Overview:
As of the end of April, conditions are generally favourable for all four crops. **Winter wheat** in the northern hemisphere is developing under generally favourable conditions, albeit with some dry conditions in Europe and the Russian Federation. **Spring wheat** has begun sowing in the US and China. **Maize** conditions in the southern hemisphere are generally favourable with exceptional conditions in Argentina. **Rice** in Asia is under favourable conditions for dry-season rice in the north and wet-season rice in the south. **Soybean** conditions are favourable to exceptional as harvest progresses in South America.

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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 generally favourable conditions with some areas of dryness in Europe and the Russian Federation. Spring wheat is in early stages of sowing under favourable conditions.

**Maize** - In the southern hemisphere, harvest is ongoing in Argentina, Brazil, and South Africa. In the northern hemisphere, sowing has begun in most regions under favourable conditions. Mexico is harvesting the Autumn-Winter crop with very good yields expected.

**Rice** - In China and India, conditions are favourable. In Southeast Asia, conditions are generally favourable for dry-season rice across the region and the harvesting of wet-season rice in Indonesia.

**Soybeans** - In the southern hemisphere, harvest is ongoing in Brazil and Argentina under favourable to exceptional conditions with above-average yields expected in many areas. In the northern hemisphere, sowing has just begun.

**El Niño Advisory**

Weak-to-moderate El Niño conditions are present and are forecast to continue through the Northern Hemisphere spring and late summer (74% chance for May to July and 60% chance for July to September).

Associated with this event are increased chances of above normal May to July rainfall in parts of the southern United States, Central Asia, and southeastern South America, and increased chances of below normal rainfall in parts of Southeast Asia including the maritime region, Central America, the Caribbean, and northern South America.

For July to September, this event increases chances of below normal rainfall in parts of Indonesia, eastern Australia, Central America, the Caribbean, and northern South America. Forecasts are tending towards a positive Indian Ocean Dipole mode after July. Such conditions tend to increase (suppress) rainfall in parts of East Africa (Australia).

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

**Wheat**: In the EU, winter wheat conditions are mixed as dry soils in southwestern and southeastern Europe impact crops. In Ukraine, conditions are favourable with ample rainfall and warm temperatures supporting crop development. In the Russian Federation, winter wheat conditions are favourable in the main producing areas of the south, while conditions are somewhat mixed in the Central and Volga districts due to dry conditions. In China, winter wheat conditions are generally favourable with most areas having received sufficient snowfall during the winter and experiencing warm spring temperatures. Spring wheat sowing is beginning under favourable conditions. In India, conditions are favourable and a good production year is expected owing to lower than average temperatures during the critical development period. In the US, winter wheat conditions are mostly favourable with some mild areas of concern in the north and east due to wetter than normal conditions. Spring wheat sowing is beginning under favourable conditions albeit some delays due to excess moisture remaining from heavy snowfall over the winter. In Canada, winter wheat conditions are favourable in the main producing eastern provinces, while dry conditions in the central prairies remains a concern.

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

Maize: In Brazil, harvest is wrapping up for the spring-planted crop with average yields and a slight reduction in production expected compared to last year. Conditions are favourable for the summer-planted crop (higher producing season) in the reproductive stage with an increase in total sown area estimated. In Argentina, harvest of the spring-planted crop is continuing under exceptional conditions in the main producing areas and a historic production year is expected. Conditions are mostly favourable for the summer-planted crops. In Mexico, harvest of the autumn-winter cycle crop is beginning under favourable to exceptional conditions while sowing of the spring-summer crop is continuing under favourable conditions. In South Africa, conditions are mixed with a reduction in expected production, owing to a decrease in total sown area as a result of the delayed start of the rainy season in western areas. In India, conditions are favourable as the harvesting of the Rabi crop is wrapping up. In China, sowing of spring-planted maize is ongoing under favourable conditions with only spot areas of dryness. In the US, sowing is beginning across the country under favourable conditions with some delays expected due to excessive winter moisture. In the EU, conditions are generally favourable, however dry conditions in the southwest and southeast are affecting sowing and germination. In the Russian Federation, sowing is progressing under generally favourable conditions, albeit with some concerns in the northern areas due to dry conditions.

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

Rice: In China, early-crop rice conditions are favourable with plentiful rainfall for irrigation in the south. In India, Rabi rice has progressed well throughout the season and is now being harvested under favourable conditions. In Indonesia, harvest of wet-season rice continues with yields expected to be close to average. Sowing of dry-season rice is continuing under favourable conditions. In Viet Nam, conditions are generally favourable for winter-spring rice (dry-season rice) as sowing wraps up in the north and harvest progresses in the south. Yields are slightly below average due to lack of rainfall during the flowering stage. In Thailand, dry-season rice is being harvested under generally favourable conditions with an increase in production expected. Dry conditions remain in the northeastern region. In the Philippines, harvest of dry-season rice is ongoing under favourable conditions with a slight reduction in yields expected due to dry conditions during the season, especially in northern and southern Luzon. In Brazil, harvest is wrapping up under favourable conditions with exceptional conditions in the North region. A noticeable decrease in production compared to last year is expected due to a reduction in sown area. In the US, conditions are favourable along the Mississippi delta region.

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

Soybeans: In Brazil, conditions are favourable to exceptional as the harvest nears completion with overall yields near average and above average yields in the northeast region. A small year over year contraction in final production is expected due to dry conditions earlier in the season. In Argentina, harvest of spring-planted and summer-planted crops is continuing at a good pace with above average yields in most regions. Some concerns in the northeast remain due to heavy rainfall and floods. In the US, sowing is just beginning in the south under favourable conditions. In Ukraine, sowing has begun earlier than normal due to warm weather and favourable conditions.
Appendix 1: Terminology & 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 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:** 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.)

**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></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Winter-planted</td>
<td>Summer-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>Winter-planted</td>
<td></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>Intermediate Crop</td>
<td>Early Crop</td>
<td>Late Crop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Winter-planted</td>
<td>Spring-planted</td>
<td>Nili season (Nile Flood)</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>India*</td>
<td>Soybean</td>
<td>Kharif</td>
<td>Rabi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>Kharif</td>
<td>Rabi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Main-season</td>
<td>Second-season</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<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>
<td></td>
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<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Wet season</td>
<td>Dry season</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>Winter-planted</td>
<td>Spring-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Wet season</td>
<td>Dry season</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>Winter-planted</td>
<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 for AMIS Countries

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 for AMIS Countries

Maize2 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 Group of UC Santa Barbara

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Photo courtesy of: Asia Rice

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