![Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](FAO logo)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

15 January 2024

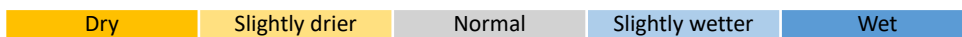## Seasonal precipitation predictions in the Desert Locust winter/spring/summer breeding areas (February – July 2024)

The most recent models indicate that there will be above-normal rainfall during February on the Red Sea coast of Eritrea, southern Saudi Arabia, and Yemen, along the Horn of Africa in northern Somalia and eastern Ethiopia, and across the Arabian Peninsula to southern Iran and Pakistan. After that, the pattern is expected to change towards drier conditions from March onwards across North Africa to the Near East. The only exception will be above-normal rainfall in Kenya. The trend of a drier forecast is linked to a more rapid decay of El Niño. Moreover, there is a high probability of significantly above-normal temperatures for much of the region.

PRECIPITATION ANOMALY	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Algeria (central/south)		Slightly wetter	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	
Chad					Slightly wetter	Slightly wetter
Djibouti	Slightly wetter	Slightly drier				
Egypt (SE Red Sea)	Slightly wetter	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Normal	Slightly drier
Eritrea (western–summer, coastal–winter)	Slightly wetter	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Slightly wetter	
Ethiopia (Afar–summer, Somali–autumn)	Slightly wetter	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Slightly drier		
India (Rajasthan, Gujarat)						
Iran (south–spring)	Normal	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Slightly wetter	
Mali (northeast)					Slightly drier	Slightly wetter
Mauritania (south–summer, NW–autumn)					Slightly drier	Normal
Morocco (W Sahara–autumn, Atlas–spring)		Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	
Niger (Tamesna, Air)					Normal	Normal
Oman (spring)			Normal	Slightly wetter	Slightly wetter	
Pakistan (southwest–spring, east–summer)	Normal	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Slightly wetter	
Saudi Arabia (Red Sea, interior–spring)	Slightly wetter	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Normal	Slightly wetter	
Somalia (N coast–winter, N interior–spring)	Normal	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Normal	Slightly wetter	
Sudan (interior–summer, coastal–winter)	Slightly wetter	Slightly drier	Slightly drier		Slightly wetter	
Yemen (interior–summer, coastal–winter)	Slightly wetter	Slightly drier	Slightly drier	Slightly wetter	Slightly wetter	

Legend: **Dry** | **Slightly drier** | **Normal** | **Slightly wetter** | **Wet**

