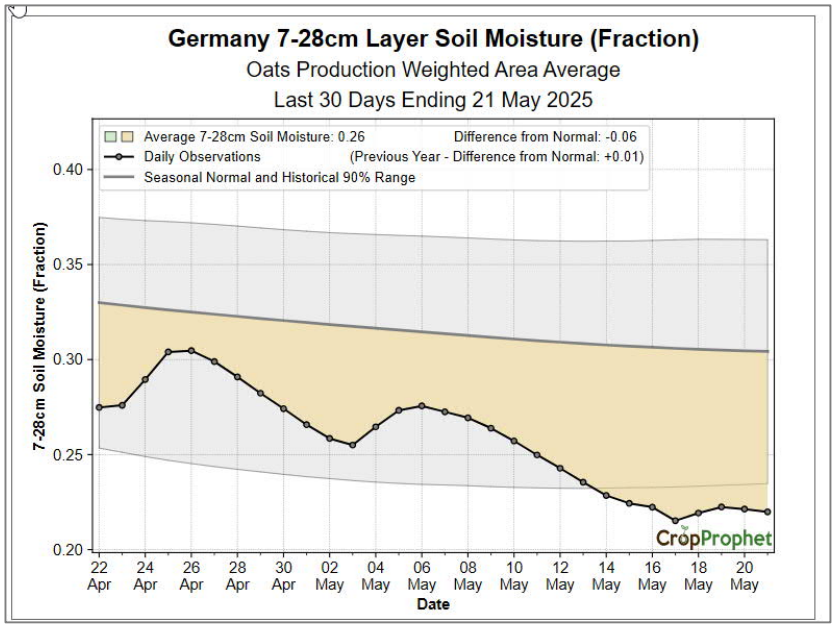
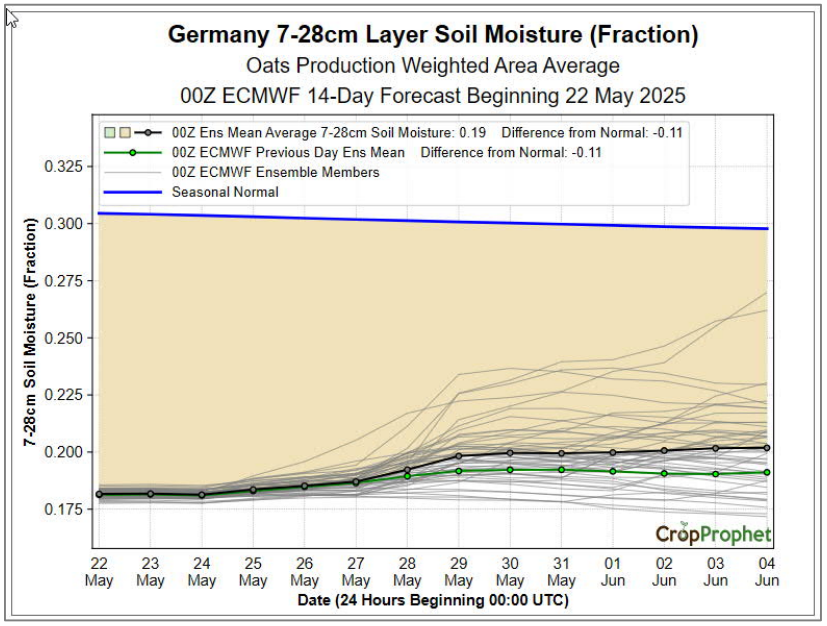
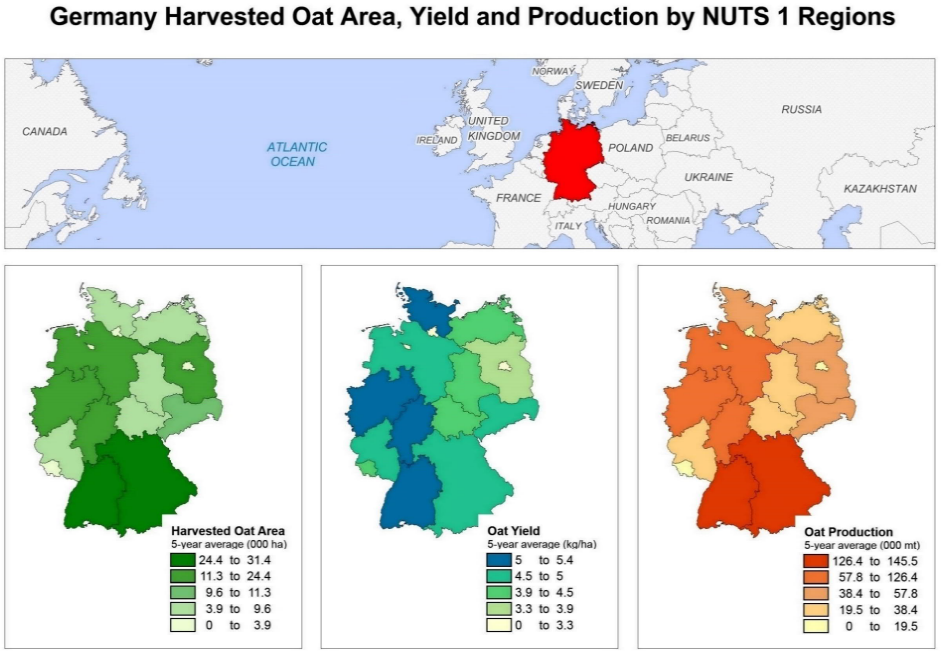
Germany







