

GEOGLAM Crop Monitor

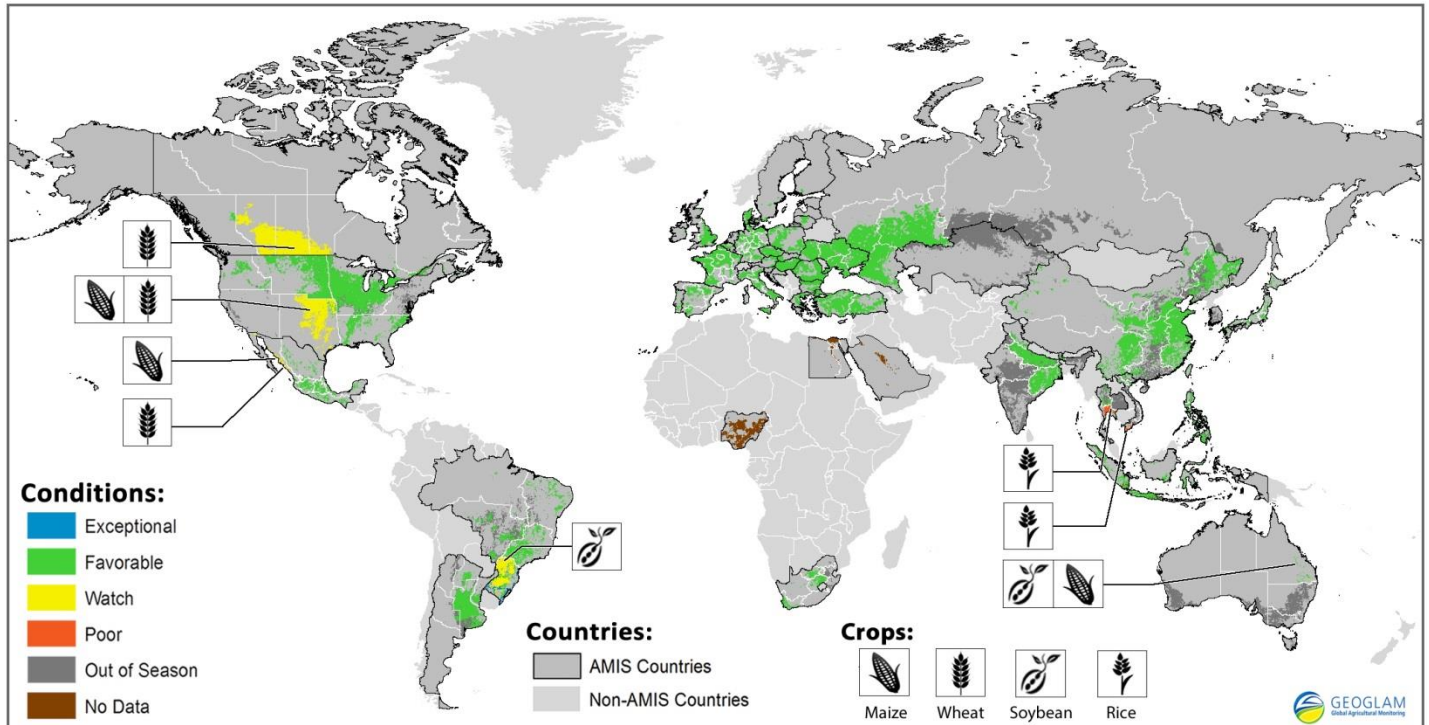
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GEOGLAM
Global Agricultural Monitoring

Crop Conditions for AMIS Countries (As of April 28th)*:



Crop condition map synthesizing information for all four AMIS crops as of April 28th. Crop conditions over the main growing areas for wheat, maize, rice, and soybean are based on a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. **Crops that are in other than favourable conditions are displayed on the map with their crop symbol.**

Highlights

Wheat- Overall growing conditions are mostly favourable in the northern hemisphere, and in many western regions development is ahead of average due to warm temperatures. However, concern continues in the US southern plains due to persistent dry conditions. In both US and Canada there are delays due to the cold winter and spring.

