

# ***MCYFS - MARS Crop Yield Forecasting System***

## **Resources and opportunities for pest risk assessment**

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Monitoring Agricultural Resources Unit  
Joint Research Centre

# Content

- MARS crop yield forecasting system
  - Meteorological infrastructure
  - Crop model infrastructure
  - Remote Sensing infrastructure
  - Statistical infrastructure
  
- Pest risk assessment support
  - Collaboration with EFSA
  - ClimPest
  - MYMICS

# Content

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  - MYMICS

EU 27 crop monitoring  
quantitative crop yield forecasts

Neighbouring countries  
crop monitoring  
quantitative  
crop yield forecasts

Crop monitoring

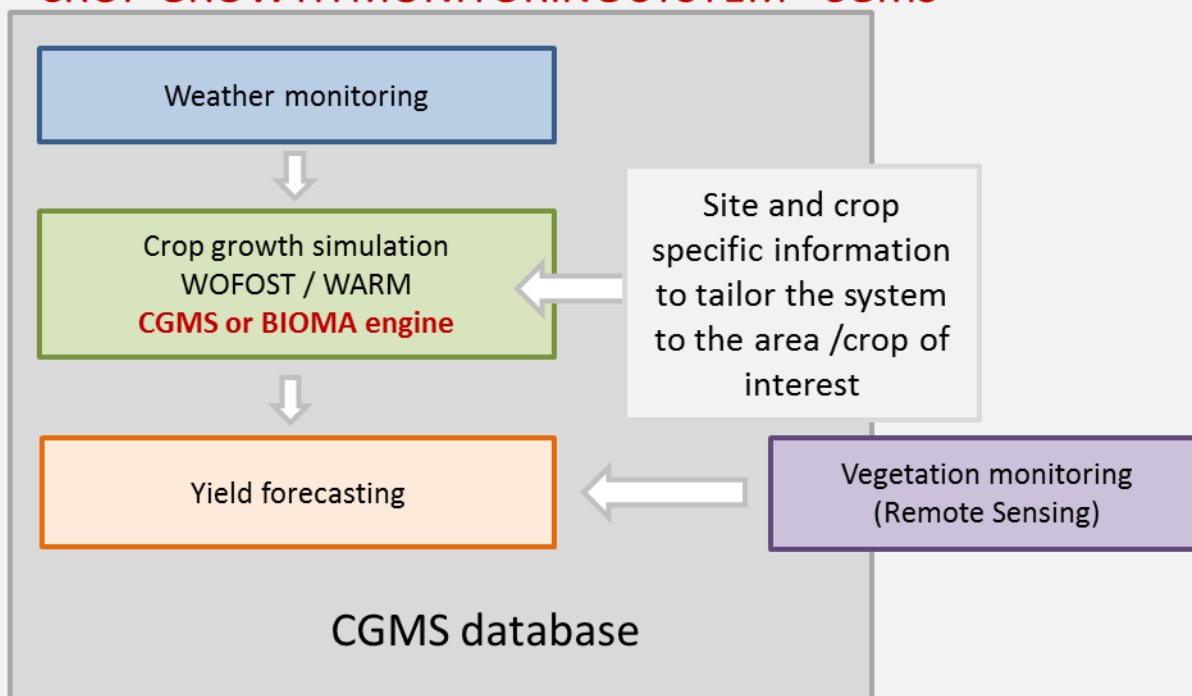


# MARS CROP YIELD FORECASTING SYSTEM - MCYFS

Regulation 78/200

ensure agro-economic monitoring of agricultural land and of the condition of crops, to enable estimates to be made, in particular as regards yields and agricultural production;

## - CROP GROWTH MONITORING SYSTEM - CGMS



promote access to the estimates referred to in point

## - CROP MONITORING BULLETINS, WEB TOOLS

ensure technological follow-up of the agro-meteorological system.

## - SW improvement and development, technical supervision of contractors

## **YIELD FORECASTS**

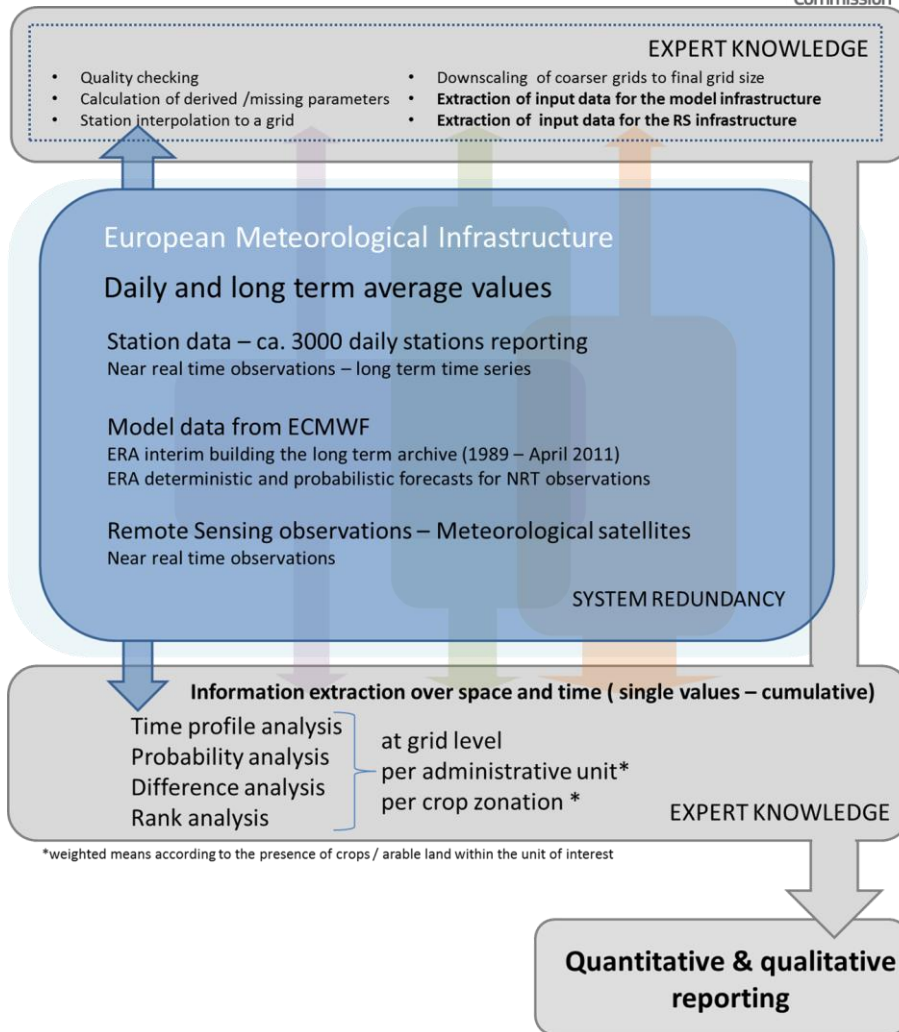
**The approach is straightforward:  
the final crop yield is a function of**

**crop yield = f (meteo impact on crops, crop  
growth simulated parameters, satellite  
observations on crop vegetation, time trend)**

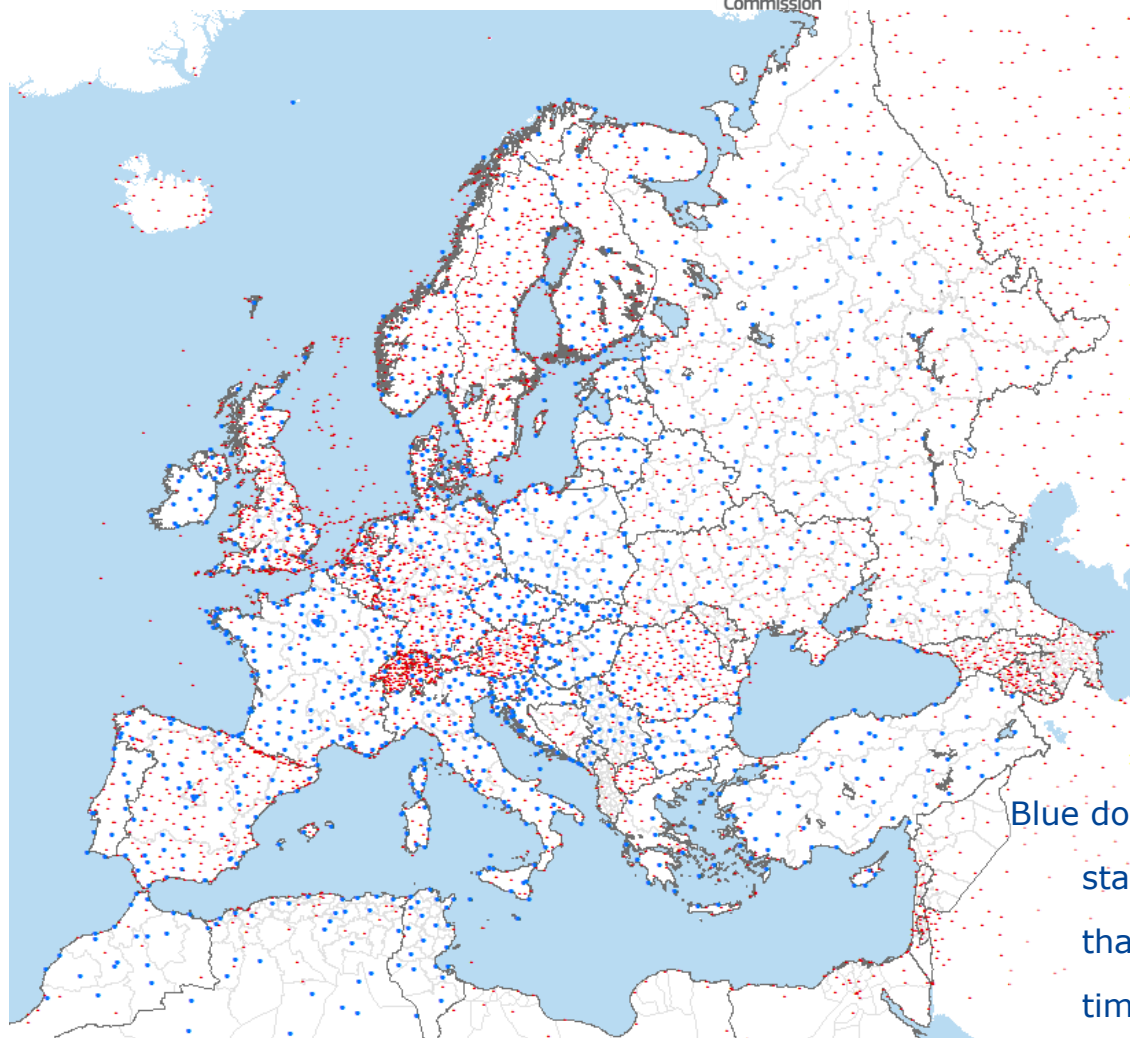
**...but the system to realize it is  
sophisticated and challenging**



# European meteorological infrastructure



# Active station net



## Weather stations

reporting in near real  
time to the MARS  
meteorological  
infrastructure for the  
main meteorological  
variables