Germany's leading oat-producing regions—Bavaria, Lower Saxony, and North Rhine-Westphalia—are experiencing early-season moisture shortfalls. Observed soil moisture levels over the past 30 days have trended slightly below normal, with a continued decline into late May.

Forecasts for the next two weeks suggest that moisture deficits may persist, particularly in western and central areas. If rainfall remains limited, the yield outlook for oats could be moderately impacted, especially during this critical period for early crop development and tillering. Timely precipitation will be important to stabilize yield potential going into June.

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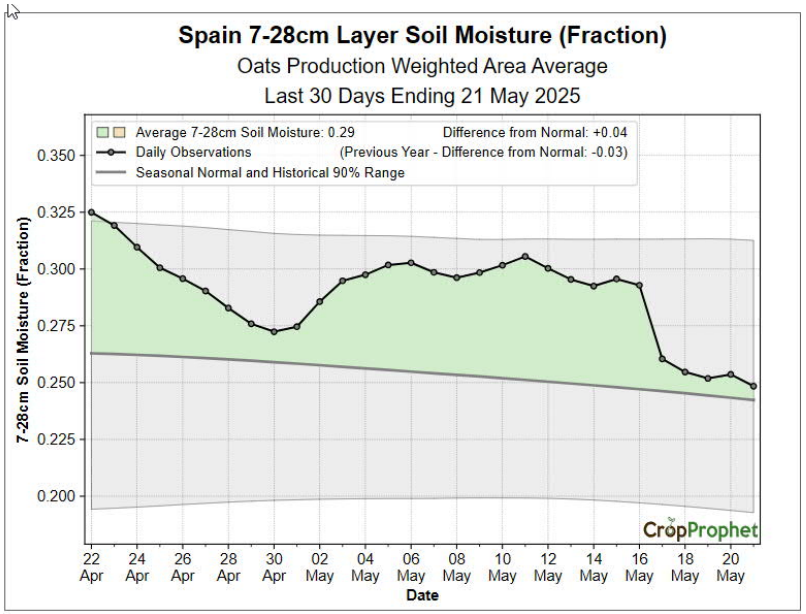
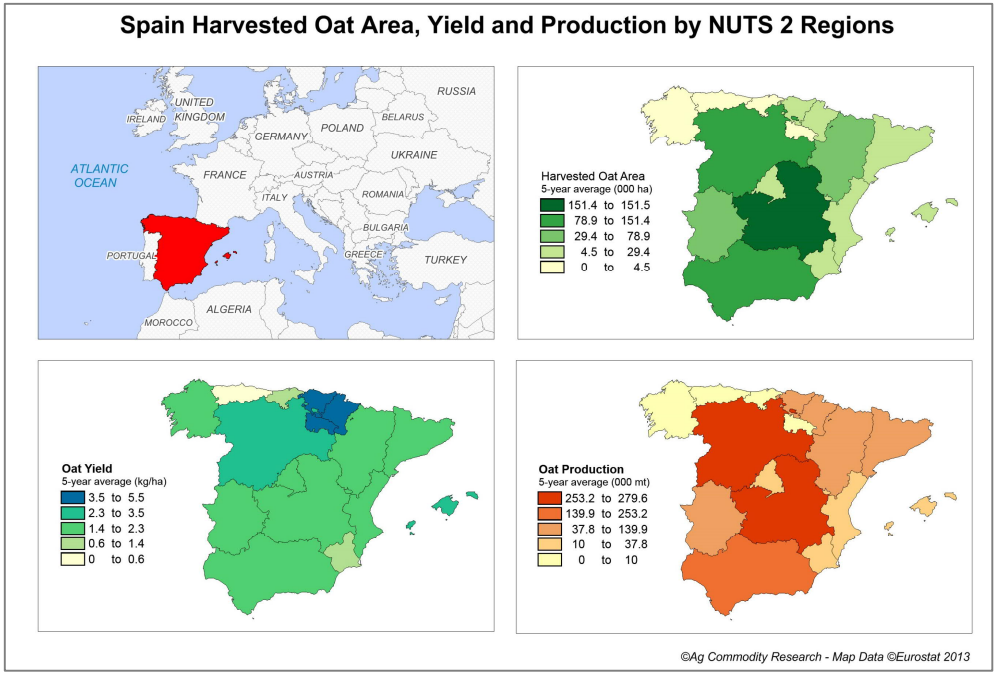
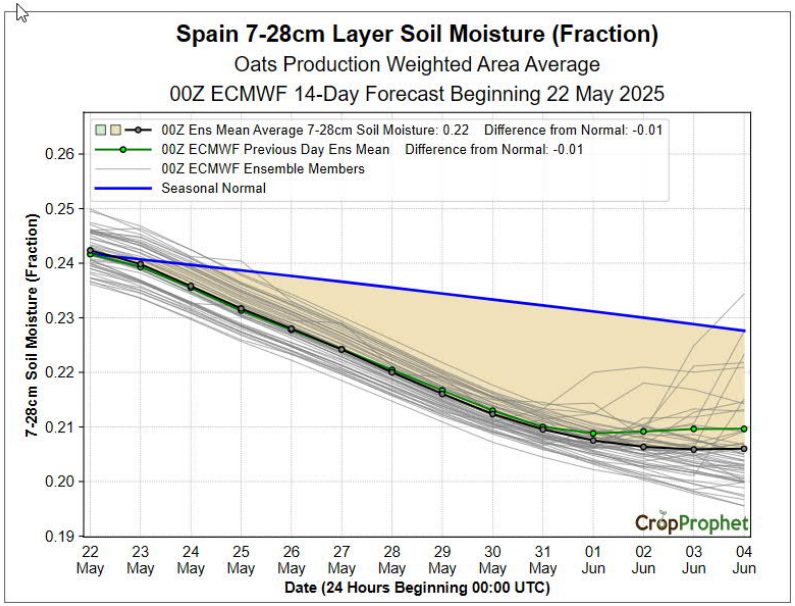
Spain







Spain's oat regions saw slightly above-normal soil moisture in the past 30 days, supporting early crop development.

However, forecasts point to declining moisture levels into early June, with below-normal conditions expected. While Spain is a smaller EU oat producer, key regions like Castilla y León and Galicia may face yield pressure if the dry trend continues without timely rainfall.