Rice- Conditions are mixed. Production prospects are below average in Vietnam and Thailand, and are average in Indonesia. In China, conditions are good for the early-planted rice crop. In Brazil, harvest is complete and prospects are good. In EU planting is ongoing and conditions are favourable.

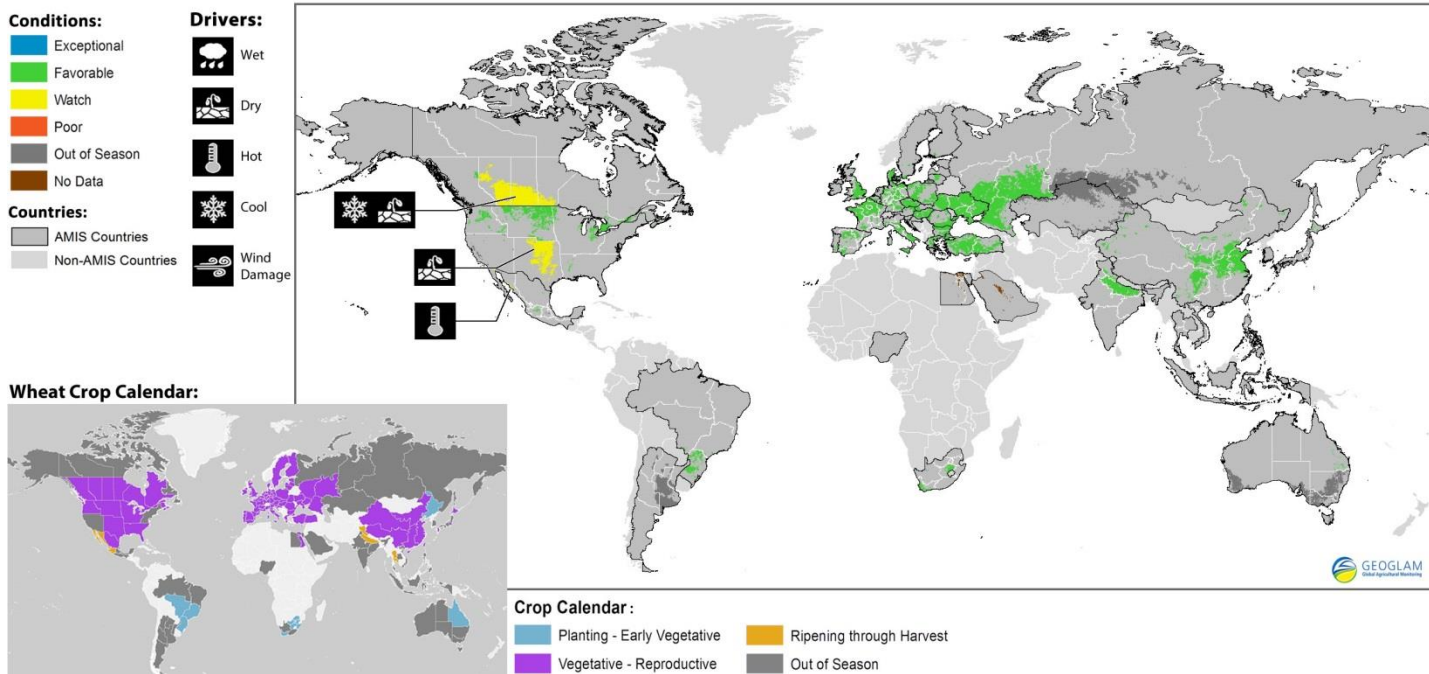
Maize- Overall conditions are favourable. In the southern hemisphere, the season is coming to a close. In Argentina, conditions are favourable and in Brazil, production is decreased due to reduced planted area. In the northern hemisphere, the season has started, and so far conditions are generally favourable.

Soybeans- Overall prospects are favourable. In Argentina, conditions are still good as the season draws to a close. In Brazil, despite the climatic adversity during the season, prospects are above average due to increased planted area.