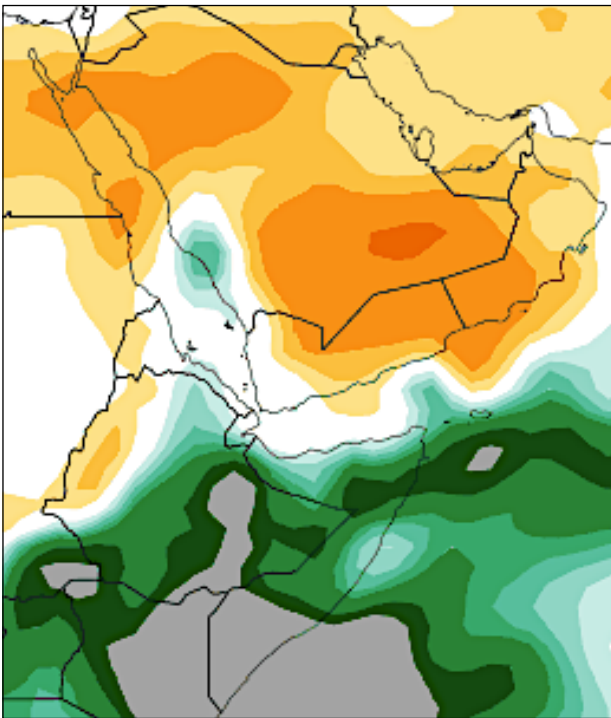Desert Locust seasonal breeding areas

Subseasonal forecast multi-model precipitation – WCS maps (four weeks)
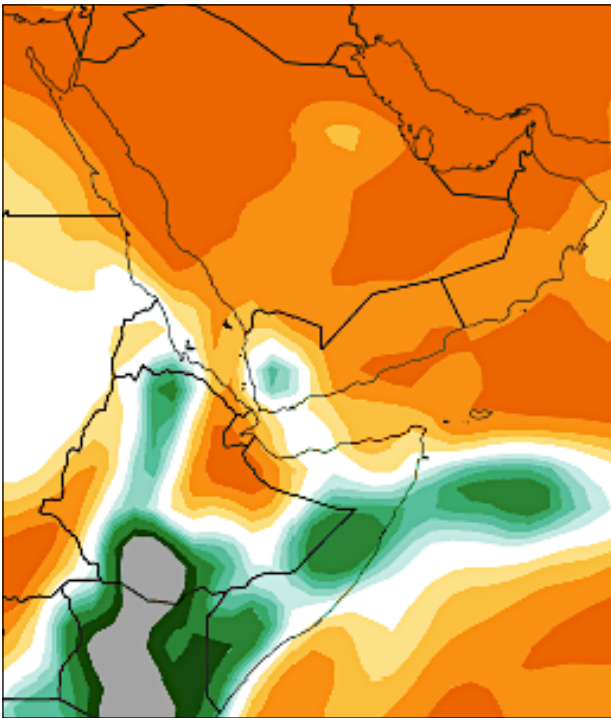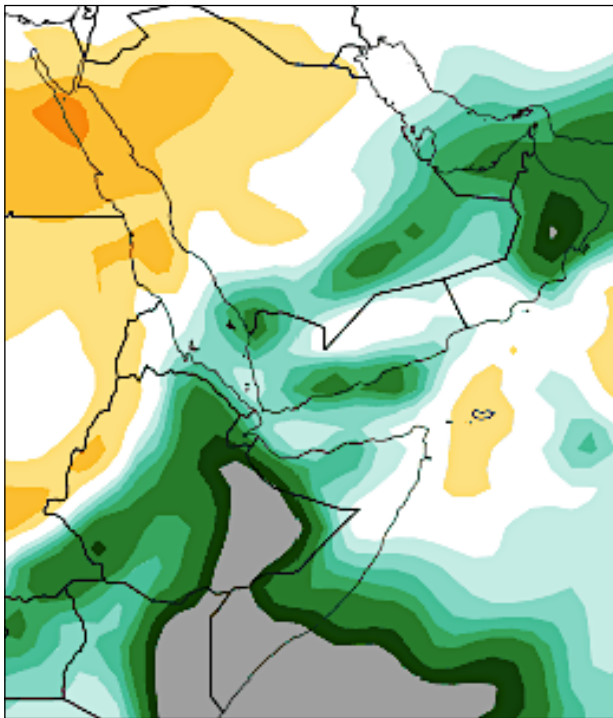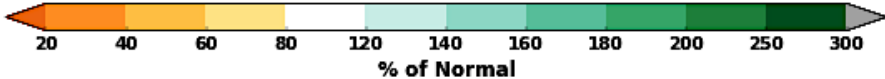