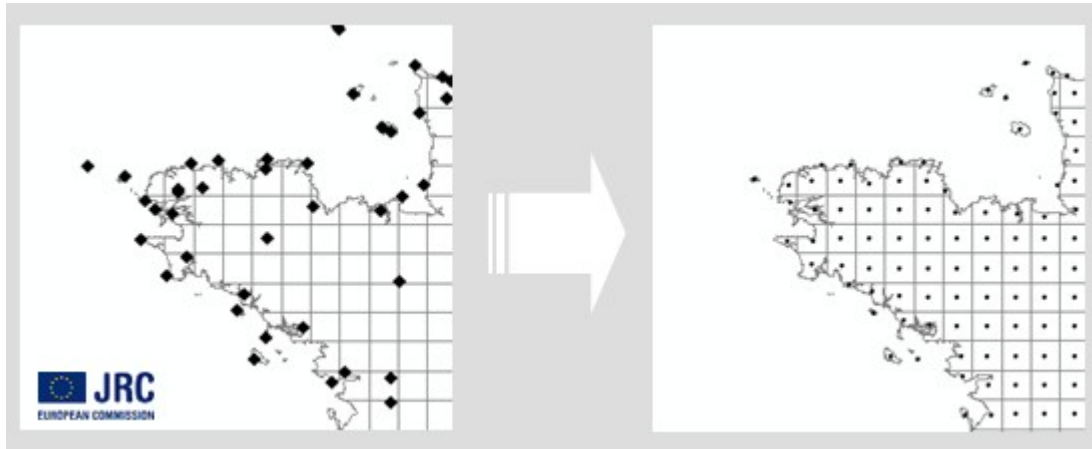
Archive data since 1933,  
interpolated to the  
MARS grid since 1975

Blue dot: reliable  
stations with more  
than 80 % of the  
time reporting

Red dot: all stations in  
the system



# Interpolation to the MARS grid



**Interpolation is used to convert irregular distributed station data to regular distributed data (25 km \* 25 km grid) with different methodologies according to the parameter**

## RAINFALL

Cumulated values

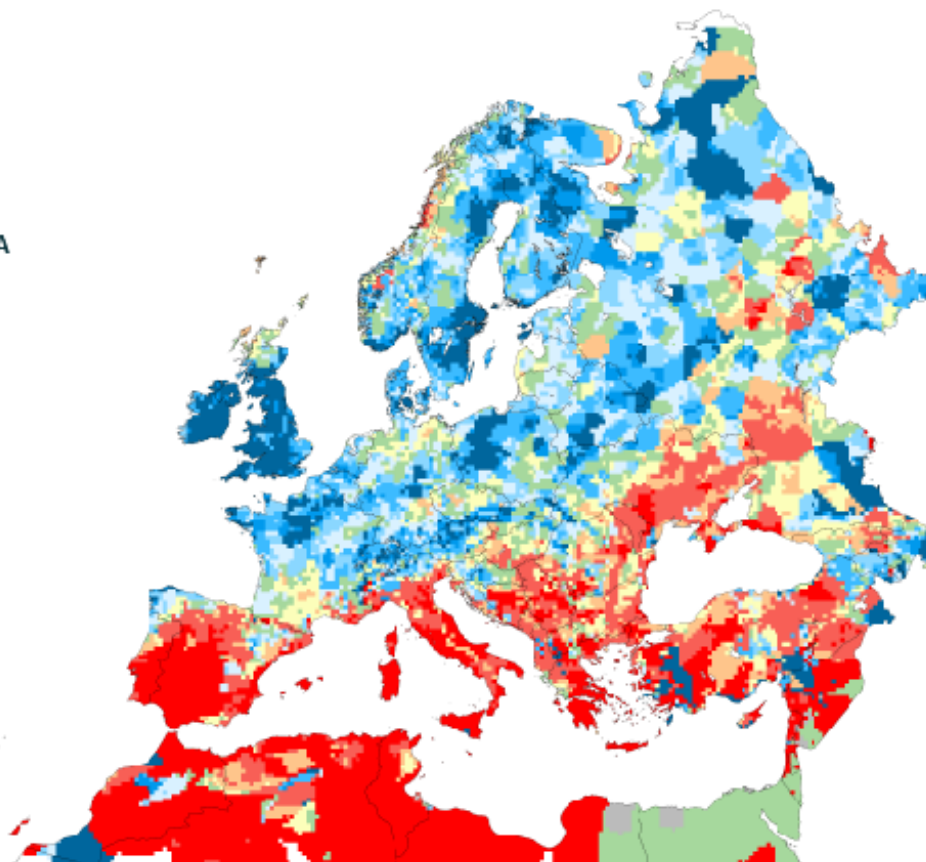
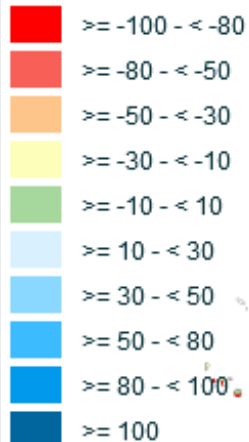
from : 01 June 2012

to : 30 June 2012

Deviation:

Year of interest - LTA

Unit: %



11/07/2012

resolution: 25x25 km



(c) European Union 2012,  
source: Joint Research Centre  
Processed by: ALTErrA consortium

## TEMPERATURE SUM

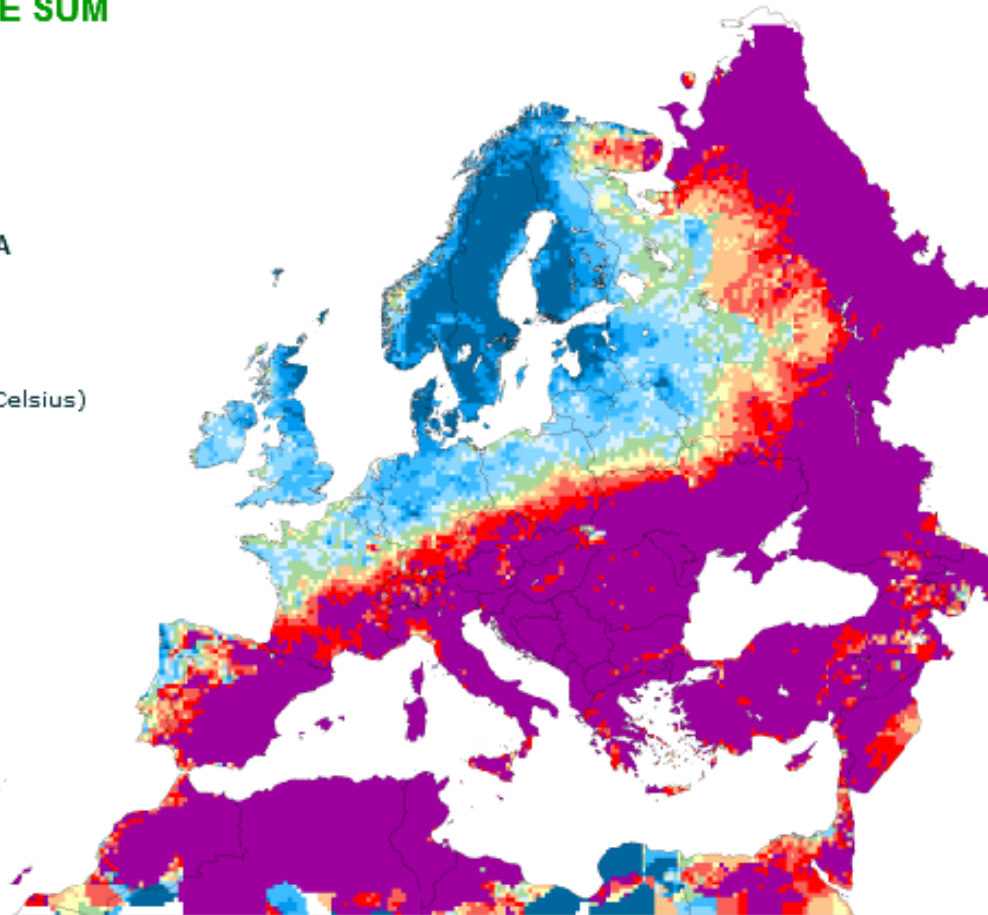
from : 01 June 2012  
to : 30 June 2012

Deviation:

Year of interest - LTA

Base temperature: 0

Unit: degree days (Celsius)



11/07/2012  
resolution: 25x25 km

## LONGEST HEAT WAVE

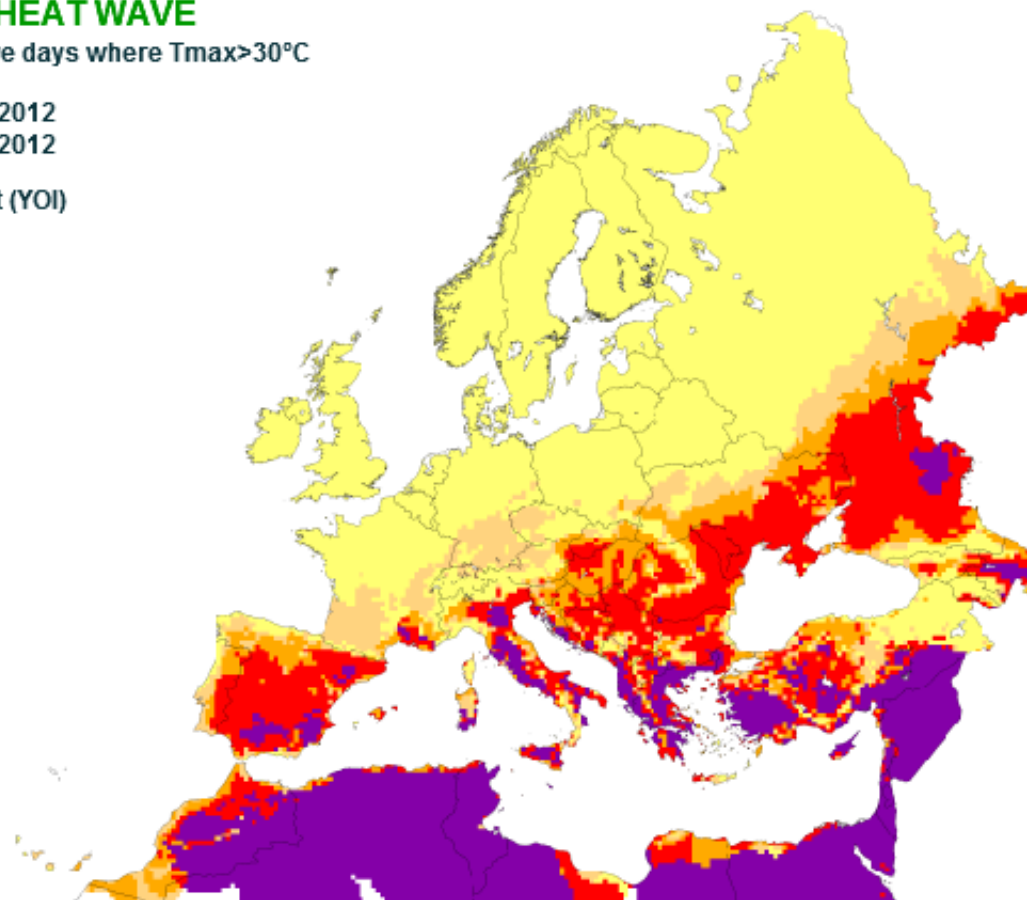
$\geq 2$  consecutive days where  $T_{max} > 30^{\circ}\text{C}$

from : 01 June 2012

to : 30 June 2012

Year of interest (YOI)