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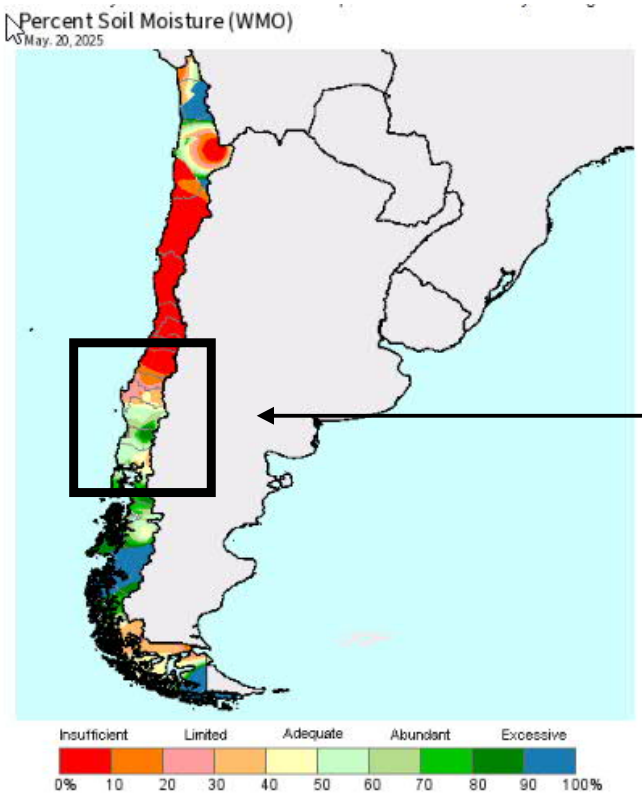
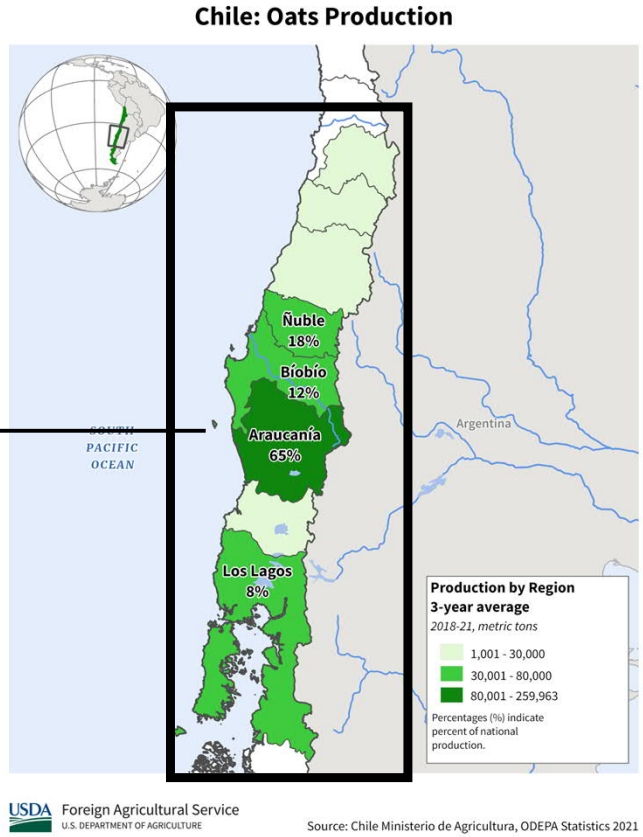
Chile