El Niño situation update

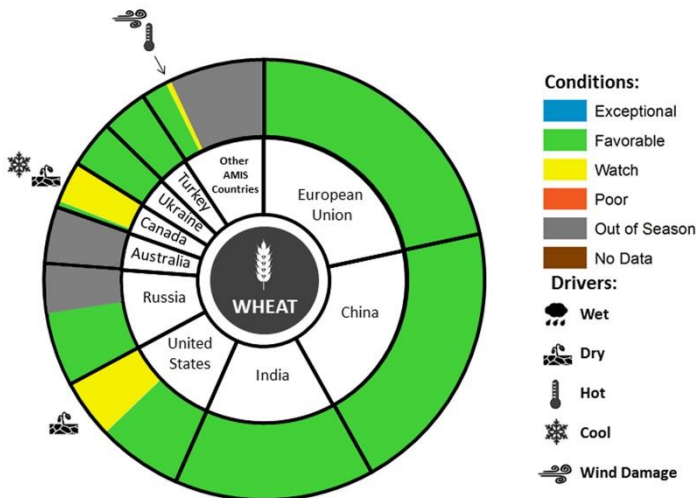
As noted in the previous issue, there are prospects for development of El Niño conditions in late summer or autumn of the northern hemisphere. April outlooks (from the World Meteorological Organization, the International Research Institute for Climate and Society, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and The Australian Bureau of Meteorology) continue to indicate this possibility, with the probability of occurrence rising above 60%, an increase since last month. Though neutral conditions continue to prevail, March and April saw ocean warming that characteristically precedes El Niño.

Wheat Conditions for AMIS Countries



Wheat crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Condition information is based upon information as of April 28th. Where crops are in other than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

Wheat: In the northern hemisphere, winter wheat conditions are favourable. In **Russia**, conditions are mostly good and winter wheat development is between 1 to 2 weeks ahead of average. In central growing areas, warm and dry conditions developed in mid-April and precipitation is needed in coming weeks. In **Ukraine**, conditions are generally good. Crop development is ahead of average due to the warmer than usual weather. Following a precipitation deficit, April rains and favourable temperatures supported crop development in the majority of the country. Moisture remains low in parts of the country and precipitation is needed in coming weeks. In the **EU**, prospects are generally favourable, and close to 2013. Warmer-than-usual weather continued, leading to advanced vegetative development. The dryer spring compensated for the very wet winter and was favourable for fieldwork and sowing of spring wheat, with the exception of Ireland and Scotland. Poland, the Baltic countries, Romania, Bulgaria, Spain and Italy have very favourable conditions. In contrast, rainfall scarcity is an emerging concern in eastern France and the Benelux. In **Canada**, conditions are still favourable, however continued below-normal temperatures, and precipitation in April delayed and attenuated the annual spring snowmelt, which resulted in some flooding and delays in spring wheat seeding. Delays