Unit: days



11/07/2012  
resolution: 25x25 km

## MINIMUM DAILY TEMPERATURE AGRICULTURAL AREAS

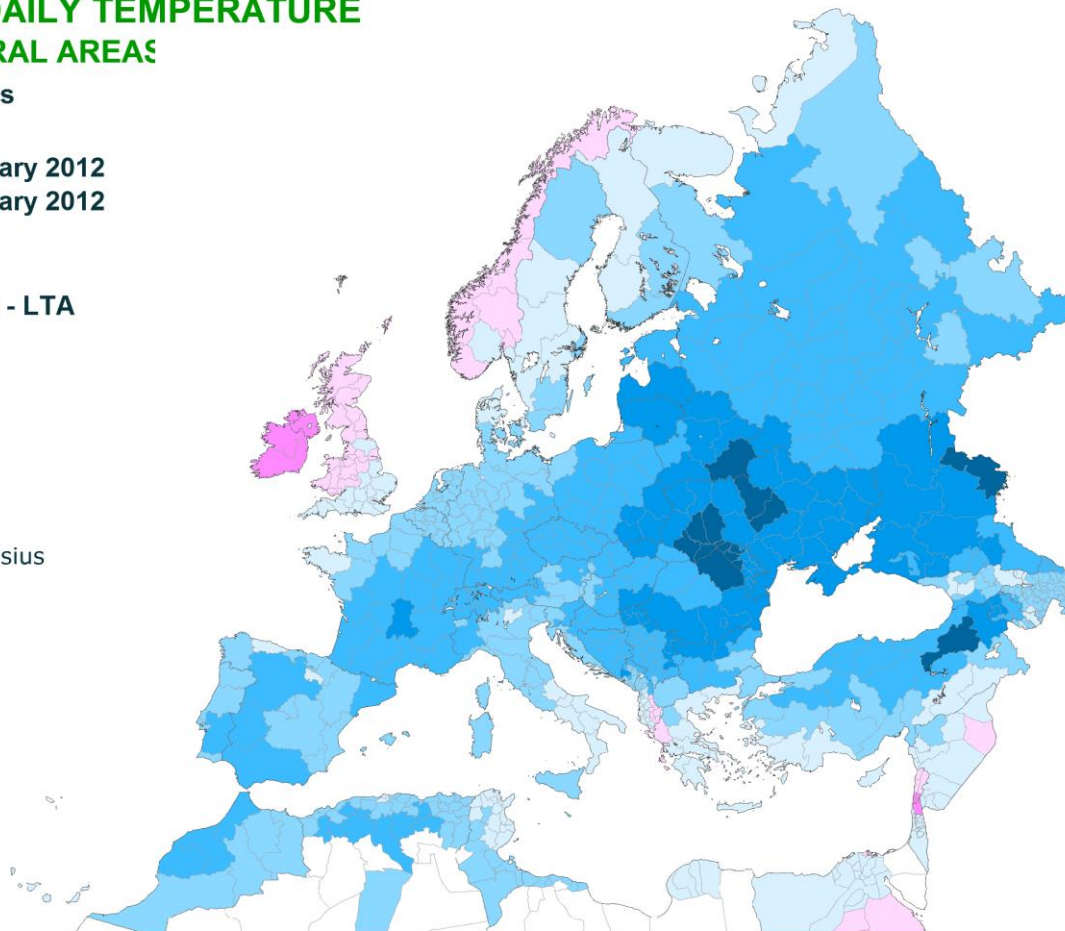
Averaged values

from : 01 February 2012  
to : 29 February 2012

Deviation:

Year of interest - LTA

Unit: degrees Celsius



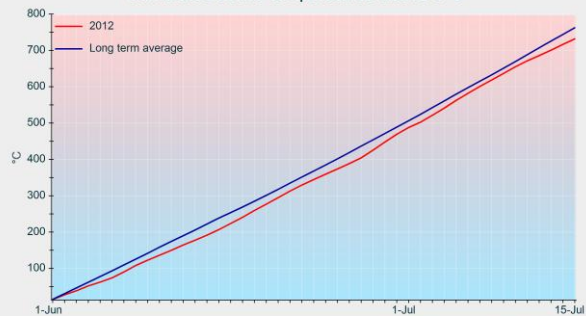
15/10/2012  
resolution: NUTS Level 2



# Aggregated results over time

## Hessen (DE)

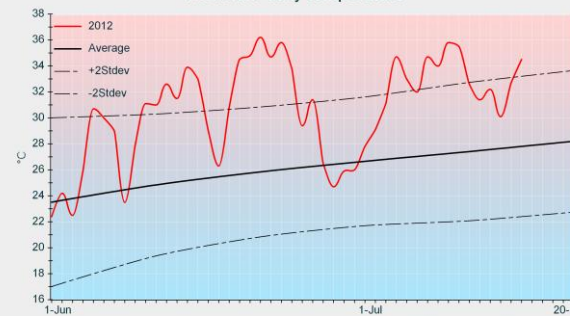
Cumulated active temperatures above 0°C



(c) European Union 2012, source: Joint Research Centre

## Mykolayivs'ka (Ukraine)

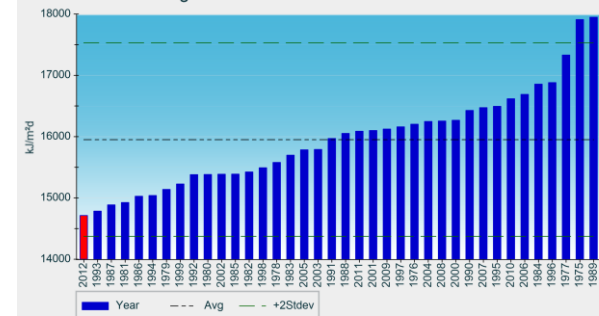
Maximum daily temperature



(c) European Union 2012, source: Joint Research Centre

## Ireland (IE)

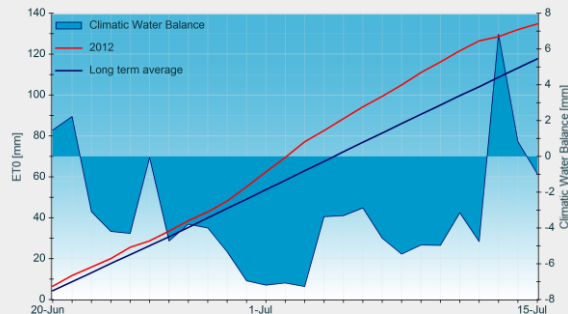
Average Global radiation Period: 01/04 - 15/07



(c) European Union 2012, source: Joint Research Centre

## Zapadne Slovensko (SK)

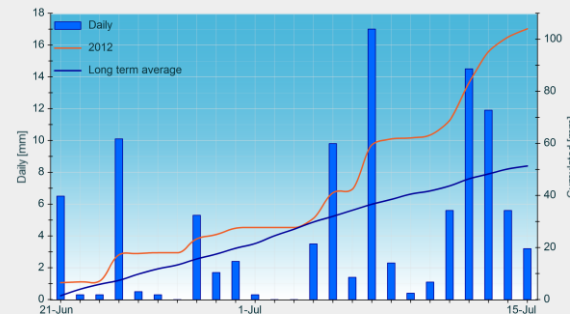
Cumulated ET0 and Climatic Water Balance



(c) European Union 2012, source: Joint Research Centre

## Picardie (FR)

Rainfall



(c) European Union 2012, source: Joint Research Centre

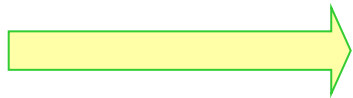
## Deutschland

Rainfall

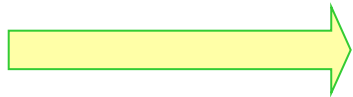


(c) European Union 2012, source: Joint Research Centre

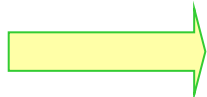
# Meteorological information combined with phenological stages



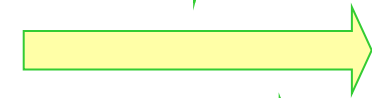
**excess of rain at sowing**



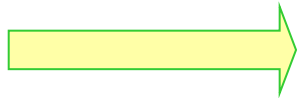
**frosts at emergence**



**droughts during vegetative growth**



**dry spells at grain filling**



**heat stresses before maturity**

**are reducing factors of plant productions  
and are taken into account by indicators**

## LONGEST HEAT WAVE AROUND RIPENING GRAIN MAIZE

$\geq 2$  consecutive days where  $T_{max} > 30^{\circ}\text{C}$

Deviation:

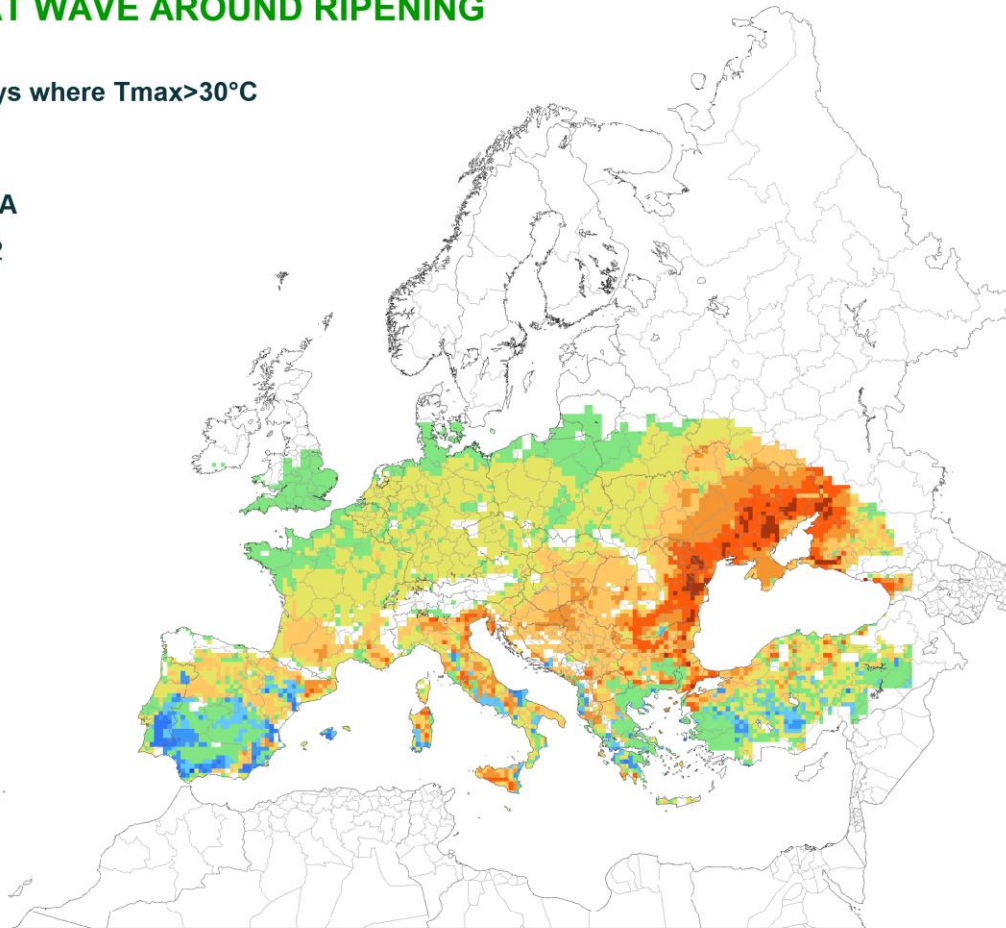
**Year of interest - LTA**

Year of interest: 2012

Offset (days): -11

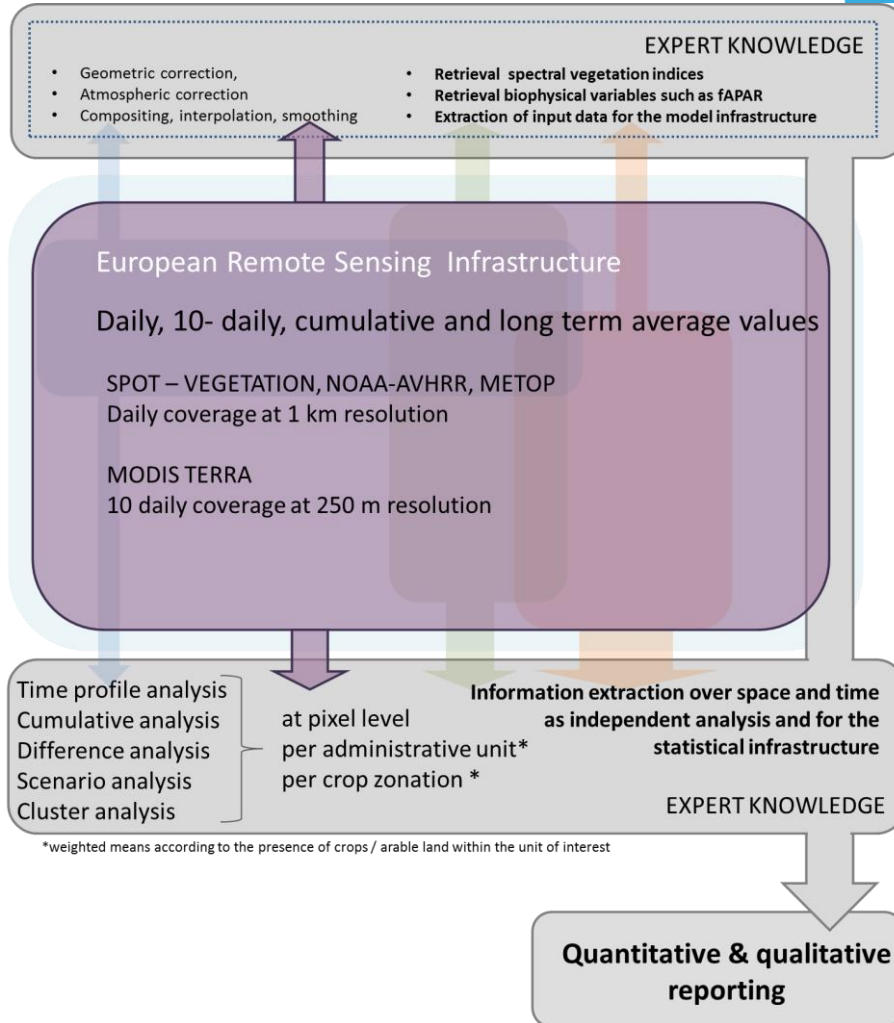
Duration (days): 21

Unit: no. of events



15/10/2012  
resolution: 25x25 km

# European remote sensing infrastructure



# Remote Sensing contributions

Approaches followed:

- Independent analysis for crops and pastures - qualitative
- Independent analysis for crops – quantitative
- Merged analysis with meteo and crop simulation results – quantitative



## Sensor

**MSG**  
since 2005

**NOAA AVHRR**  
since 1981

**METOP AVHRR**  
from 2008

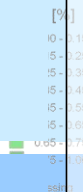
**SPOT VGT**  
since 1998

**MODIS TERRA**  
since 2000

## Preprocessing

**Pan-European**  
Daily, 10- daily, monthly,  
long term average

- original bands
- atmospheric correction
- geometric correction
- quality flag
- compositing (MVC, avg)
- interpolation
- smoothing



## Indicators

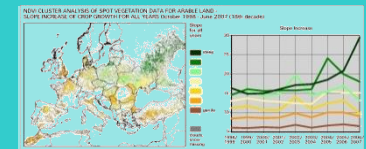
**Land surface temp.**  
**Radiation (DSSF)**  
**Sunshine duration**  
**Snow cover**

**NDVI**  
**fAPAR**  
**DMP**

**NDVI**  
**fAPAR**  
**DMP**

## Info extraction over space and time

**Difference analysis**  
**Time profile analysis**  
**Cluster analysis**  
**Similarity analysis**  
**Rank analysis**  
**Probability analysis**

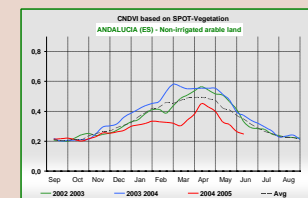


**Intra annual & full series**

## C- indicator

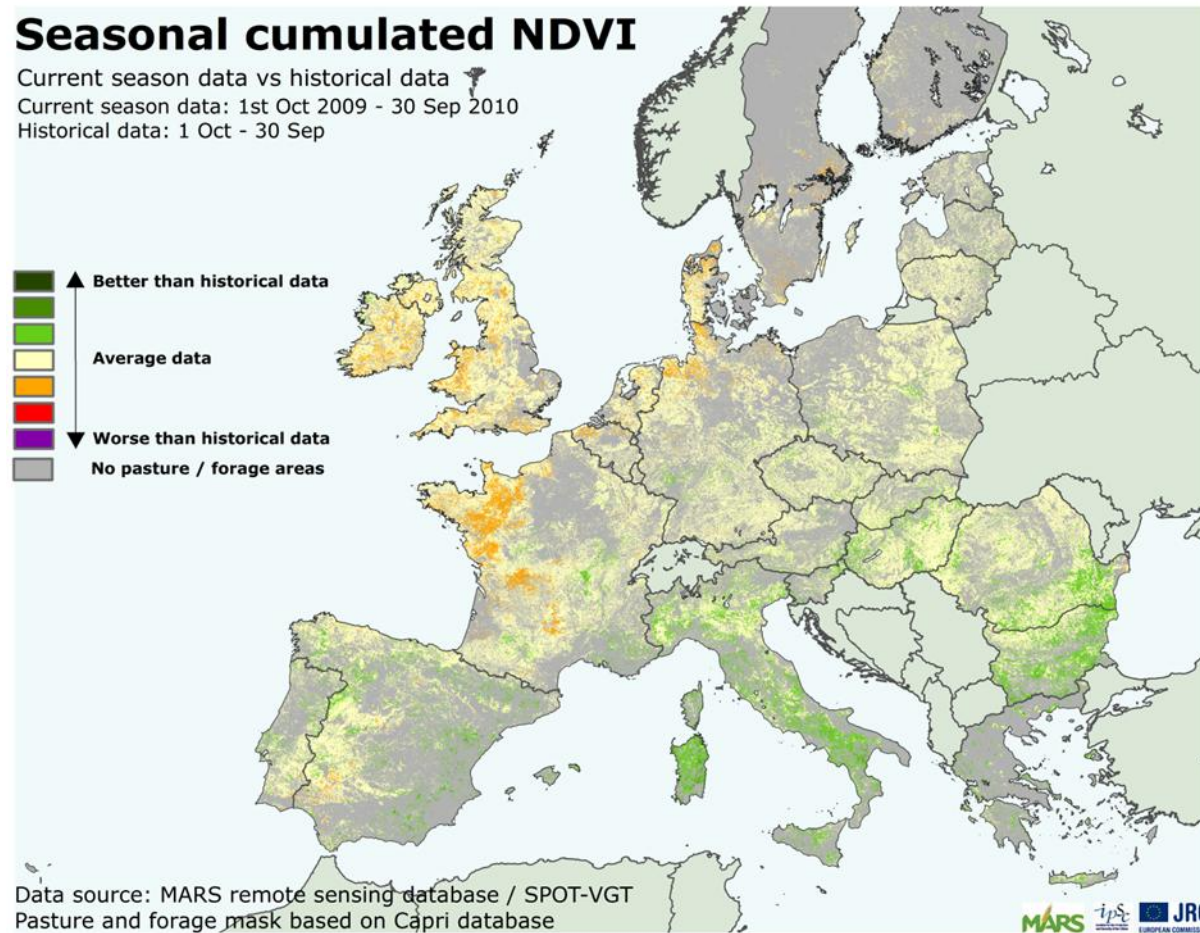
Weighted mean according to land use within the  
unit of interest

**Administrative unit**  
**Agri-ecological zonation**  
**Grid (25 km \* 25 km)**



## Seasonal cumulated NDVI

Current season data vs historical data  
 Current season data: 1st Oct 2009 - 30 Sep 2010  
 Historical data: 1 Oct - 30 Sep



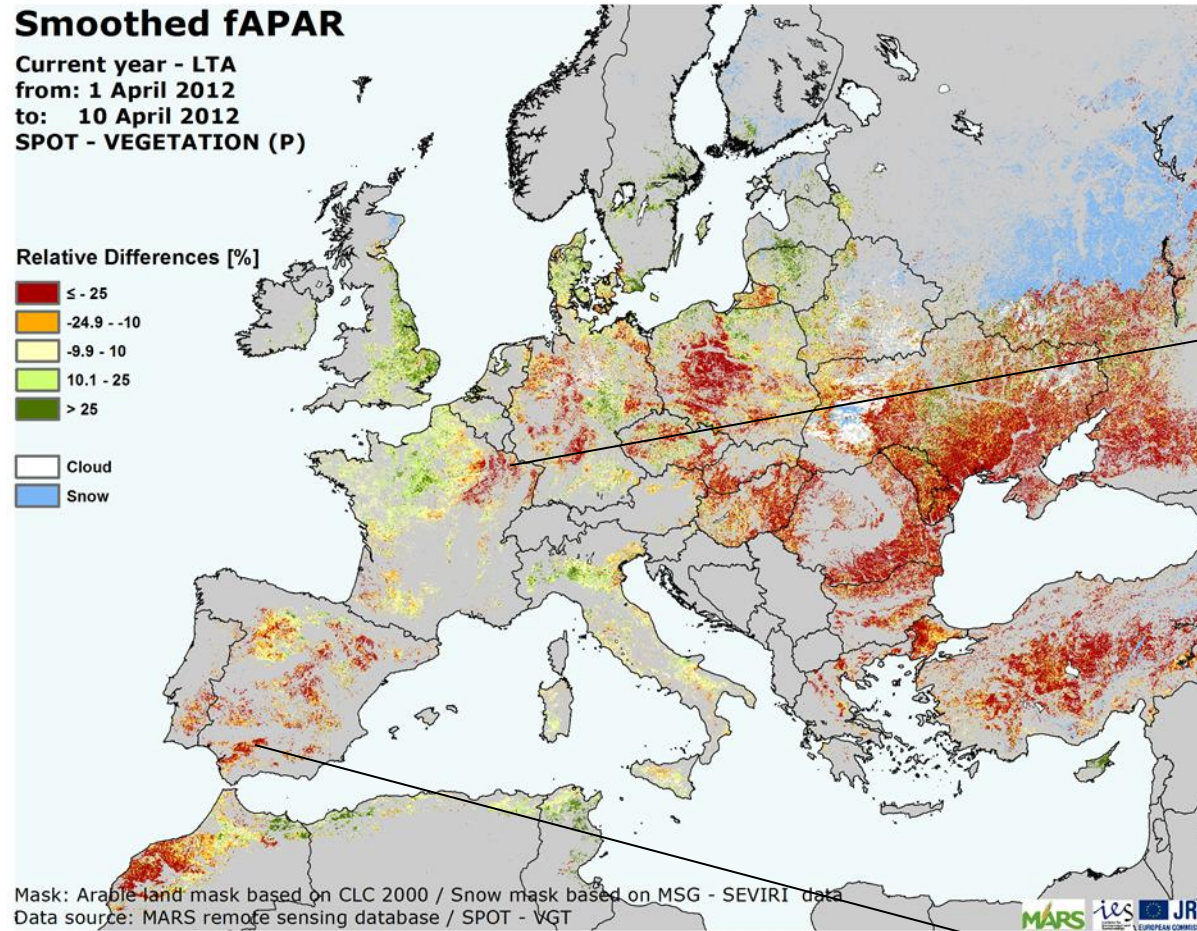
## Smoothed fAPAR

Current year - LTA  
from: 1 April 2012  
to: 10 April 2012  
SPOT - VEGETATION (P)

