

Scott A. Yuknis

High impact weather forecasts, climate assessment and prediction.

14 Boatwright's Loop Plymouth, MA 02360
Phone/Fax 508.927.4610
Cell: 508.813.3499
ClimateImpact@comcast.net

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Today's Highlight: This Week & Week 2-4 outlooks & last week verification

United States: Much needed rainfall forecast late this week southwest Plains

Last week: The North-Central U.S. was cold while eastern Texas/Oklahoma were cool (*Fig. 1*). The southwest/central Great Plains, western half of Texas plus northern Plains drought areas stayed dry (*Fig. 2*),

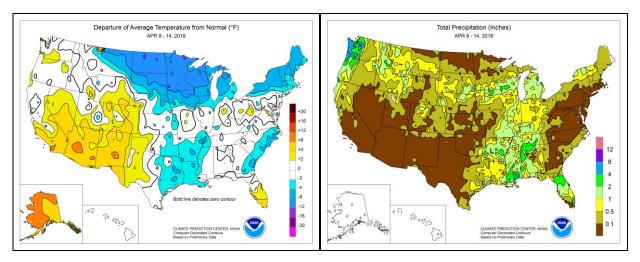


Fig. 1-2: Last week's temperature anomalies/precipitation amount valid April 7-14, 2018 across the U.S.

This week highlights: Another late season freeze warning for the Delta this morning with a red flag warning for dry conditions across the southwest Great Plains. Remains of a snow storm affect parts of the Upper Midwest. Turning warm and windy central and southern Plains into tomorrow. Nebraska to Iowa are cool and showery into midweek. Look for more snow (3-6 in._ in Minnesota midweek. Models continue to convene much needed rainfall on the southwest Great Plains drought area for late this week.

Week 2 ahead (April 22-28): Mostly dry and milder for the Great Plains. Showery northwest/north Great Plains mid-to-late week. Northern Great Plains is not s cold and snow is melting.

Week 3 Ahead (April 29-May 5): Definitely milder but no excessive warmth. Ensembles are wet central Great Plains due to persistent showers.

Week 4 Ahead (May 6-12): Becoming a low confidence forecast. Does the milder trend for early May hold on? Or does cold return. The NCEP CFS V2 and ECMWF weeklies look out of step in the long-range. MJO is weak which would imply cooler persistence returns.

Europe: Redeveloping excessive warmth this week.

Last week: An exceptionally warm week with departure from normal +10C over Poland (*Fig. 3*). Southwest Europe was wet and cool while Southeast Europe to Western Russia were dry (*Fig. 4*).

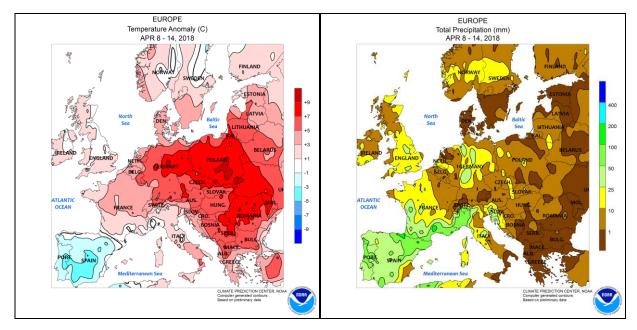


Fig. 3-4: Last week's temperature anomalies/precipitation amount valid April 7-14, 2018 across Europe.

This week highlights: Still mild but not excessive warm East/Southeast Europe and showery to start the week. As the showers move eastward a cool trough evolves in Western Russia to Ukraine while the upper ridge and

attendant anomalous warmth rebuilds Western Europe. By Thursday parts of France and Germany are +20F! The warmth re-expands into East-central Europe late week. Dryness dominates most of Europe mid-to-late week.

Week 2 ahead (April 22-28): Next week the warm pattern breaks down slowly. First, a wave (or 2) of showers stretched across northern Europe sinks southward and eventually affects all of Europe steadily cooling the pattern. Strong warmth across southern Europe lingers to late week and is gone next weekend. Models agree with cooler northern Europe but not necessarily the (cooler) southern Europe scenario.

Week 3 Ahead (April 29-May 5): Showery across northern Europe while significant rains gather Italy to Southeast Europe. Southern Europe is still warmer than normal but not excessive and the trend is cooler. Central Europe is warmer than normal and relatively dry.

Week 4 Ahead (May 6-12): A low confidence forecast. Both the NCEP CFS V2 and ECMWF Weeklies cool Europe to near normal. An upper level trough may set-up across south-central Europe. If so, south/southeast Europe is wet.

Western Russia: Trending cooler/wetter.

Last week: Very warm across Western Russia (Fig. 5) and dry all areas (Fig. 6).