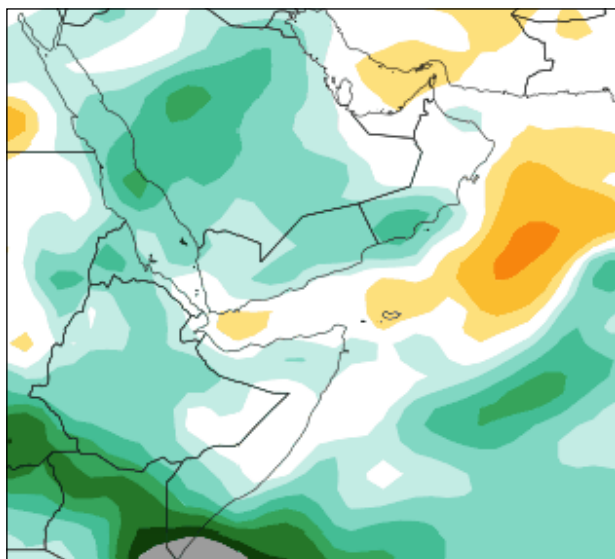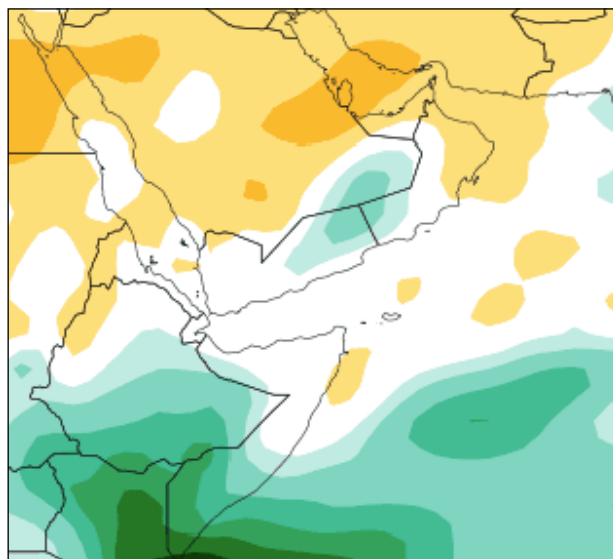15–21 January 2024
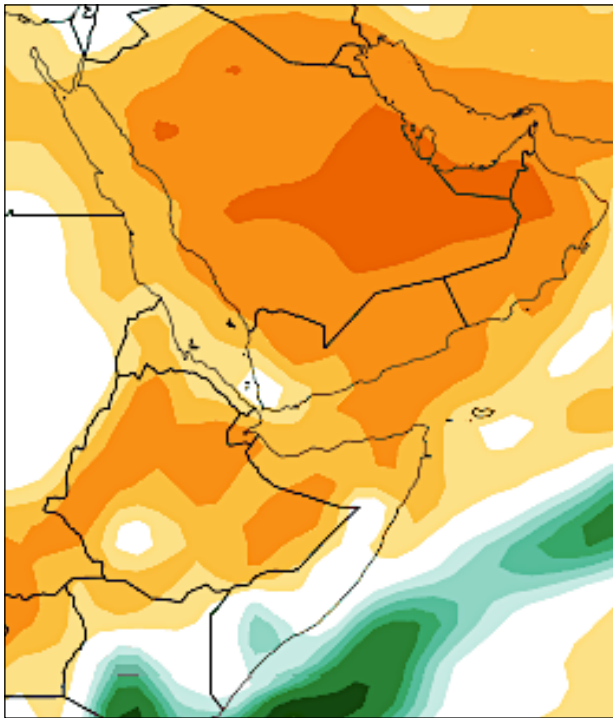
22–28 January 2024