Relative Differences [%]

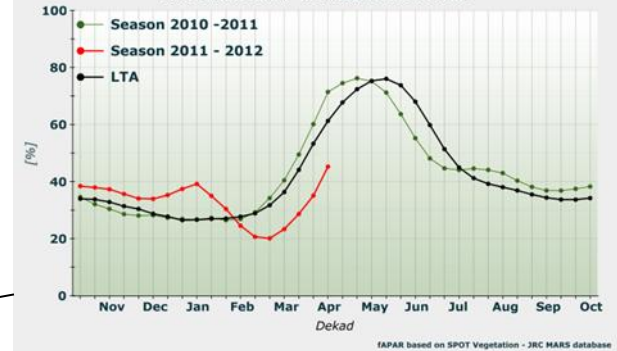


Cloud  
Snow



### Lorraine (FR)

fAPAR (smoothed) - non irrigated arable land



### Andalucía (ES)

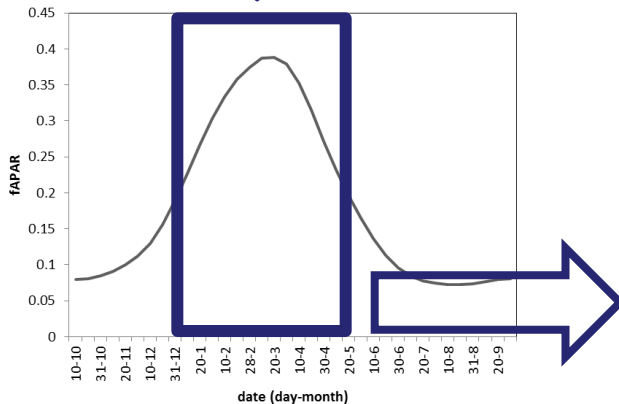
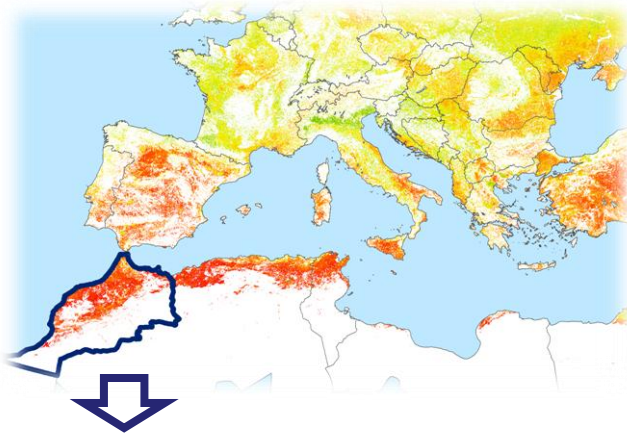
fAPAR (smoothed) - non irrigated arable land





# Remote sensing approach to quantitative yield estimation

Crop yields related to cumulated fAPAR at regional / national level



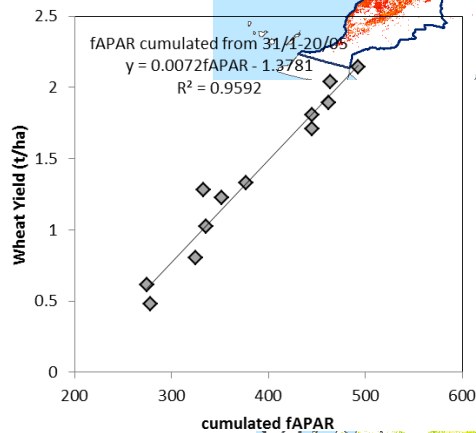
## Assumptions:

- The inter-annual **variability of crop yield** can be **explained by crop photosynthetic activity** along the season (water limited areas)
- The analysis is valid for **predominant crops** (typ. wheat/barley)
- Statistically-based (**reliable yield statistics are required**)
- **Crop acreage** is, more or less, **stable** (winter Vs summer cereals)

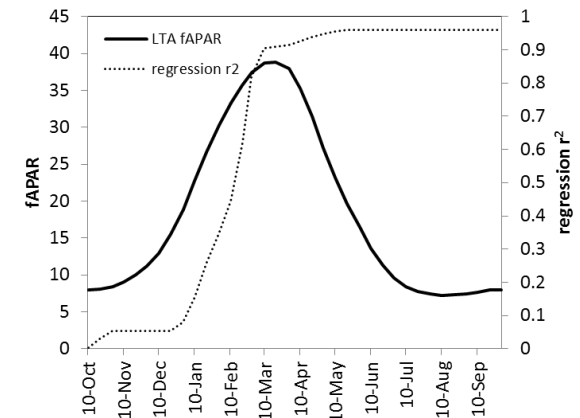
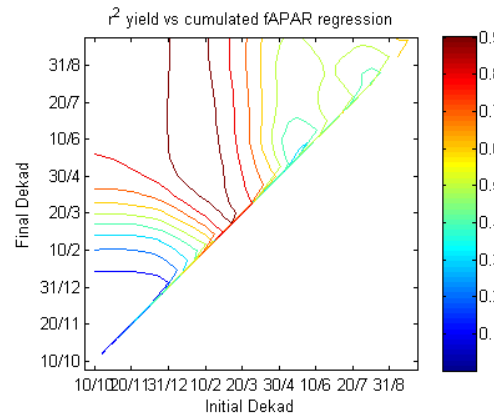
Integration period is optimized through a **regression between yield figures and fAPAR** with historical data

## Some examples (1999-2011):

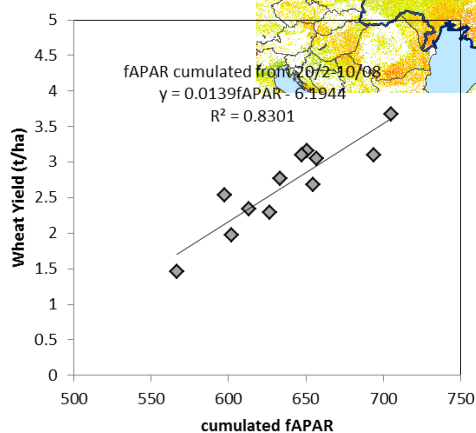
### Morocco (Wheat)



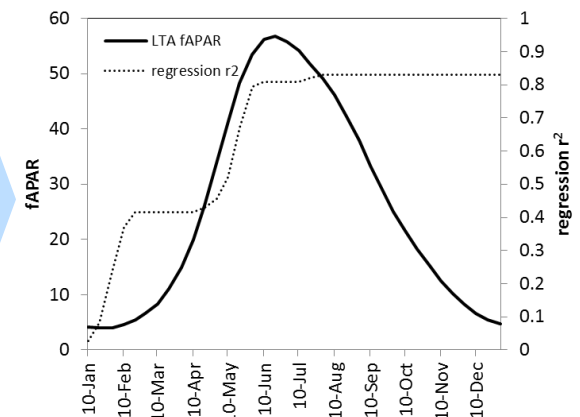
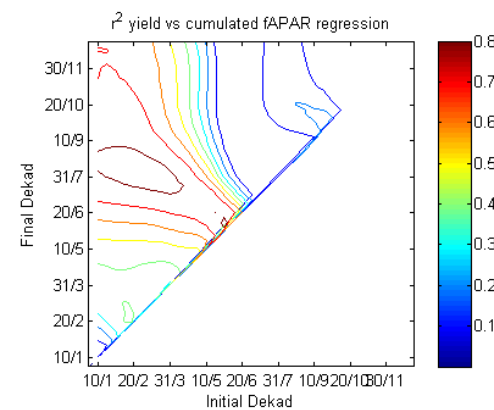
### Evolution of RS regress. reliability along the season



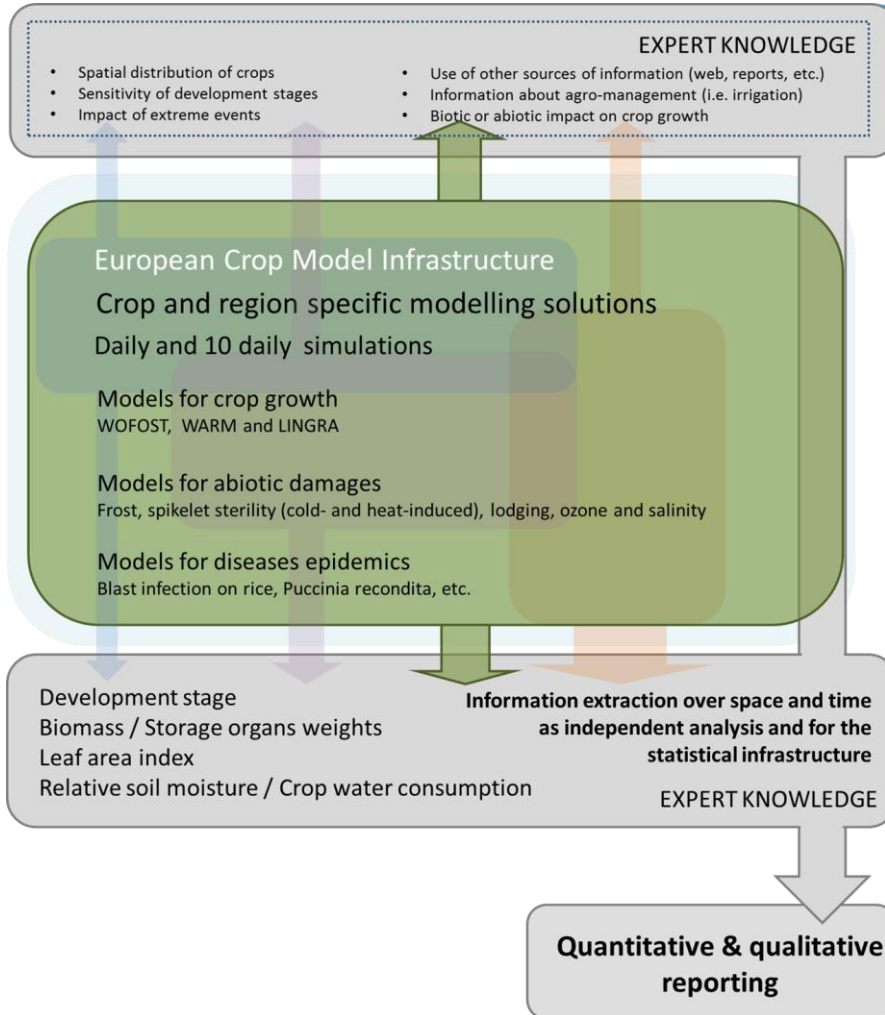
### Ukraine (Wheat)



### Evolution of RS regress. reliability along the season







# European crop model infrastructure

Crop models are complex groups of algorithms that simulate crop growth: total biomass produced, grain biomass, etc. They use meteorological data as input as well as soil information and management data to account for the effects of changes in soil water content and crop management.

