Overview:
As of the end of April, conditions are mixed for rice while generally favourable for wheat, maize, and soybeans. In the Northern Hemisphere, winter wheat is generally favourable conditions with some mixed conditions in the EU, southern Ukraine, and in parts of the US western plains. The maize season is wrapping up in the Southern Hemisphere under a wide variety of conditions. In the Northern Hemisphere, sowing is ongoing under generally favourable conditions. Rice in Southeast Asia is under watch to poor conditions due to prolonged dry conditions during the season. Soybean harvest in the Southern Hemisphere continues under a wide range of conditions while sowing is beginning in the Northern Hemisphere.

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Assessment based on information as of April 28th
Conditions at a glance 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.

Conditions at a glance

**Wheat** - In the northern hemisphere, winter wheat is under mixed conditions in the EU and parts of the western plains in the US. Spring wheat sowings have begun.

**Maize** - In the southern hemisphere, the season is wrapping up in Brazil and Argentina under a wide variety of conditions. In the northern hemisphere, conditions are favourable in India and Mexico, while sowing is ongoing in the US and the EU.

**Rice** - Conditions are favourable in China and India. In Southeast Asia, harvest is ongoing for dry-season rice in northern countries and for wet-season rice in Indonesia under mixed conditions.

**Soybeans** - In the southern hemisphere, harvest is wrapping in Brazil under mixed conditions while generally favourable conditions prevail in Argentina. In the northern hemisphere, sowing is beginning in the US and Ukraine.

**ENSO and IOD Neutral Conditions**

El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions are currently neutral and are expected to remain neutral through the northern hemisphere summer. However, there is an elevated chance of La Niña or La Niña-like climate arising by October. Such conditions are associated with the combined influence of abnormally cool equatorial East Pacific sea surface waters and abnormally warm sea surface waters in the western Pacific. La Niña or La Niña-like conditions during October-December typically reduce rainfall in East Africa, Central Southwest Asia, southern Brazil and central Argentina, and increase rainfall in Southern Africa, Australia, and eastern Brazil.

*Source: UCSB Climate Hazards Center*

* Assessment based on information as of April 28th
**Wheat Conditions for AMIS Countries**

*Assessment based on information as of April 28th*

**Wheat**

In the **EU**, despite one of the driest starts to spring since 1979, conditions are generally favourable. However, additional rainfall over the next month or two is needed to maintain yields. In the **UK**, crops are under favourable conditions despite a dryer than normal spring. In **Turkey**, conditions are favourable albeit with a delay in crop growth due to late sowing. In **Ukraine**, winter wheat is under generally favourable conditions except in the south, where dry conditions continue to worsen with little or no rain received over the past two months. In the **Russian Federation**, conditions are generally favourable for winter wheat. Sowing of spring wheat has begun under favourable conditions. In **Kazakhstan**, winter wheat conditions are favourable as spring wheat sowing begins under favourable conditions. In **China**, conditions are favourable to exceptional for winter wheat. Sowing of spring wheat has begun under generally favourable conditions. In **India**, harvest is ongoing under very good conditions. Compared to last year, there is an increase in total sown area and an increase in expected yields. In the **US**, winter wheat is under generally favourable conditions although with some dryness in the western reaches of the Great Plains. Spring wheat sowing is somewhat delayed due to wet and cold conditions in the upper Great Plains. In **Canada**, conditions are favourable for winter wheat awaiting winterkill assessment in the Prairies. In **Australia**, sowing is beginning in Queensland under favourable conditions.
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. Crop Season Specific Maps can be found in Appendix 2.

Maize: In Brazil, harvest is wrapping up for the spring-planted (smaller season) crop under a mix of exceptional to poor conditions. A lack of rains in the South, the main producing region, caused a serious reduction of yields, especially in the state of Rio Grande do Sul. For the summer-planted (larger season) crop conditions are favourable with an increase in total sown area compared to last season. In Argentina, harvest is progressing slowly for spring-planted crops due to prioritization of soybean harvesting. Conditions are generally favourable except in provinces of San Luis and Entre Ríos, where prolonged dry conditions have taken its toll on the crops. In the US, conditions are favourable as sowing is ramping up after some initial delays due to earlier damp and cold conditions. In Mexico, harvest is just beginning for the autumn-winter crop under favourable conditions. Sowing of the spring-summer crop is beginning under favourable conditions. In the EU, a very dry spring combined with cold spells has negatively impacted sowing and emergence conditions in central and south-eastern countries. In the Russian Federation, sowing is progressing under generally favourable conditions. In India, harvest of the Rabi crop is underway in favourable conditions. In China, sowing of spring-planted maize is beginning under favourable conditions. In South Africa, conditions are generally favourable with good yields expected in the central growing states.