29 January – 4 February 2024
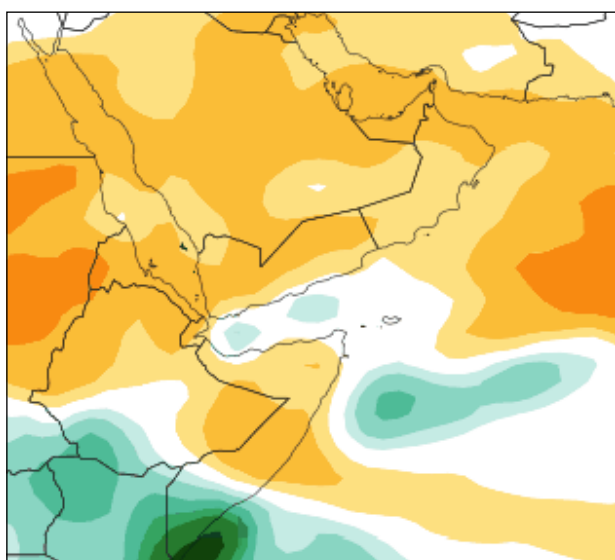
5–11 February 2024

% of Normal

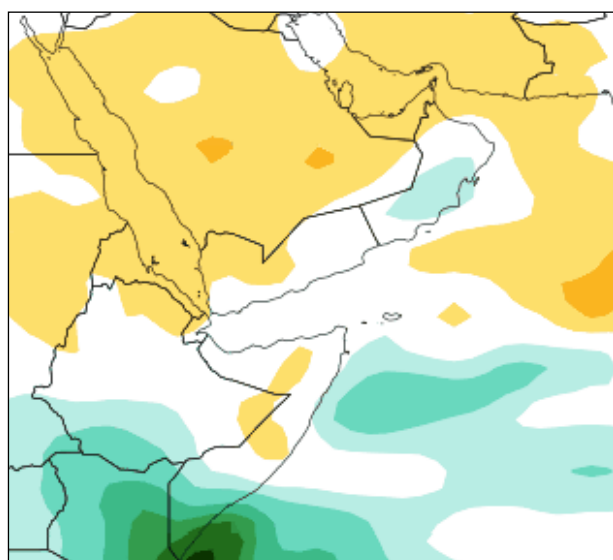# Seasonal forecast multi-model precipitation – WCS vs. Copernicus maps (three months)
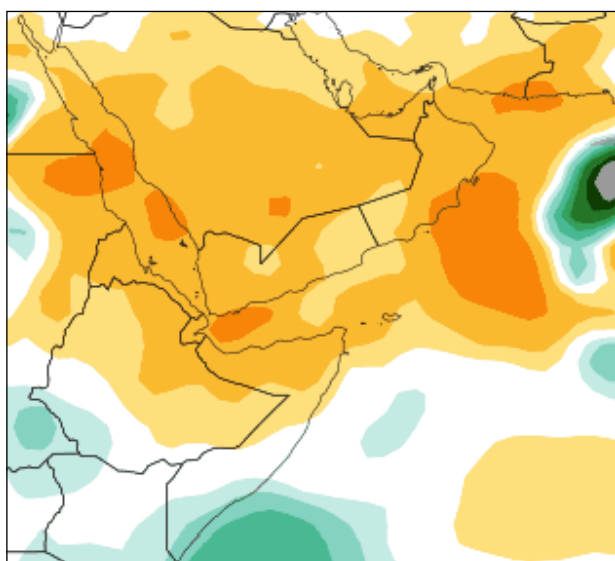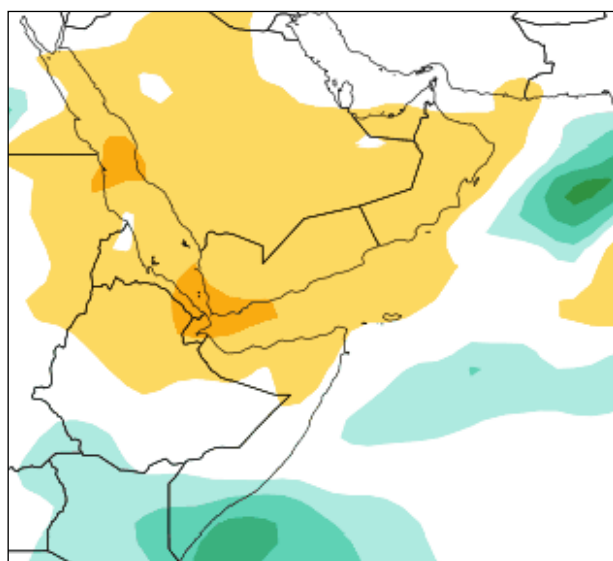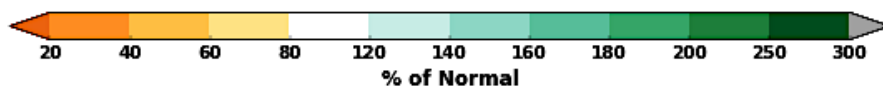

February 2024 WCS

February 2024 Copernicus

March 2024 WCS

March 2024 Copernicus

April 2024 WCS

April 2024 Copernicus

20 40 60 80 120 140 160 180 200 250 300

% of Normal

Model forecast charts. The latest seasonal precipitation predictions provided by the World Climate Service (WCS) cover the spring, summer and winter breeding areas of the Desert Locust. This is one of the most sophisticated products available, derived from **eight** models: CFSv2, ECMWF, and Copernicus (CMCC, DWD, ECCC, JMA, Méteo-France, UKMO). The results of each model are presented below.