# Crop simulation

The crop simulation module of the MCYFS integrates the effect of **weather, soil** and **crop characteristics** on crop growth assuming that the influence of other factors like farm management and socio-economic factors is constant.

The heart of the module consists of the **WOFOST** model which simulates crop development. These results are analyzed to identify abnormal situations and are used as input for the yield forecasting module.

# Crop model infrastructure

European  
Commission

## Input data

## Crop growth simulation

## Indicators

## Info extraction over space and time

### Static data

Crop parameters  
Soil parameters  
Administrative units

### Meteorological infrastructure

Observed interpolated  
weather data

Downscaled forecast  
data

### Remote sensing infrastructure

Radiation

NDVI, fAPAR

Pan-European  
10-daily  
long term average  
**AGRO-METEO DB**

Crop growth models  
in CGMS  
**WOFOST**  
**LINGRA**  
**WARM**

Simulated crops  
**Wheat, Barley**  
**Maize, Rice, Sunflower**  
**Rapeseed, Sugar Beet**  
**Potato, Field Beans**  
**Pastures**

Water limited and  
potential per crop:

Above ground biomass  
Storage organs  
Leaf area index  
Development stage  
Relative soil moisture  
Crop water requirements  
Crop water consumption

**Ingestion into  
statistical infrastructure**

Meteorological events in  
relation to crop  
development stage

**Difference analysis**

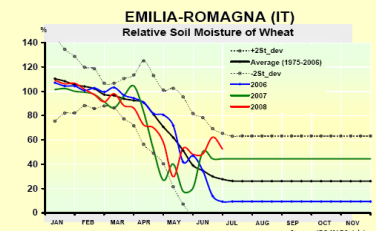
**Time profile analysis**

**Similarity analysis**

**Rank analysis**

**C- indicator**

Weighted mean  
according to land  
use within the unit  
of interest



# Outputs from the crop models

## CLIMATIC WATER BALANCE

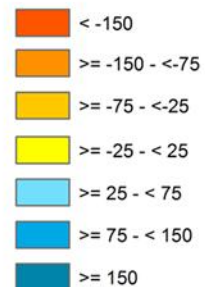
### GRAIN MAIZE

#### Cumulated values

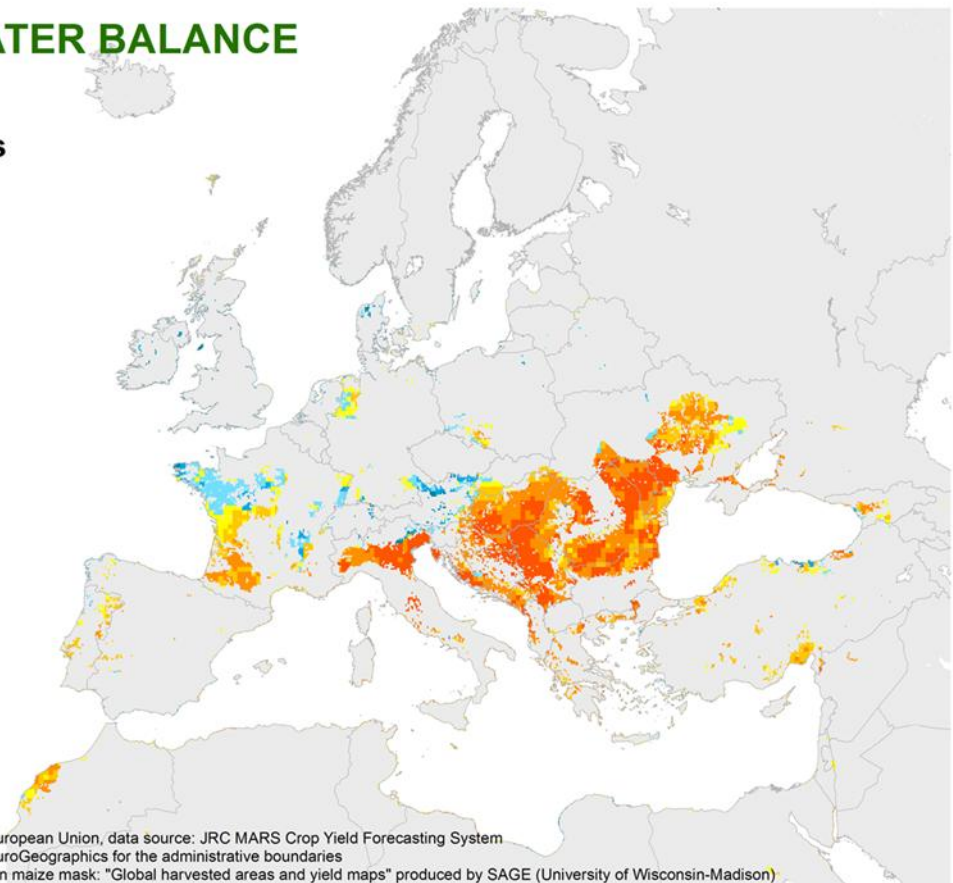
from: 01 June 2012  
to : 28 August 2012

Deviation:  
Year of interest - LTA

Units: mm



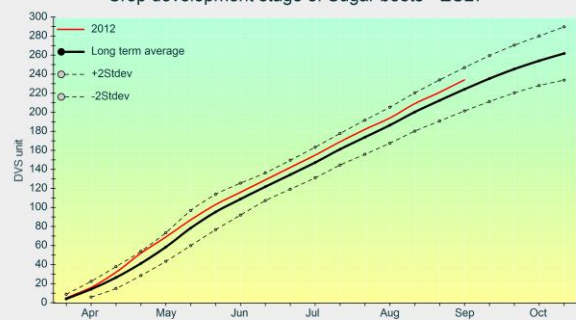
© European Union, data source: JRC MARS Crop Yield Forecasting System  
© EuroGeographics for the administrative boundaries  
Grain maize mask: "Global harvested areas and yield maps" produced by SAGE (University of Wisconsin-Madison)



# Outputs from the crop models

## Ellada

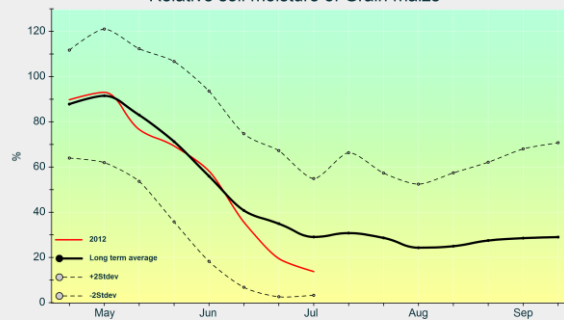
Crop development stage of Sugar beets - EU27



(c) European Union 2012, source: Joint Research Centre

## Eszak-Alfold (HU)

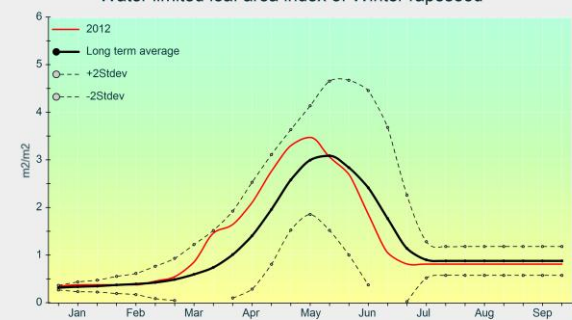
Relative soil moisture of Grain maize



(c) European Union 2012, source: Joint Research Centre

## Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (DE)

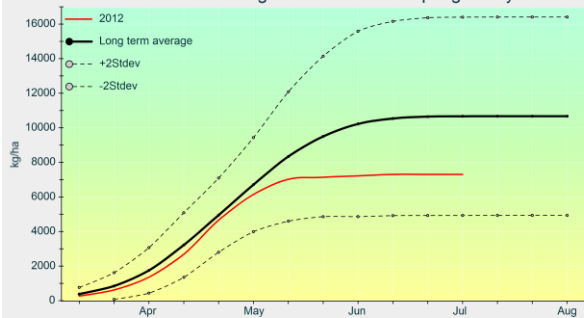
Water limited leaf area index of Winter rapeseed



(c) European Union 2012, source: Joint Research Centre

## Castilla-La Mancha (ES)

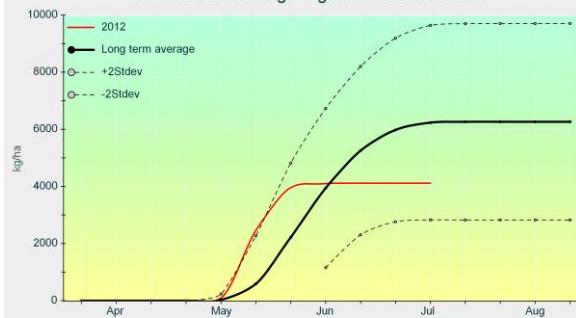
Water limited above ground biomass of Spring barley



(c) European Union 2012, source: Joint Research Centre

## Mykolayivs'ka (Ukraine)

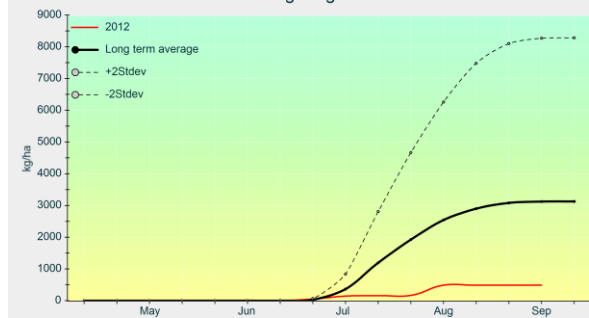
Water limited storage organs of Winter wheat



(c) European Union 2012, source: Joint Research Centre

## Severen Tsentralen (BG)

Water limited storage organs of Grain maize



(c) European Union 2012, source: Joint Research Centre



# The libraries currently available



## Weather libraries

- AirTemperature, EvapoTranspiration, LeafWetness
- Climate indices
- Weather Generation (ClimGen, CLIMAK)