* Assessment based on information as of April 28th
Rice Conditions for AMIS Countries

**Rice**

- **In China**, conditions are favourable for early-season rice and the sowing of single-season rice. In **India**, harvest of Rabi rice is ongoing under favourable conditions. There is an increase in total sown area this year compared to average. In **Indonesia**, harvesting of wet-season crops continues into the fourth month with yields estimated to be lower than last year due to the prolonged drought. Sowing of dry-season crops is delayed by the extension of the wet-season crops much later than usual. In **Viet Nam**, harvesting of dry-season rice (winter-spring) is ongoing under mixed conditions in the south due to saltwater intrusion. In the north, conditions are favourable with the total sown area in line with the average. Wet-season (summer-autumn) sowing is beginning in the south under favourable conditions. In **Thailand**, harvesting of dry-season rice is ongoing under poor conditions due to insufficient water and hot weather. A shortage of irrigation water and rainfall during the season resulted in a two-third reduction of sown area compared to last season. In the **Philippines**, harvesting of dry-season rice is about half-way complete with below-average yields expected as most regions experienced moisture stress due to insufficient irrigation water supply during the reproductive stage. In **Brazil**, harvest is wrapping up under exceptional conditions. In the **US**, sowing and emergence are well underway under favourable conditions.

* Assessment based on information as of April 28th.
Soybeans: In Brazil, harvest is wrapping up under generally exceptional conditions with an increase in sown area and above-average yields, which make it an exceptional crop despite the persistent dry conditions in Rio Grande do Sul that reduced yields in the south. In Argentina, harvest is ongoing and making fast progress owing to good weather in April. Conditions are generally favourable for both the spring-planted and summer-planted crops, albeit with a mixture of conditions across the central growing regions and poor conditions in San Luis and Entre Ríos due to prolonged dryness. In the US, sowing is beginning under favourable conditions. In Ukraine, sowing is beginning under generally favourable conditions with the exception of the south due to low soil moisture.

Information on crop conditions in non-AMIS countries can be found in the GEOGLAM Crop Monitor for Early Warning, published May 7th.
Appendix 1: Terminology & Definitions

Crop Conditions:

**Exceptional**: Conditions are much better than average* at the 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 final production. The crop can still recover to average or near average conditions if the ground situation improves. This label is only used during the planting-early vegetative and the vegetative-reproductive stages.

**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.

*“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 result in production impacts and can act as either positive or negative drivers of crop conditions.

- **Wet**: Wetter than average (includes water logging and floods).
- **Dry**: Drier than average.
- **Hot**: Hotter than average.
- **Cool**: Cooler than average or risk of frost damage.

**Extreme Events**: Catch-all for all other climate risks (i.e. hurricane, typhoon, frost, hail, winter kill, wind damage, etc.). When this category is used the analyst will also specify the type of extreme event in the text.

**Delayed-Onset**: Late start of the season

Crop Season Nomenclature:
In countries that contain multiple cropping seasons for the same crop, the following chart identifies the national season name associated with each crop season within the Crop Monitor. Within the Crop Monitor for AMIS countries, the larger producing season (most recent 5 years) has been assigned to the first season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Season 1 Name</th>
<th>Season 2 Name</th>
<th>Season 3 Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Soybean</td>
<td>Spring-planted</td>
<td>Summer-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Summer-planted (larger producing season)</td>
<td>Spring-planted (smaller producing season)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>Winter-planted</td>
<td>Spring-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Spring-planted</td>
<td>Summer-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Single-season</td>
<td>Late-season</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Summer-planted</td>
<td>Nili season (Nile Flood)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Kharif</td>
<td>Rabi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Kharif</td>
<td>Rabi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Wet-season</td>
<td>Dry-season</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Spring-planted</td>
<td>Autumn-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Main-season</td>
<td>Short-season</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Main-season</td>
<td>Off-season</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Wet-season</td>
<td>Dry-season</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
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<td>Spring-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Wet-season</td>
<td>Dry-season</td>
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<tr>
<td>United States</td>
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<td>Spring-planted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Wet-season</td>
<td>Dry-season</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Assessment based on information as of April 28th
Appendix 2: Crop Season Specific Maps

Winter Planted Wheat Conditions for AMIS Countries

Winter 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 less 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.

Spring Planted Wheat Conditions for AMIS Countries

Spring 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 less 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.

* Assessment based on information as of April 28th
Maize 1 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 less 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 2 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 less 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.

* Assessment based on information as of April 28th
Rice 1 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 less 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 2 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 less 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.

* Assessment based on information as of April 28th
Rice 3 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 less 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.

Soybean 1 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 less 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.

* Assessment based on information as of April 28th
Soybean 2 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 less 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.
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Climatic update by Climate Hazards Center of UC Santa Barbara

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Photo courtesy of Inbal Becker-Reshef

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