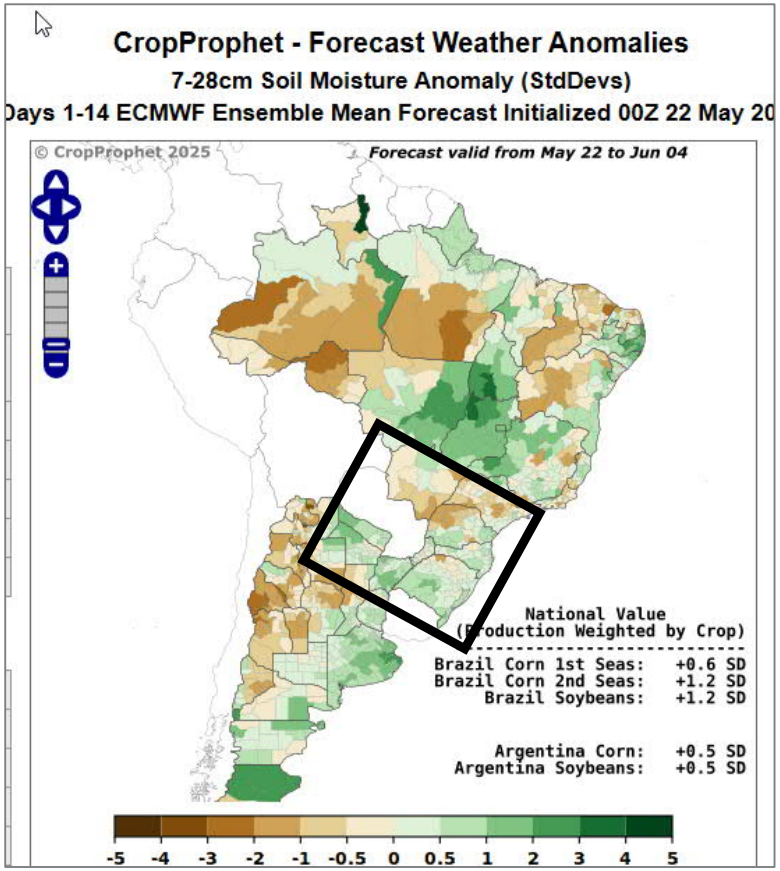


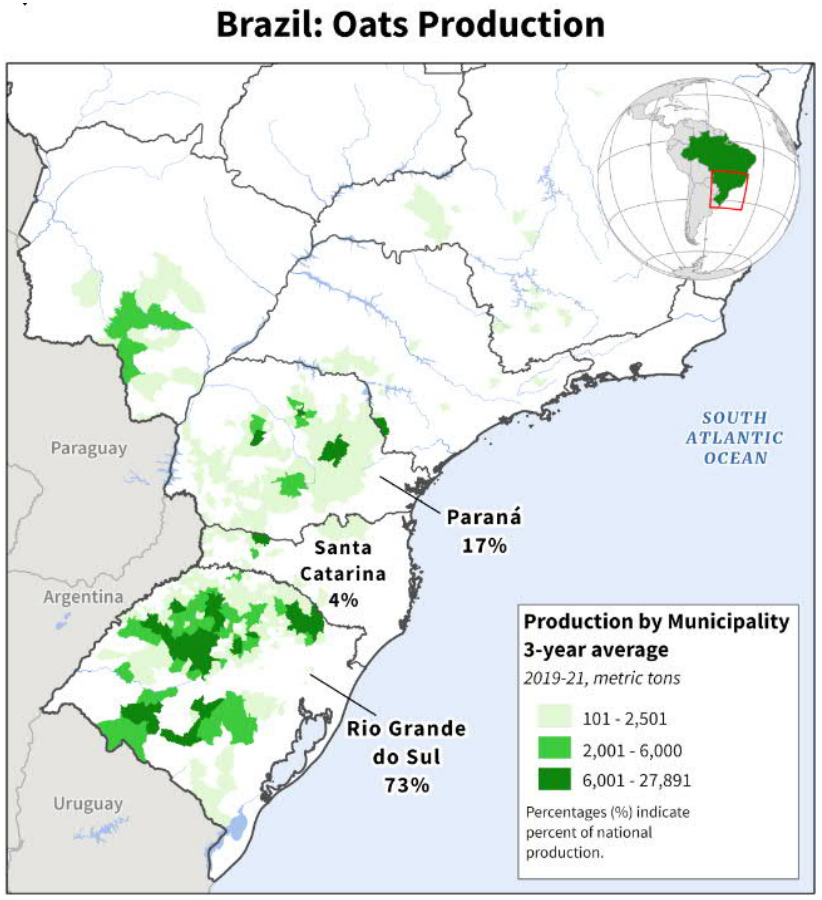


Soil moisture across Chile's main oat-growing regions—Araucanía, Ñuble, Biobío, and Los Lagos—is generally adequate to abundant, particularly in Araucanía, which produces 65% of the national crop. However, localized areas in Biobío and northern Araucanía show signs of limited moisture.