How to interpret the precipitation forecast charts. A value of 100 on the left axis indicates normal rainfall; values less than 100 indicate drier than normal conditions; more than 100 indicates wetter than normal. Little variation between models suggests greater confidence and reliability. An asterisk indicates the most reliable model in each month. When available, the historically best model during the entire forecast period in the region is indicated in the caption.
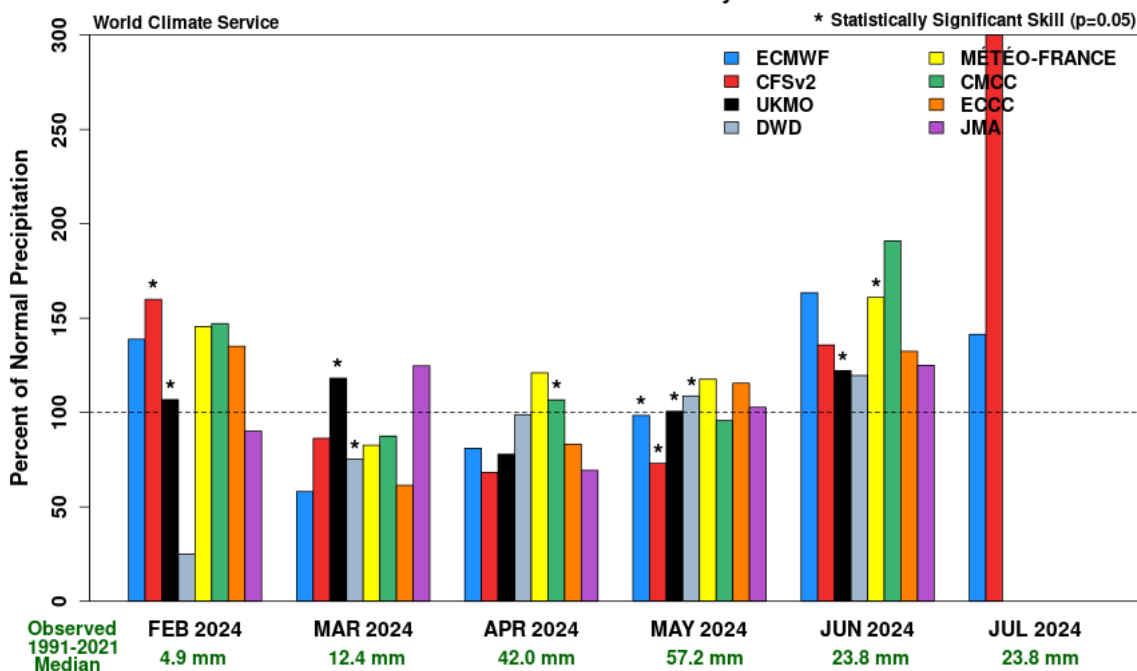