## Stresses

### Abiotic

- Heat damage
- Frost kill
- Rice cold shocks
- Lodging

### Biotic

- Generic air-borne diseases
- Generic soil-borne diseases
- CornBorer simulator

## Plant libraries

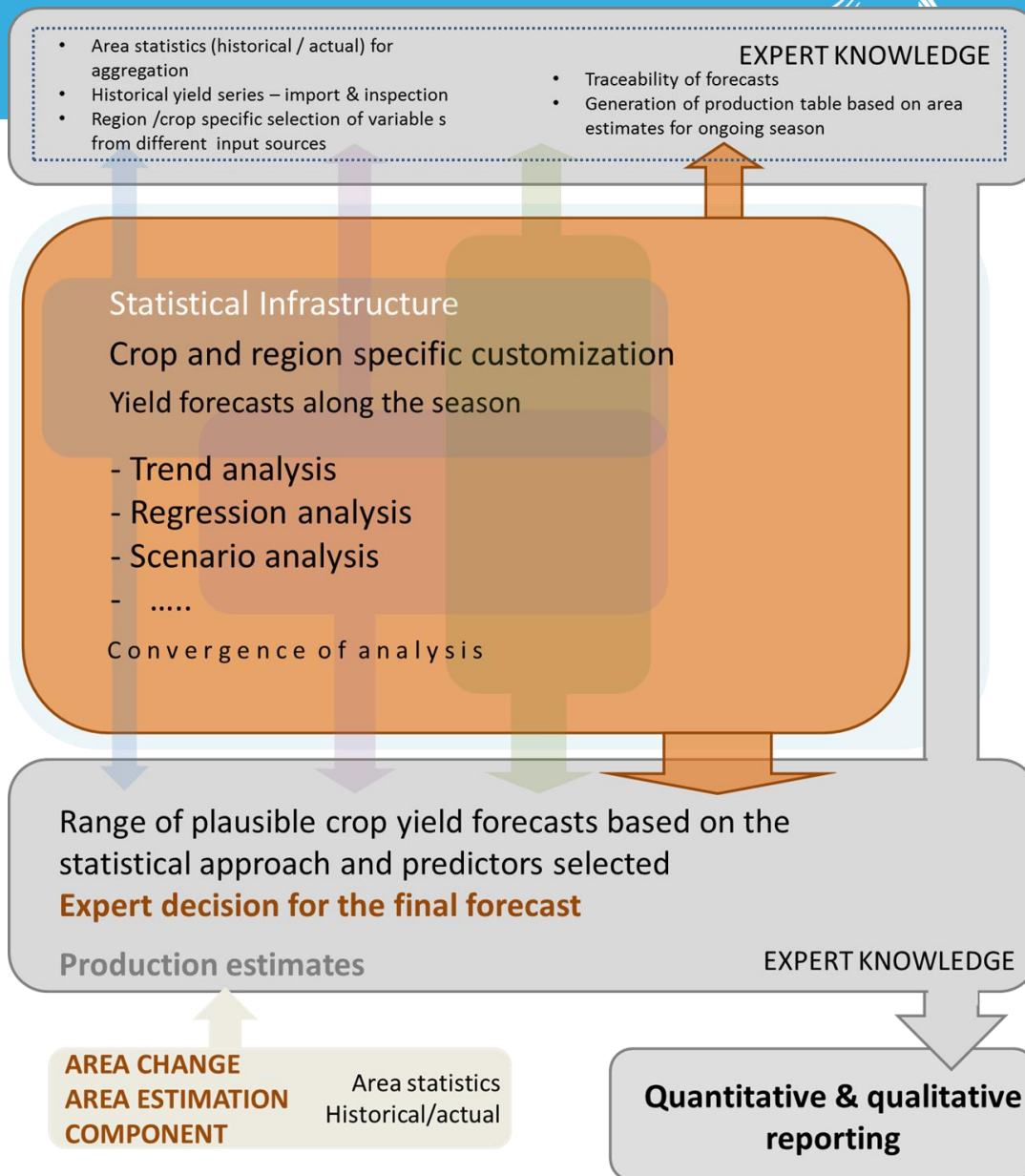
- Generic crop Simulation (CropSyst, WOFOST)
- Pasture (STIC)
- Rice (WARM)
- SugarCane (CANEGRO)

## Agriculture management

- Rule based modelling

## Soil libraries

- Soil water runoff and erosion
- Soil water redistribution (cascading, FiniteDifferences)
- Soil surface and profile temperature
- Soil Nitrogen
- Pedotransfer functions



# European statistical infrastructure

This infrastructure integrates all the statistical methods, resources and information needed to forecast crop yields using the information provided by crop models, remote sensing and meteorological data.

# MCYFS statistical forecast principles

**Classic regression approach**, focus relationship between a dependent variable –the yield– and one or more independent parameters related to climate/ weather effects

**Scenario analysis**, based on analogies between the contingent conditions and the past, investigating years that behave similarly with respect to selected events and reporting their measured effects on the actual state in order to predict final consequences.

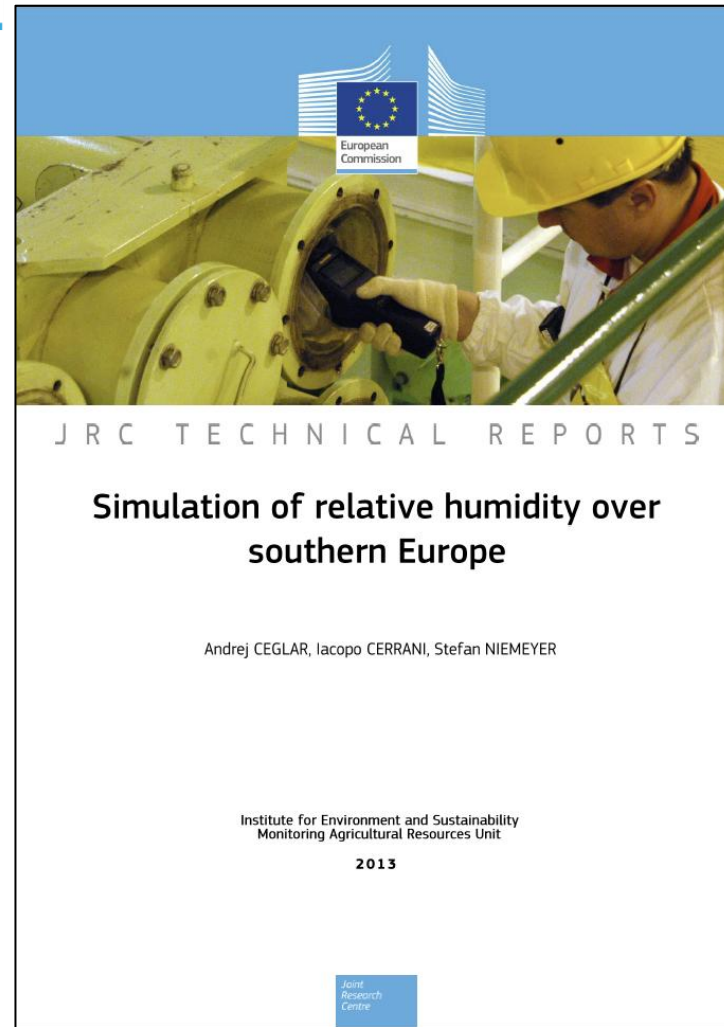
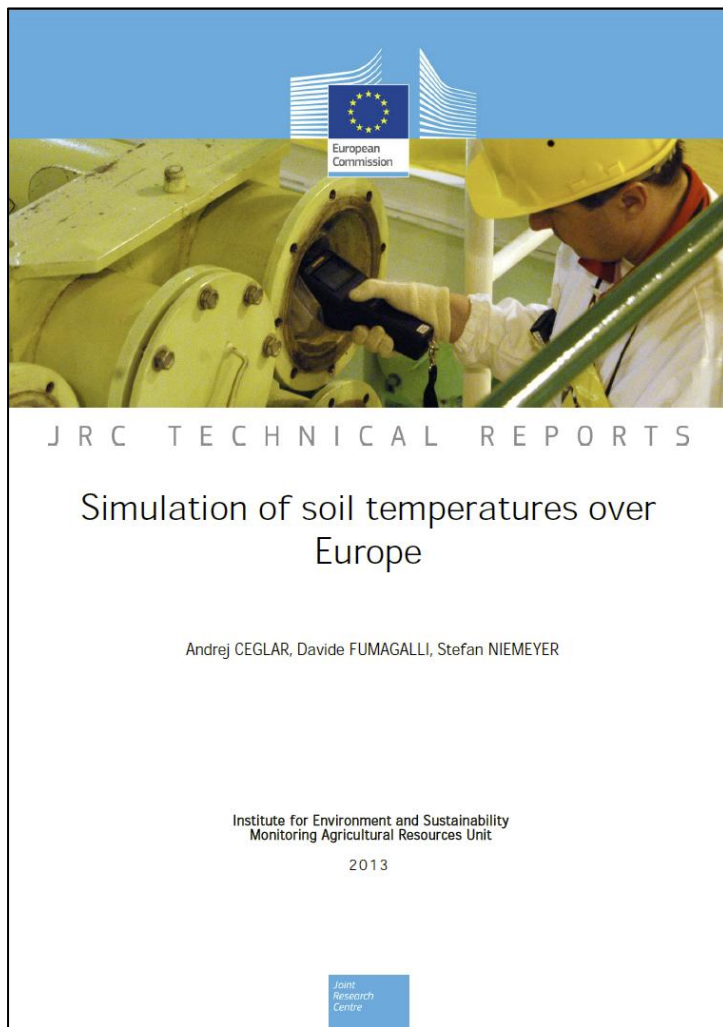
The yield "predictors" consist in any variables related to crop yield at harvest time, belonging to and weighting one of the following aspects: meteorological impact evaluation (minimum or maximum temperature, rain, radiation level, etc.), crop status assessment (e.g. soil moisture, development stage) and crop growth expectations (e.g. potential yield biomass, potential yield storage).

# Content

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  - MYMICS

# Collaboration with European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

- Provision of climate data (e.g. air temperature, precipitation) for selected locations in Europe
- Provision of tailored environmental data (e.g. simulated soil temperatures at different soil depths for a given crop)
- CLIMPEST application: *"Model framework for the assessment of EU climatic suitability for the establishment of organisms harmful to plants and plant products"*
- Contribution to scientific opinions (e.g. *Phytophthora fragariae*, *Phyllosticta citricarpa*)