While current conditions are favorable for early crop development, the 7-day forecast indicates below-normal precipitation, suggesting potential short-term drying. If this trend continues, it could begin to impact more moisture-sensitive areas, though for now, crop prospects remain solid.

Brazil





Oat growing conditions in Brazil's primary production zones—Rio Grande do Sul (73% of national output), Paraná (17%), and Santa Catarina (4%)—remain moderately supportive. Over the past 30 days, soil moisture anomalies in these southern states were mixed but largely near normal to slightly negative.

However, the 14-day forecast points to notable improvements, with moisture levels expected to trend upward across much of the south. This improving forecast bodes well for planting progress and early crop establishment, particularly in Rio Grande do Sul, the core production hub. Despite short-term variability, the medium-term outlook supports a positive yield trajectory for Brazil's 2025 oat crop.

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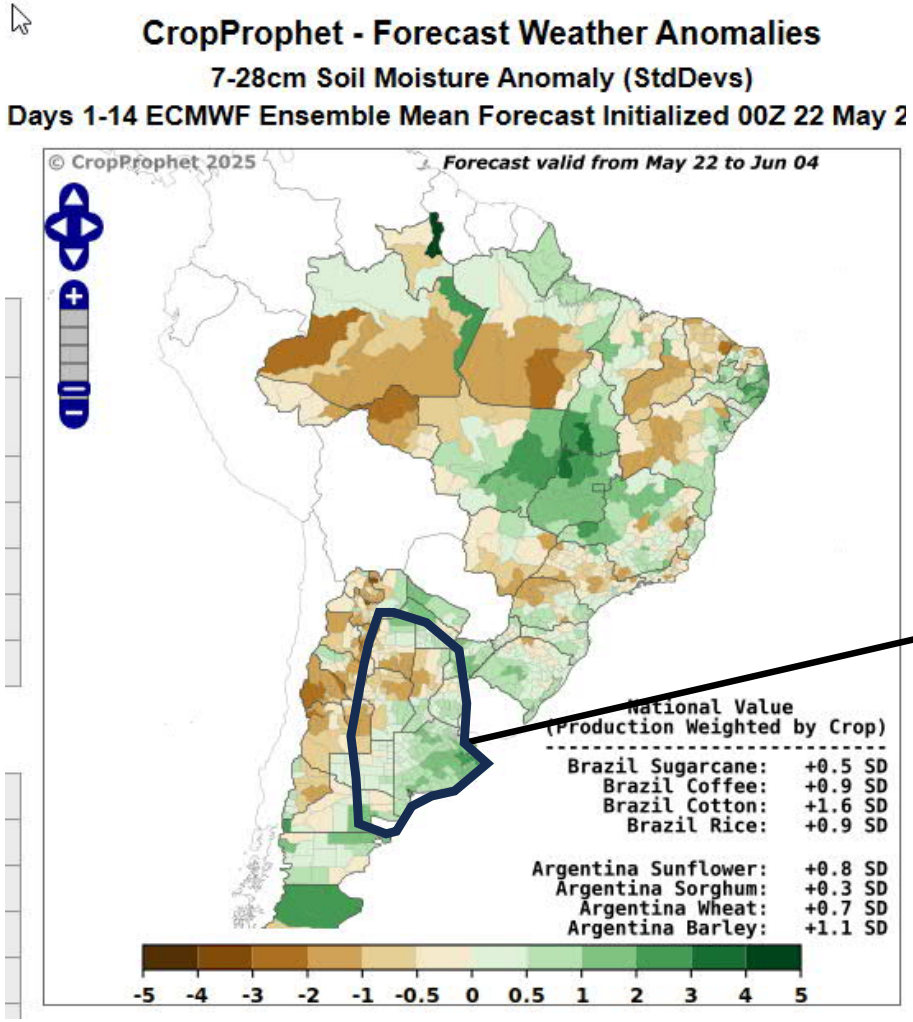
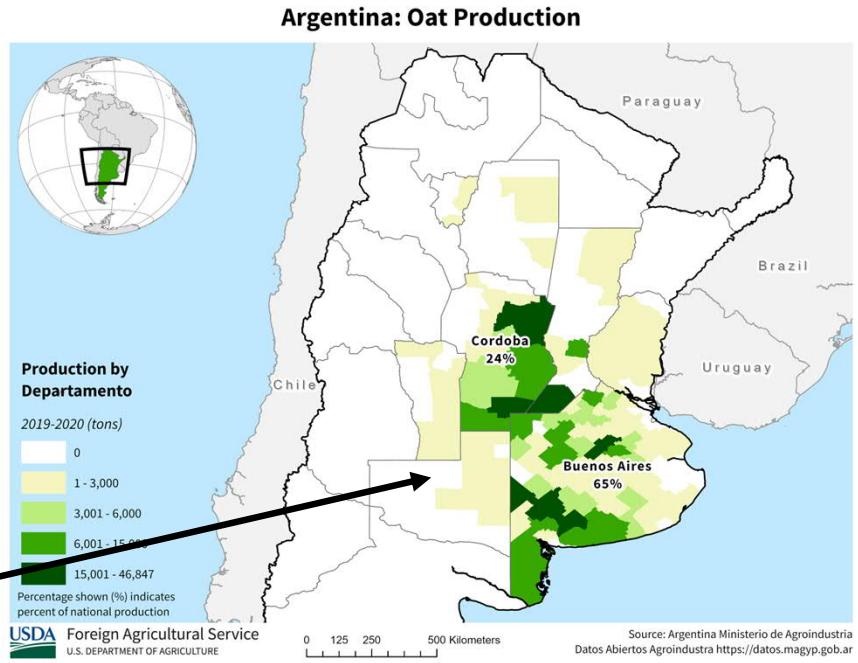
Argentina