Winter breeding, January–March/April (Red Sea / Gulf of Aden)
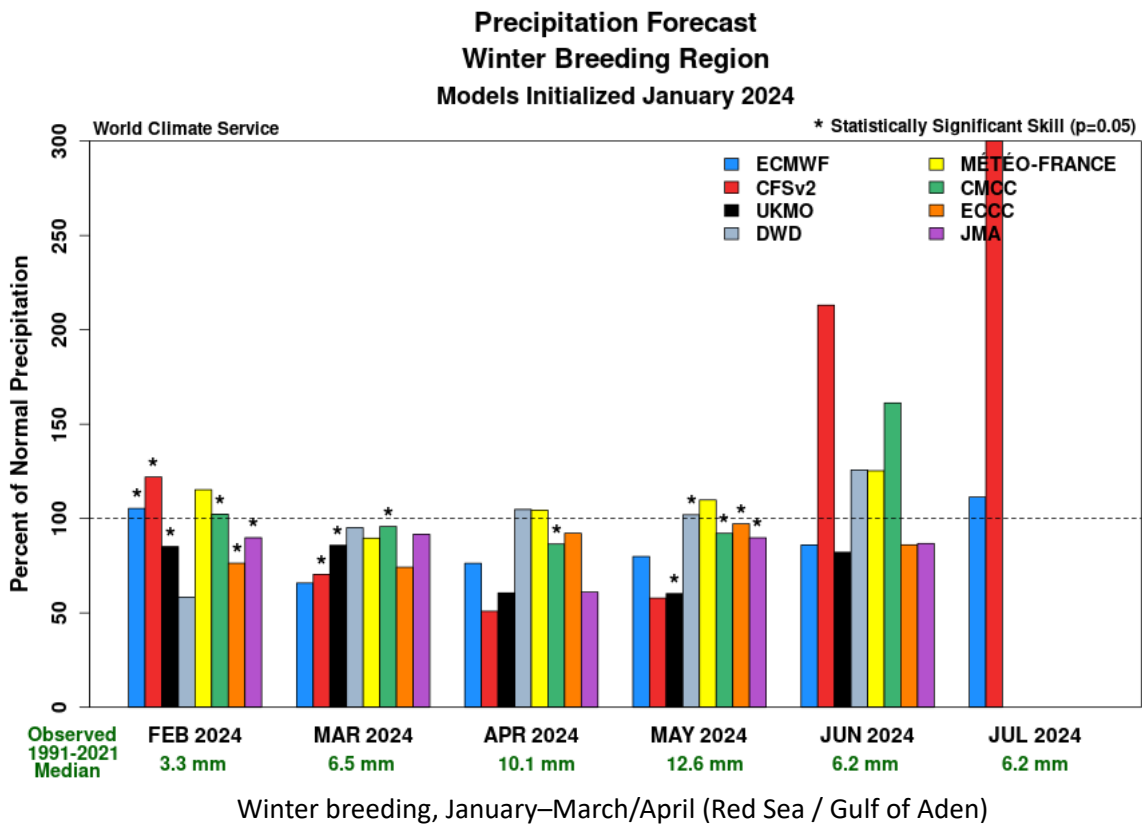
Precipitation Forecast
Spring Breeding Region (Central)
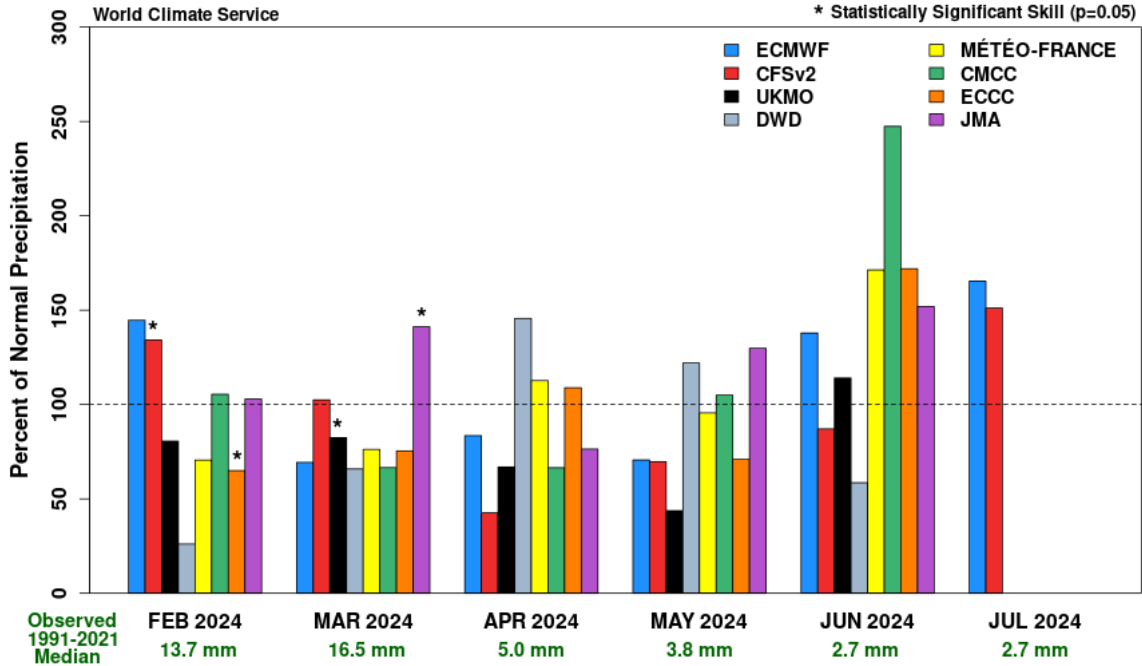Models Initialized January 2024
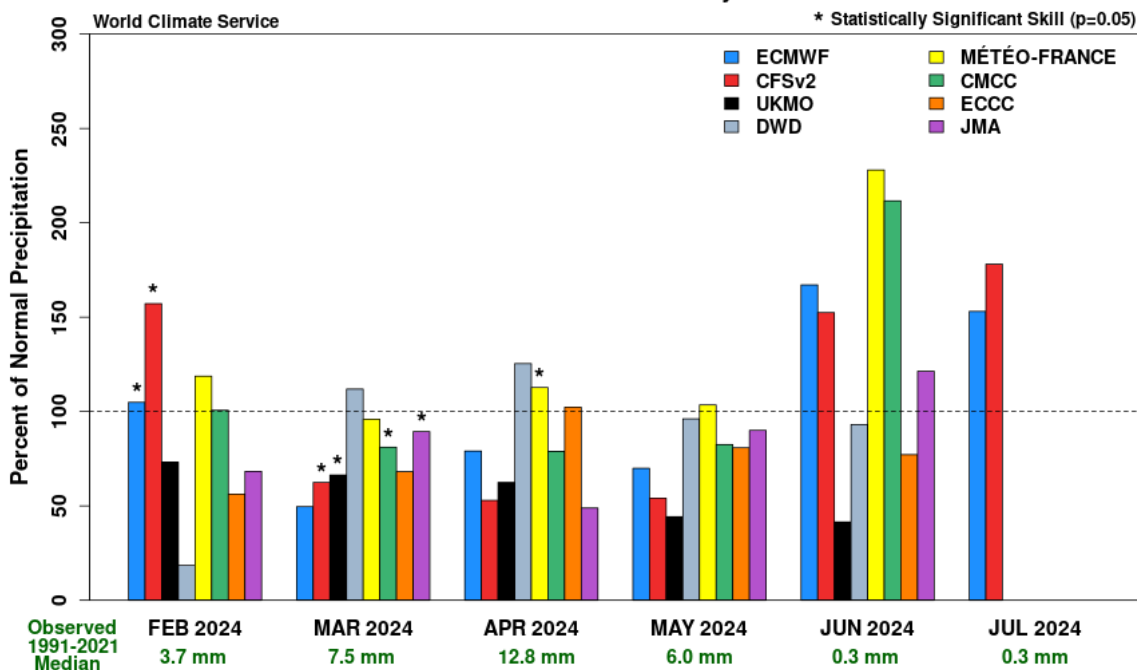
Spring breeding, March–May/June (Arabian Peninsula)

