

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: Prefer drier ECM Vs. GFS days 6-10 Great Plains

United States: Not quite as wet central/southwest Great Plains.

Snow cover lingers: One of the snowiest months of April on record lingers and more snow fell yesterday in the Upper Midwest (*Fig. 1*). The snow cover causes widespread minimum temperature in the 20's this morning and Friday morning into the Corn Belt (*Fig. 2-3*).



Fig. 1: More snow in the northwest Corn Belt yesterday as northern U.S. snow cover lingers past mid-April.



Fig. 2-3: This morning and Friday morning projected low temperatures by the GFS.

The Kansas drought area (*Fig. 4*) where rainfall deficits are near 6 in. receives some beneficial rainfall FRI/SAT (*Fig. 5*). NOAA/WPC rainfall forecasts indicate 1-2 in. of rain mostly over Oklahoma Saturday. The drought zone rainfall deficits ease slightly with this event.



Fig. 4-5: Tomorrow's rainfall forecast across the south/southwest Plains drought area eases back from previous forecasts. Similarly, extended-range precipitation forecasts are lighter in the drought area.

The 6-10 day precipitation amount forecast across the central/south Great Plains drought area vary widely. The GFS brings another 1-2 in. of rain (*Fig. 6*) while the ECM is indicating limited to no rainfall (*Fig. 7*). The large scale climate pattern favors the drier trend.



Fig. 6-7: The GFS and ECM day 6-10 QPF outlooks indicate different scenarios in the central/south Great Plains drought area.

Europe: Short-term very warm weather fades wetter/cooler medium-range

Very warm through the weekend: Afternoon temperatures are 20-25F above normal (70's to low 80's) centered on France/Germany today (*Fig. 8*) and tomorrow slowly shifting to Eastern Europe early next week (*Fig. 9*). The early season warmth and dryness is going to fade in the medium-range. A moist fetch from the North Atlantic across Europe regenerates in the 6-10 day period (*Fig. 10*) causing a cool-down which lasts into the 11-15 day period also wetter than normal (*Fig. 11*).



Fig. 8-9: Strong anomalous warmth indicated by the GFS over France/Germany today shifting to Southeast Europe by Monday.



Fig. 10-11: Turning wetter and cooler across Europe in the 6-10 and 11-15 day period according to the GFS.

Western Russia/Black Sea region: Near miss rainfall.

Wet Western Russia: A wet pattern with cool temperatures affects Western Russia the next 2 days while Europe is very warm. The wet weather eases and some of the European warmth pushes into Western Russia early next week. The day 1-7 percent of normal precipitation forecast indicates Western Russia has above normal rainfall while the Black Sea region is mostly drier than normal (*Fig. 12*). In-between the Black and Caspian Sea is wet in the 8-14 day period while Western Russia is marginally wet (*Fig. 13*).



Fig. 12-13: Percent of normal rainfall forecast in Southwest Russia and the Black Sea region for days 1-7/8-14 ahead.

South America: Argentina beneficial rainfall ahead.

Argentina rains: A pattern reversal as the GFS is indicating steady beneficial rainfall events in both the 1-7 day (*Fig. 14*) and 8-14 day (*Fig. 15*) periods. Southeast Brazil is going dry in the 2-week forecast.



Fig. 14-15: The percent of normal rainfall forecast using the GFS for days 1-7/8-14 across South America.

Australia: Very warm and mostly dry into May.

Late season warmth: The GFS day 1-7/day 8-14 temperature anomaly forecast indicate persistent anomalous warmth across all of Australia (Fig. 16-17). Rainfall forecasts are also generally sparse.



Fig. 16-17: The day 1-7/day 8-14 temperature anomaly forecast using the *GFS across Australia.*