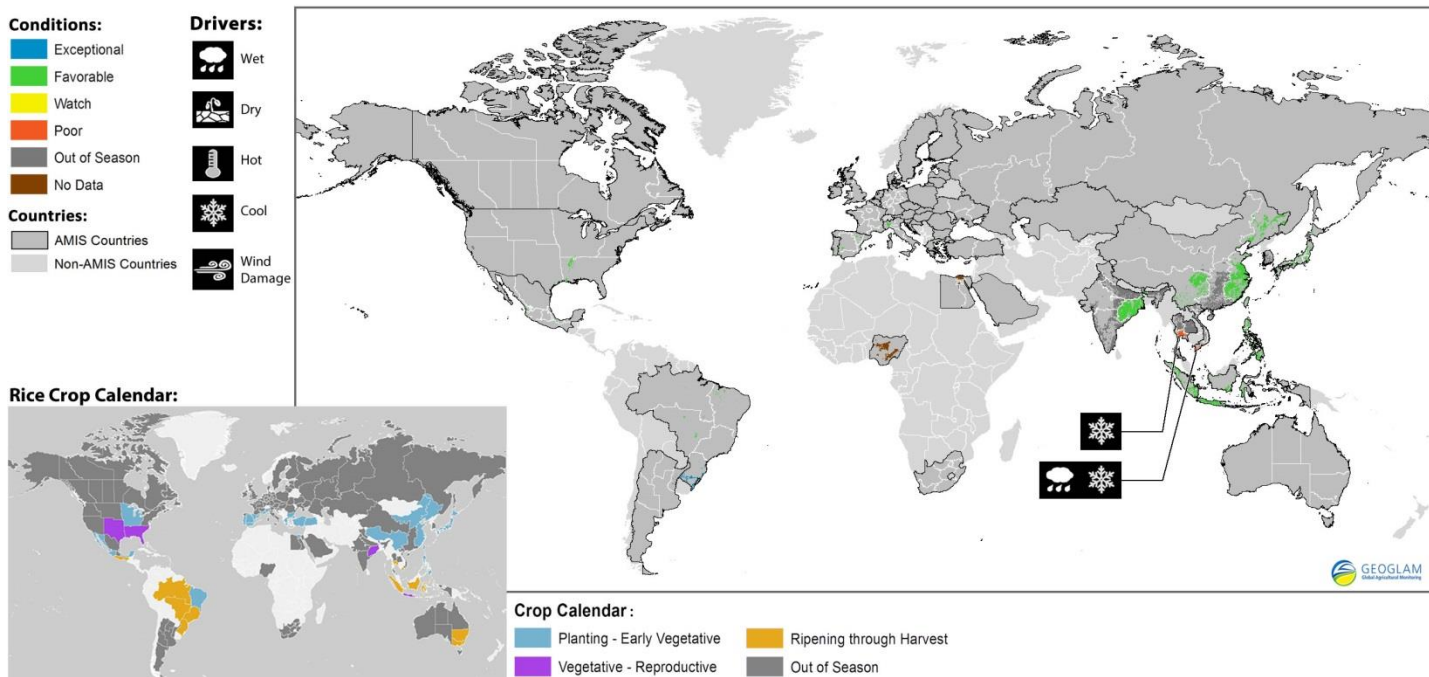


A country's slice of the pie chart is representative its portion of the 5 year average of the total AMIS countries' production for each crop. The producers responsible for 90% of production are individually shown, with the remaining 10% producers grouped into the "Other AMIS Countries" category. The area within each country's pie slice is divided between crops in-season (colour) and out-of-season (gray). The in-season portion is coloured according to the various crop conditions within that country. When conditions are labeled as 'poor' or 'watch', icons are added that provide information on the key climatic drivers affecting conditions. The crop calendar, condition and climatic driver information are based on inputs provided by the crop monitor analysts on a sub-national division basis, and therefore reflect conditions by area rather than overall national production.

* Assessment based on information as of April 28th

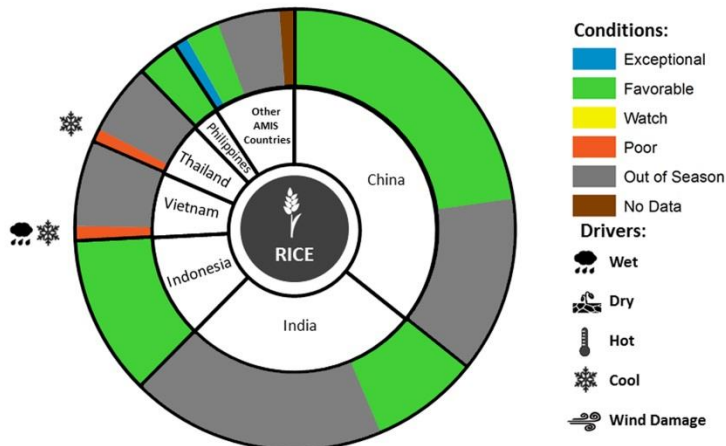
range from 3 weeks to less than a week. Areas of low soil moisture persist in southern Alberta and Saskatchewan, and developed in southern Ontario. In the **US**, winter wheat conditions are mixed, and planted area is slightly down relative to last season. Drought in the Southern Great Plains continues to be a significant concern. Other winter wheat growing areas have closer to normal conditions, and spring wheat planting has started. In **Mexico**, the crop is in the maturity stage, and a good harvest is expected across the country. Decreased production is expected in the northwestern region due to the strong March winds and lack of cool temperatures. In **India**, wheat harvest is progressing, and very good prospects are expected. In **China**, conditions are generally favourable for the reproductive to maturing winter wheat. Widespread rainfall maintained good moisture conditions in the majority of growing regions. Pockets of dryness remain in north-eastern, southern and central regions in South West China. Development is ahead of normal by 1 to 2 weeks. In **Brazil**, wheat planting started in the major producing states and will continue through June. Area is expected to increase as a result of good market prices. In **Australia**, planting has started in Queensland and conditions are favourable.