Precipitation Forecast
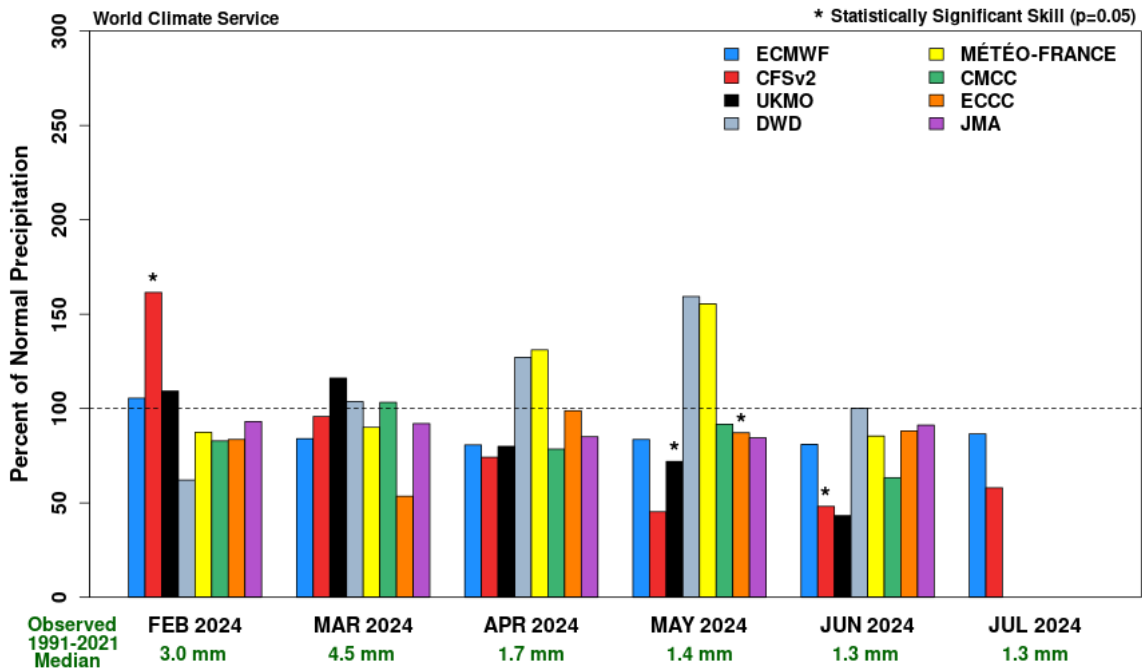**Spring Breeding Region (Northeast Africa)**
Models Initialized January 2024

Spring breeding, March–May/June (Horn of Africa)