Argentina's key oat-producing regions—Buenos Aires and Córdoba—are currently exhibiting favorable moisture conditions. Forecast soil moisture anomalies for late May to early June show slightly above-normal levels (+0.5 SD), with much of Buenos Aires in the neutral to mildly positive range and southern Córdoba similarly stable. These areas represent 89% of the country's oat output.

The outlook suggests adequate subsoil moisture for early crop development, though conditions will need continued support to maintain yield potential through later stages. Overall, the current setup supports a positive start to the 2025 oat season.

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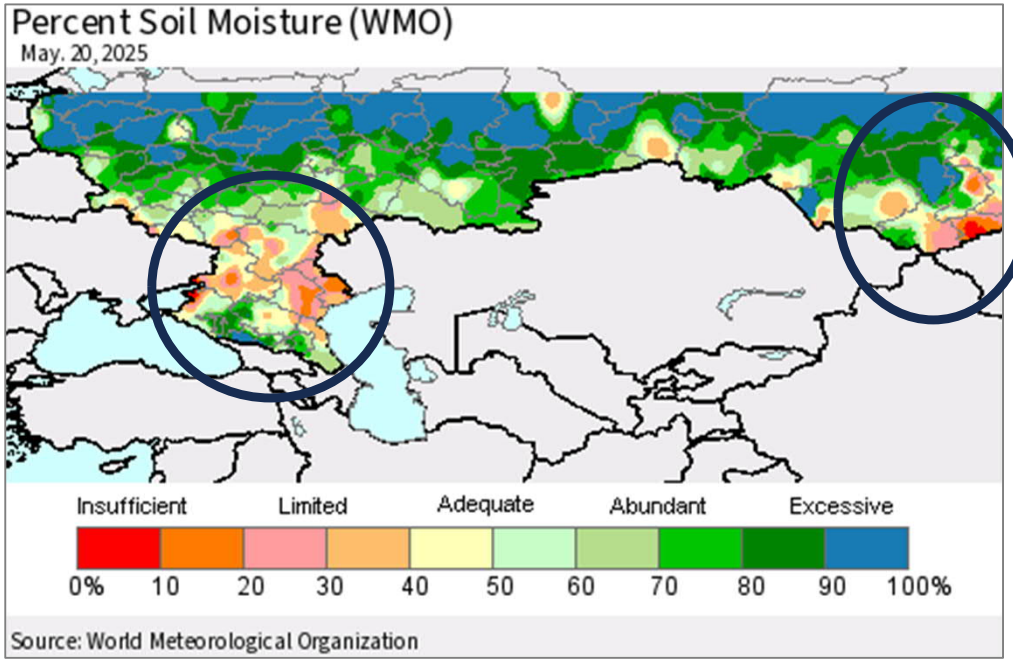
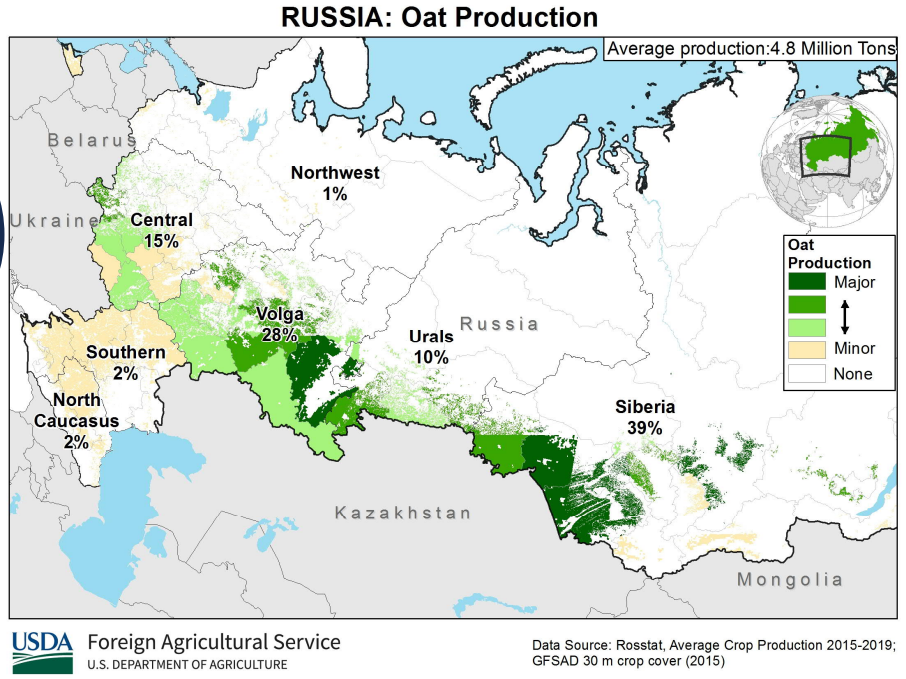
Russia





As of late May 2025, growing conditions across Russia's primary oat-producing zones are showing mixed signals. The Siberian region, which accounts for 39% of national production, generally displays adequate to abundant soil moisture, particularly in the northern zones, supporting a favorable early season outlook. The Volga region (28% of production) shows a patchwork of conditions, with many areas trending slightly drier than normal, although not yet at critical levels. In contrast, parts of the Central region (15%) and Urals (10%) are experiencing limited soil moisture, with below-normal anomalies forecast to persist, which may raise yield concerns if dryness deepens. Overall, while eastern zones are off to a promising start, continued dryness across the western oat belt warrants monitoring.

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