Rice Conditions for AMIS Countries



Rice crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Condition information is based upon information as of April 28th. Where crops are in other than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

Rice: Conditions are mixed. In **Indonesia**, conditions are close to average for the winter planted crops, which are in the reproductive to harvesting stages. Moderate April rainfall is supporting development in most regions. In **Vietnam**, prospects for the fall-winter rice are lower than last year due primarily to lower sown area and delayed harvest, which are a result of floods in January and cooler than usual weather. April was the last month for sowing paddy rice for the winter-spring season, and area sown is below last years' area. In **Thailand**, prospects remain below average for the second rice crop, primarily due to the cold weather in the beginning of the year as well as due to dry conditions in parts of the country. As a

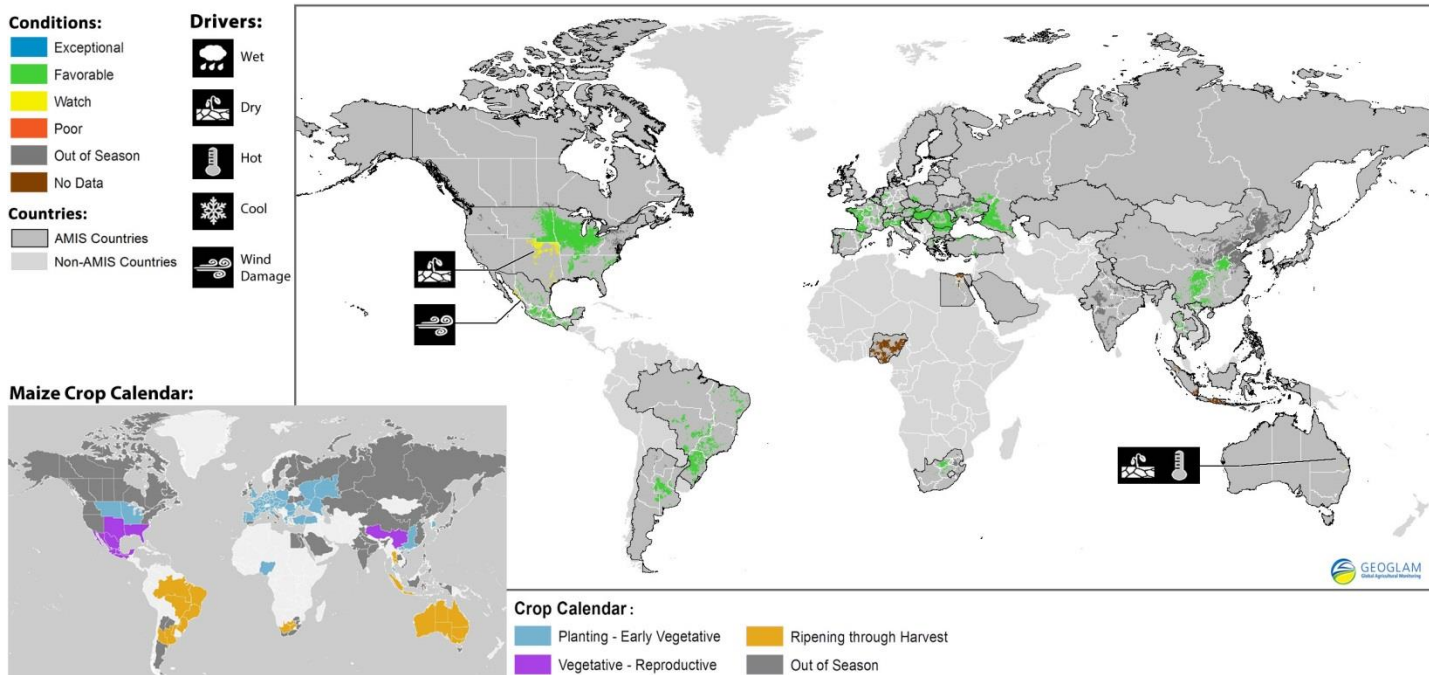


Top producers of rice within AMIS participating countries and their current crop conditions (as of April 28th). (The description is as for wheat)

* Assessment based on information as of April 28th

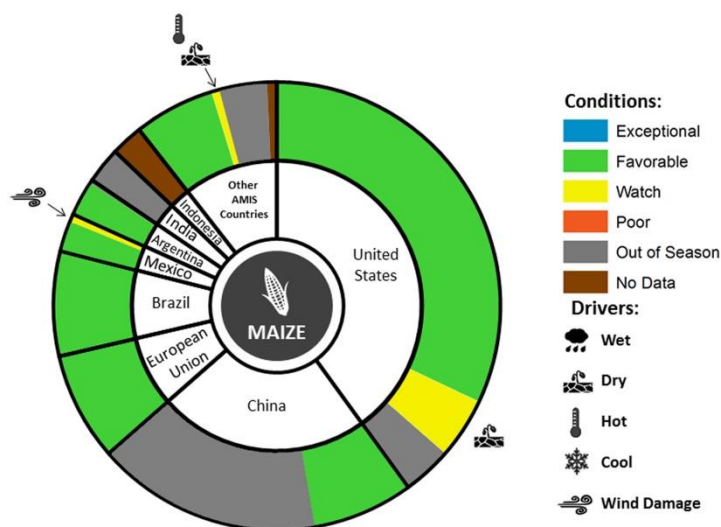
result, harvest has also been delayed. In **China**, conditions are generally good. Recent precipitation boosted moisture supplies for the early crop particularly in central and southern growing regions. In **Brazil**, prospects are good. Harvest is complete, and production is higher relative to last year due to the increase in planted area and favourable weather. In the **EU**, field preparation and sowing is on-going with favourable conditions in southern Europe (Spain, Italy, Greece, France).

Maize Conditions for AMIS Countries



Maize crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Condition information is based upon information as of April 28th. Where crops are in other than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

Maize: In the southern hemisphere, conditions are variable. In **Argentina**, overall conditions are still good and the crop is in grain filling to harvest phases. In **Brazil**, the second crop is mostly in the flowering to grain filling phases. Accounting for the first and second crops, a decrease in production is expected due in large part to reduced planted area. In **South Africa**, conditions in the austral summer were favourable over most growing areas. A late start to the season and a dry spell during January had a slight negative impact over the western half of the production area. An extended midsummer dry period also had a small negative impact over eastern growing regions. Nonetheless, a normal to above-normal yield is expected. In the northern hemisphere, conditions are favourable. In **Mexico**, conditions are favourable. Harvest from the autumn-winter crop is good though there is still some concern over the northwest growing region due to the impact of the strong March winds. Planting of the spring-summer crop began in April. In the **US**, planting is just starting. The cool and wet spring had