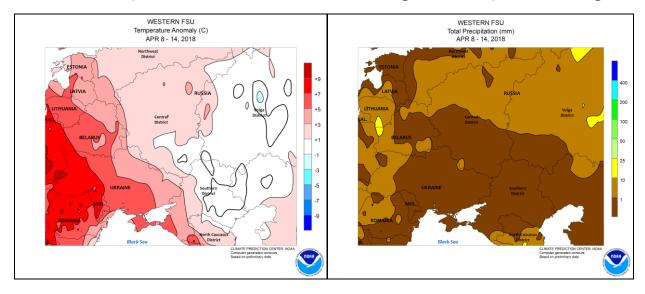


Fig. 5-6: Last week's temperature anomalies/precipitation amount valid April 7-14, 2018 across Western Russia.

This week highlights: Much needed showers Western Russia by TUE/WED. Mid-to-late week the rain area elongates southwestward into Ukraine. Following the elongated rain area temperatures turn cooler (not cold). Redeveloping warmth emerges to the west, in Europe late week.

Week 2 ahead (April 22-28): Another cold front with showers early next week across Western Russia. Showery pattern continues mid-to-late week with mild temperatures South and cool in the North.

Week 3 Ahead (April 29-May 5): The same showery pattern but cold fronts are stronger therefore following air masses are colder than late April.

Week 4 Ahead (May 6-12): A low confidence forecast. Favoring persistence which is temperate to cool. Precipitation may ease.

South America: Increasing Wet Risk.

Last week: Anomalous warmth dominated Argentina (*Fig. 7*) and Brazil. Spotty beneficial rains northeast Argentina otherwise a dry pattern (*Fig. 8*).

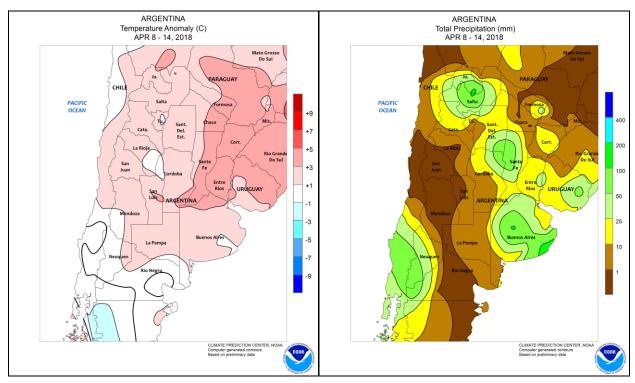


Fig. 7-8: Last week's temperature anomalies/precipitation amount valid April 7-14, 2018 across Argentina.

This week highlights: The week begins with wet weather well north over northwest South America including Western Brazil. A cold front arrives with a consolidated area of rain in northeast Argentina WED/THU. The front slows down and an elongated area of rain develops from northeast Argentina into Southeast Brazil late week.

Week 2 ahead (April 22-28): Much of next week features an area of moderate to heavy rain in north-central Argentina as late season anomalous heat affects northern Argentina and extends south clashing with a persistent and strong frontal boundary stretched across south-central Argentina. The front moves north and features heavy rain for Northeast Argentina late period.

Week 3 Ahead (April 29-May 5): The trend is drier in Argentina while Southeast Brazil turns wet.

Week 4 Ahead (May 6-12): Increasing substantial rainfall risk mainly western Argentina and eastern Brazil.

Australia: More warmth and dryness.

Last week: Late season anomalous warmth dominates central and east portions of Australia (*Fig. 9*) and most of Australia was drier than normal (*Fig. 10*).

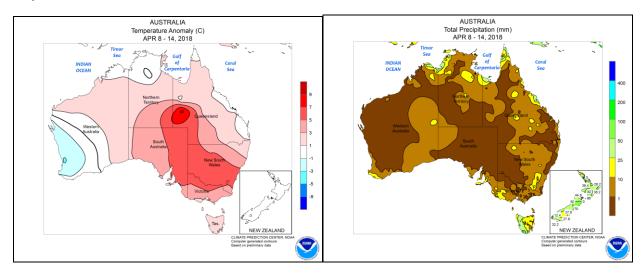


Fig. 9-10: Last week's temperature anomalies/precipitation amount valid April 7-14, 2018 across Australia.

This week highlights: Big storm strikes New Zealand early week while another aligns south of Australia is a slow-mover mid-to-late week. Australia is too far north to receive any precipitation from these storms. Temperatures average above too much above normal across the continent with warmest departures (+15 to +20F) across central/south-central Australia.

Week 2 ahead (April 22-28): The far southwest and southeast corner of the continent receive a shower risk while the remainder of the continent is drier than normal. Late season anomalous warmth continues strongest over central continent.

Week 3 Ahead (April 29-May 5): There are indications the widespread dry/warm pattern breaks down (although not completely). Southern Australia is showery and not as warm during the period.

Week 4 Ahead (May 6-12): Low confidence forecast produces a much wetter regime for northern Australia and temperate for much of the continent.