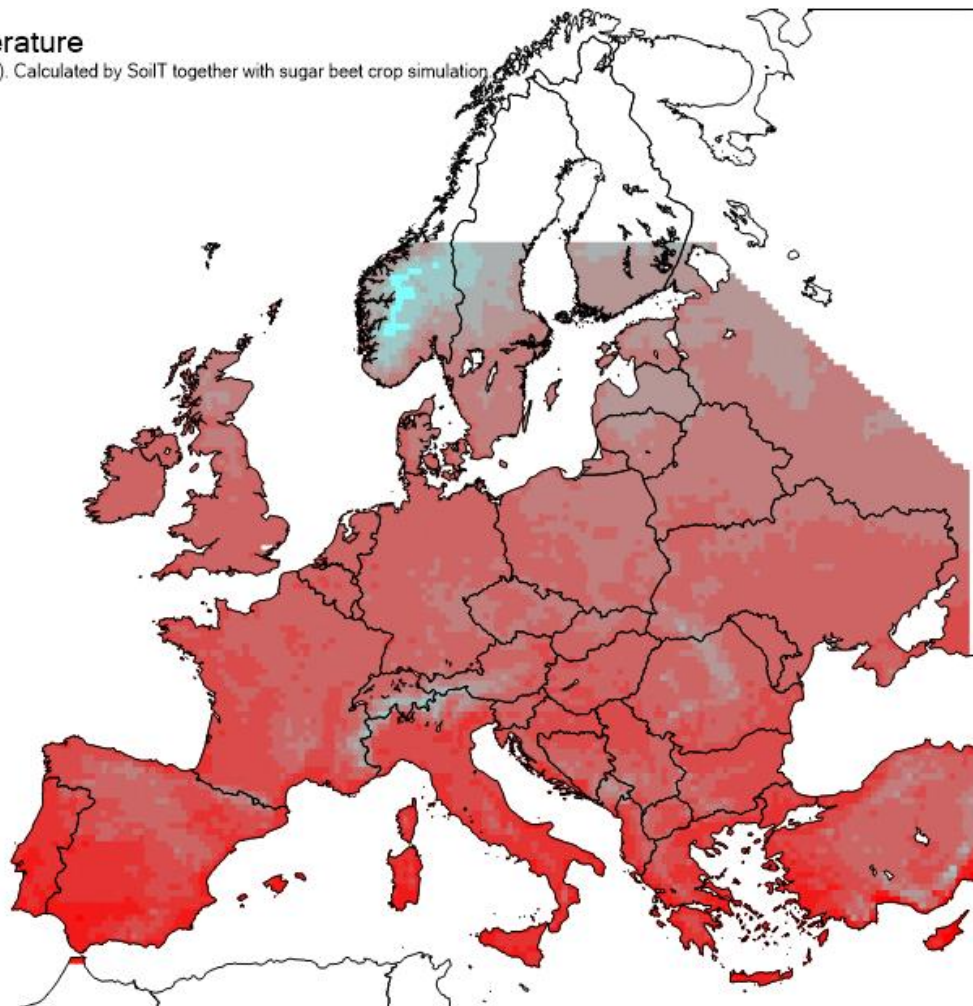
## Surface soil temperature

Average on 5 years (2008-2012). Calculated by SoilT together with sugar beet crop simulation

- No data
- -2.69 - -0.27
- -0.27 - 2.16
- 2.16 - 4.58
- 4.58 - 7.01
- 7.01 - 9.43
- 9.43 - 11.85
- 11.85 - 14.28
- 14.28 - 16.7
- 16.7 - 19.13
- 19.13 - 21.55

Units: C

500 km  
200 mi



## EXTERNAL SCIENTIFIC REPORT

### Model framework for the assessment of EU climatic suitability for the establishment of organisms harmful to plants and plant products – CLIMPEST project (SLA/EFSA-JRC/2008/PLH/01)

Marcello Donatelli (JRC and CRA) , Simone Bregaglio (JRC and Univ. Milan), Davide Fumagalli (JRC), Bettina Baruth (JRC)

Institute for Environment and Sustainability (IES), Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission, TP 750, I-21020 Ispra (VA), Italy

#### ABSTRACT

In the frame of the SLA a model framework was developed named ClimPest allowing the assessment of EU climatic suitability for the establishment of organisms harmful to plants and plant products and more specifically to estimate the weather suitability for potential infection by the citrus pathogen *Gungardina citricarpa* (common name Citrus Black Spot - CBS). The model framework Climpest can be re-used for other plant diseases and pests and it contains the following modelling solutions: ClimIndices (calculation of climatic indexes) and Potential Infection Model (calculation of the potential infections of foliar fungal pathogens on plants). The software has access to a remote database containing historical series of daily weather data with Europe spatial coverage on a 25 x 25 grid. Climate change scenarios for 2020 and 2050 are also made available related to the emission scenarios A1B and B1. The software was designed to be extended autonomously by third parties with diverse modelling solutions, other than the ones provided in this first version.

#### KEY WORDS

Model framework, potential infection model, BioMa, meteorological databases, climate change scenarios

#### DISCLAIMER

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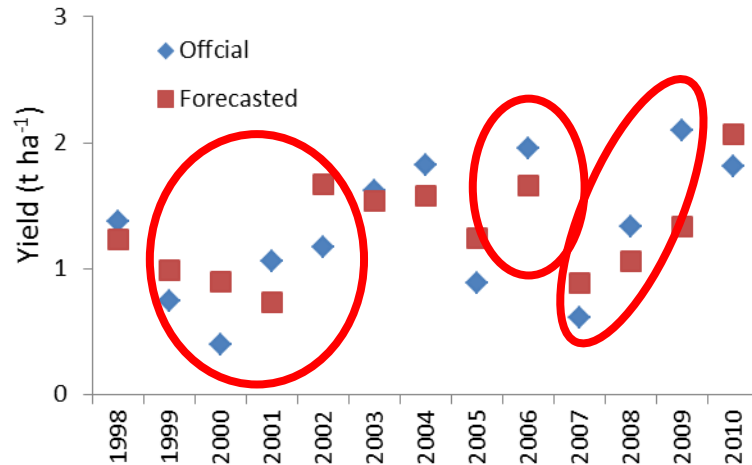
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# Black rust (*Puccinia graminis*) Durum wheat in Morocco

European  
Commission

## Potential conditions

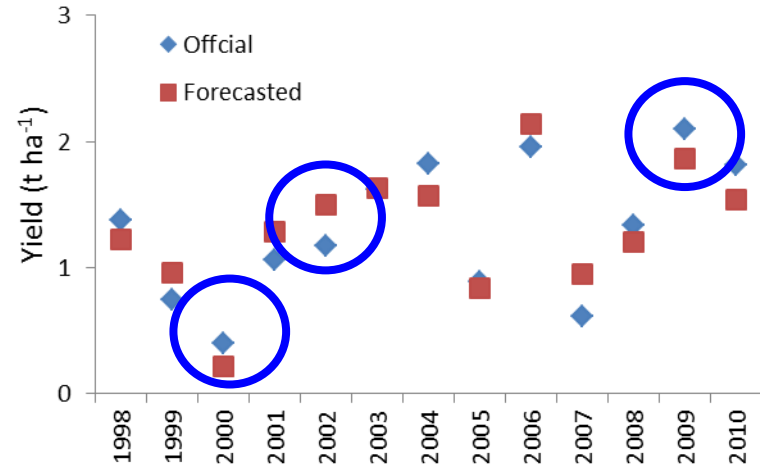


$R^2 = 0.38$  (no trend)

Indicators:

- DVS
- LAI
- WL biomass
- WL LAI

## + Diseases



$R^2 = 0.81$  (no trend)

Indicators:

- Black rust-biomass
- Black rust infection events
- DVS
- WL biomass

## MIMYCS project “*Maize Infection and Mycotoxin Contamination Simulator*”

- Development of a process-based phenological model for the **two main insect borers in maize**: *Ostrinia nubilalis* and *Sesamia nonagrioides*
- Development of a process-based model to simulate **toxigenic fungi development inside maize grain** and mycotoxin synthesis
- Development of an original model for the simulation of **moisture content in maize**;
- Simulations at EU scale **mycotoxin contamination in maize grain** in different climatic, environmental and agro-management situations

Collaboration Agreement with Syngenta Seeds SpA

Calibration and validation for the Po Valley, northern Italy



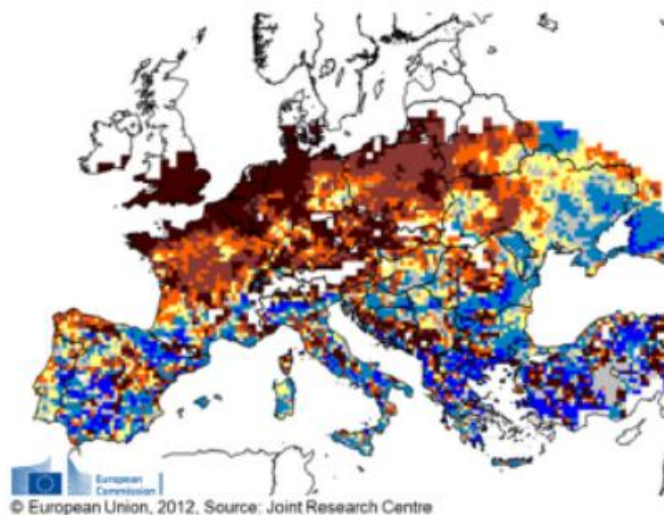


Figure 26a – Fumonisins by *Fusarium verticillioides*

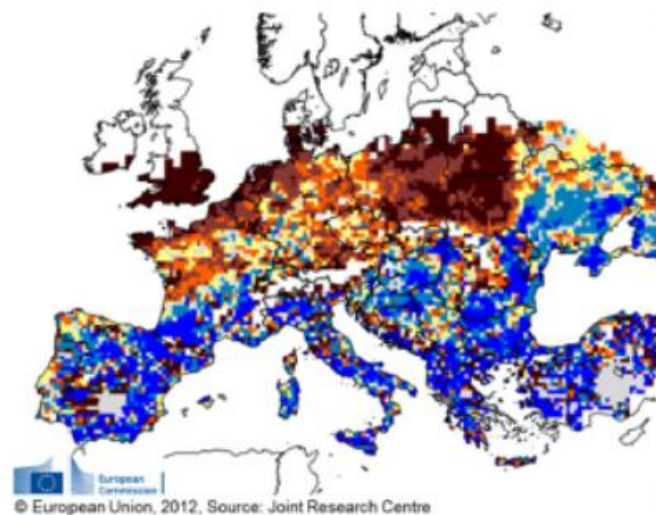


Figure 26b – Deoxynivalenol by *Fusarium graminearum*

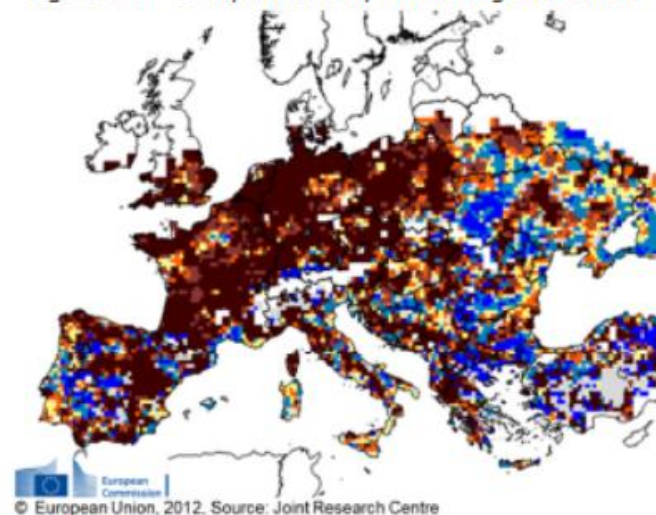
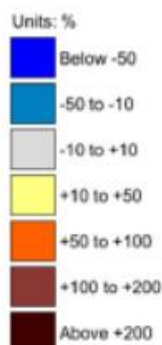


Figure 26c – Aflatoxins by *Aspergillus flavus*

### Changes 2050 - 2000

**Figure 26.** Difference in the estimated contamination of maize grain kernels by fumonisins (25a), deoxynivalenol (25b), and aflatoxins (25c)

# Thank you for your attention

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## To know more?

Detailed information of the components of the MARS Crop Yield Forecasting System can be found in our webpages. The main product of the crop monitoring and yield forecasting activities are the MARS Bulletins regularly published on our web pages.

<http://mars.jrc.ec.europa.eu/mars/About-us/AGRI4CAST>

For a link into our online MARS Viewer with many near real-time information on crop weather conditions, please visit the MARSOP pages.

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