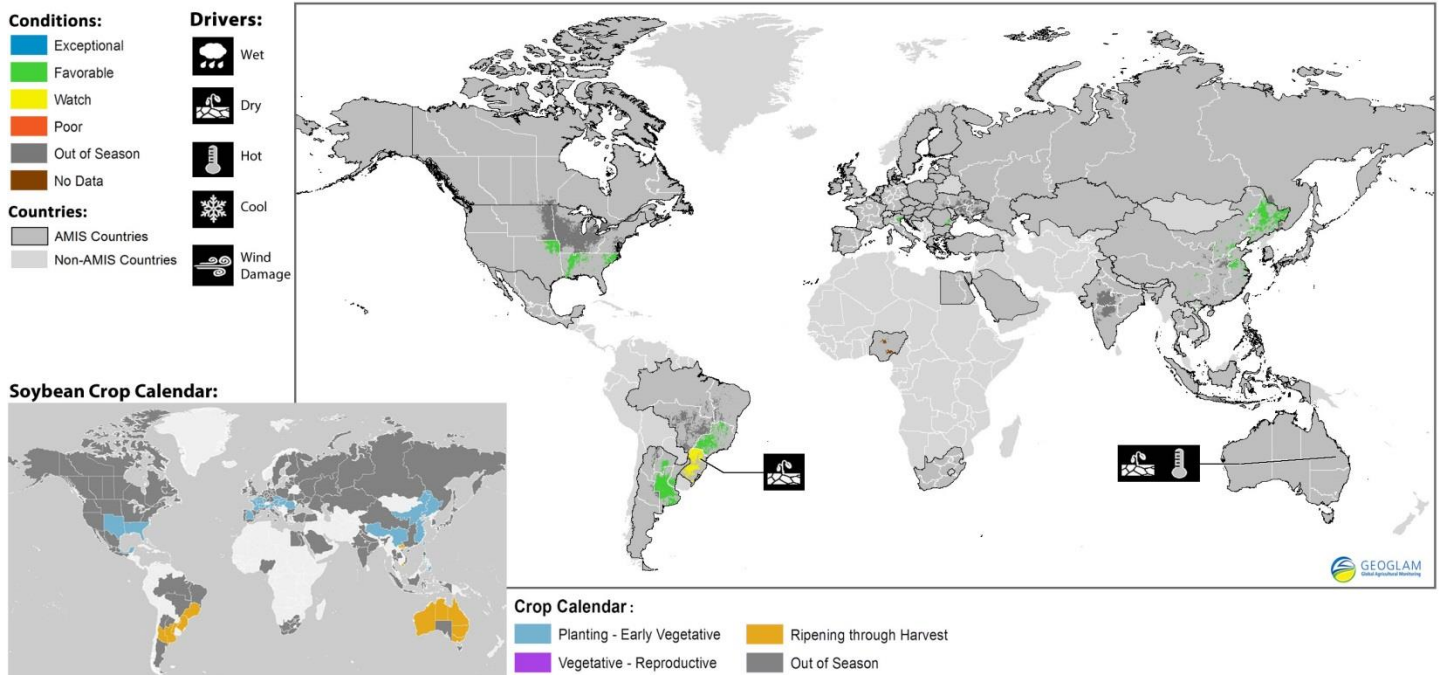


Top producers of maize within AMIS participating countries and their current crop conditions (as of April 28th). (The description is as for wheat)

* Assessment based on information as of April 28th

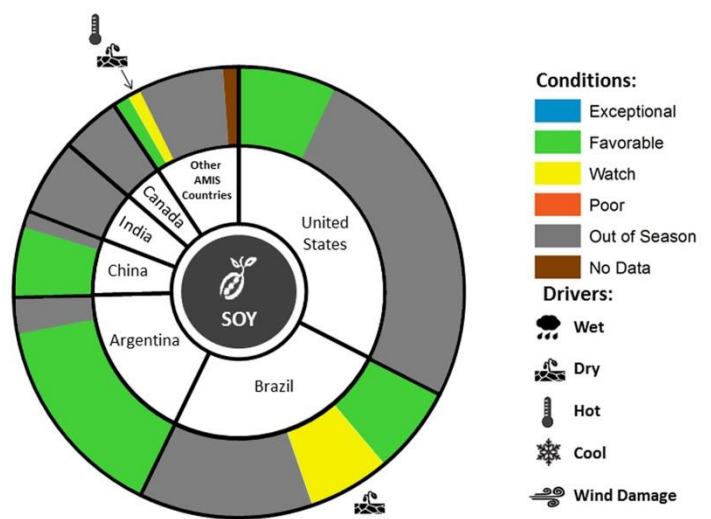
delayed sowing in much of the country. If planting is delayed significantly, it could result in reduced yields or a switch to later season crops like soybeans. In the Southern Great Plains, there is concern over dryness. However, this area produces a relatively small percentage of the US corn crop. In the **EU**, maize is in sowing to early development stages with overall normal conditions. In **China**, overall conditions are favourable, however there is some concern in the southern tip of the spring maize area, which suffered excessive precipitation that is affecting development.