Precipitation Forecast
Spring Breeding Region (Eastern)
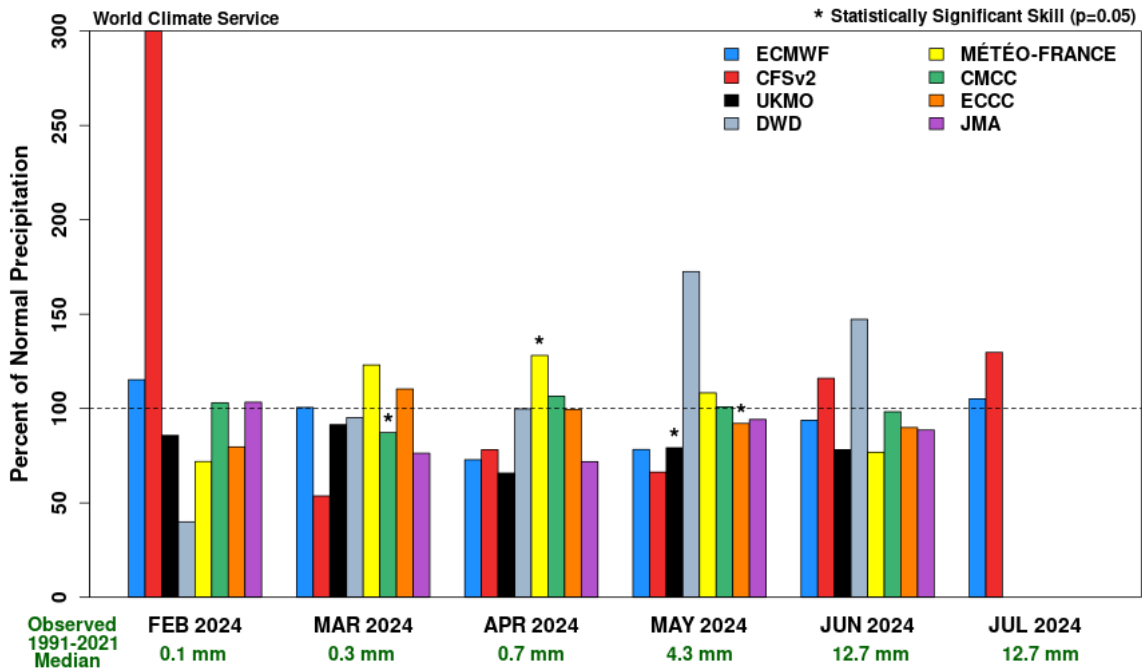Models Initialized January 2024

Spring breeding, February–May (SE Iran / SW Pakistan)

Precipitation Forecast
Spring Breeding Region (Western)
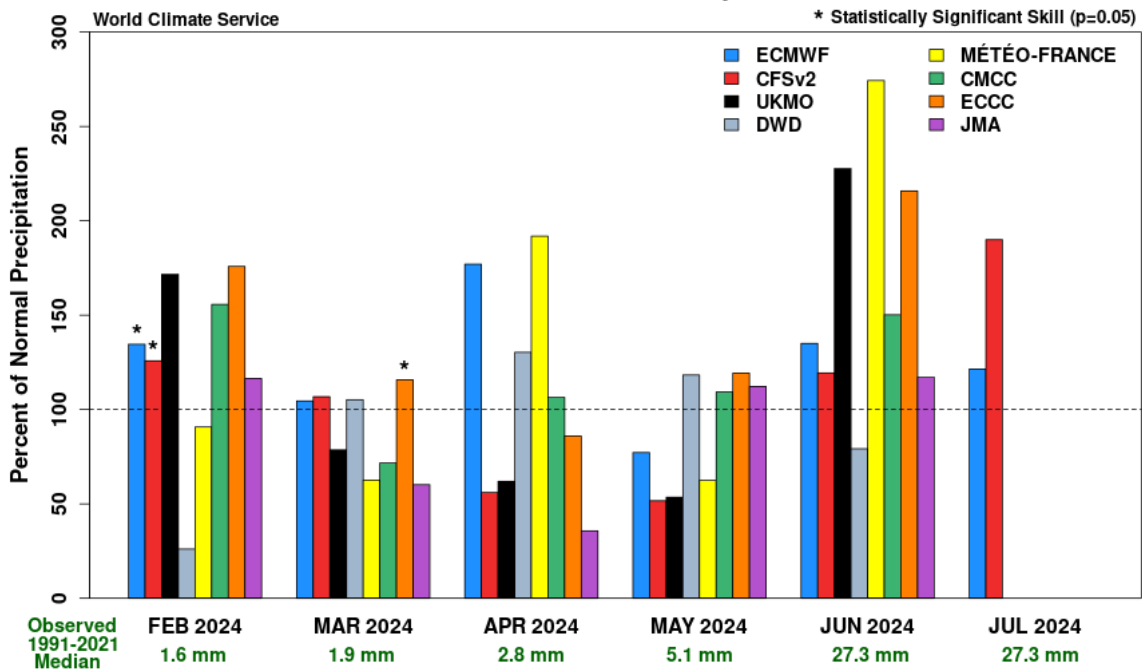Models Initialized January 2024

Spring breeding, March–May (NW Africa)

Precipitation Forecast
Summer Breeding Region (Western)
Models Initialized January 2024

Summer breeding, July (Sahel of W Africa to Sudan/Eritrea)

Precipitation Forecast
Summer Breeding Region (Eastern)
Models Initialized January 2024

Summer breeding, July (India/Pakistan)