Soybean Conditions for AMIS Countries



Soybean crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Condition information is based upon information as of April 28th. Where crops are in other than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

Soybeans: In the southern hemisphere, prospect are favourable. In **Argentina**, overall conditions for both the first and second planted crops are still good. Harvest of the first crop continues with a delay relative to the previous season, and over half of the second planted crop is in the maturity stage. In **Brazil**, harvest is almost complete. Despite the climatic adversity this growing season, the total production increased due to the increase in area planted. In **South Africa**, conditions during austral summer were favourable across all production areas. In **Australia**, conditions are mixed for the maturing crop. Hot dry conditions are likely to limit production in Queensland however in New South Wales conditions are favourable as March and April rainfall has likely improved yield potential in this area. In the **EU**, soy is in sowing to early development stages with overall favourable conditions.



Top producers of soy within AMIS participating countries and their current crop conditions (as of April 28th). (The description is as for wheat)

Appendix 1: Definitions

Crop Conditions:

Exceptional: Conditions are much better than average* at time of reporting. This label is only used during the grain-filling through harvest stages.

Favourable: Conditions range from slightly lower to slightly better than average* at reporting time.

Watch: Conditions are not far from average* but there is a potential risk to production.

Poor: Crop conditions are well below average*. Crop yields are likely to be more than 5% below average. This is only used when conditions are not likely to be able to recover, and impact on production is likely.

Out Of Season: Crops are not currently planted or in development during this time.

No Data: No reliable source of data is available at this time.

Conditions:

	Exceptional
	Favorable
	Watch
	Poor
	Out of Season
	No Data

*"Average" refers to the average conditions over the past 5 years.

Drivers:

These represent the key climatic drivers that are having an impact on crop condition status. They may or may not result in production impacts and they can act as either positive or negative drivers of crop conditions.

Wet: Higher than average wetness.

Dry: Drier than average.

Hot: Hotter than average.

Cool: Cooler than average or risk of frost damage.

Extreme Events: This is a catch-all for all other climate risks (i.e. hurricane, typhoon, frost, hail, winterkill, wind damage, etc.)

Drivers:

	Wet
	Dry
	Hot
	Cool
	Wind Damage

Sources & Disclaimer

The Crop Monitor assessment is conducted by GEOGLAM with inputs from the following partners (in alphabetical order): Argentina (INTA), Asia Rice Countries (AFSIS, ASEAN+3 & Asia RiCE), Australia (ABARES & CSIRO), Brazil (CONAB & INPE), Canada (AAFC), China (CAS), EU (EC JRC MARS), India (ISRO), Indonesia (LAPAN & MOA), International (CIMMYT, FAO & IRRI), Japan (JAXA), Mexico (SIAP), Russia (IKI), South Africa (ARC & GeoTerraImage & SANSA), Thailand (GISTDA & OAE), Ukraine (NASU-NSAU & UHMC), USA (NASA, UMD, USDA (FAS, NASS, ARS)), Vietnam (VAST & VIMHE-MARD). The findings and conclusions in this joint multi-agency report are consensual statements from the GEOGLAM experts, and do not necessarily reflect those of the individual agencies represented by these experts. Map data sources: Major crop type areas based on the IFPRI/IIASA SPAM 2005 beta release (2013), USDA/NASS 2013 CDL, 2013 AAFC Annual Crop Inventory Map, GLAM/UMD, GLAD/UMD, Australian Land Use and Management Classification (Version 7), SIAP, and JRC. Crop calendars based on GEOGLAM partner crop calendars and USDA crop calendars.

More detailed information on the GEOGLAM crop assessments is available www.geoglam-crop-monitor.org.

For more information regarding on the new crop monitor and pie charts: <http://www.fao.org/giews/english/fo/index.htm>.