



**Seasonal precipitation predictions
in Desert Locust summer/winter/spring breeding areas
(October 2021 – March 2022)**

FAO Desert Locust Information Service (DLIS) / World Climate Service (WCS)

issued 16 September 2021

A dry end is expected in the summer breeding areas of the northern Sahel from Mauritania to Eritrea during October compared to a wet end along the Indo-Pakistan border. While below-average rainfall is expected in northern Somalia and eastern Ethiopia during the last quarter of this year, October rains may be sufficient to allow one generation of locust breeding. Drier than normal conditions are expected this winter along both sides of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden due to La Niña for the second consecutive year; however, sufficient rains could fall to allow breeding along the coast of Eritrea and Sudan. Drier than normal conditions are likely to limit spring breeding in southeast Iran and southwest Pakistan in March.

Summer breeding areas (October)

- Horn of Africa: slightly wetter than normal in NE Ethiopia, S Djibouti, NW Somalia (September) then drier than normal (October–December)
- W Africa / Sudan: a drier than normal end to the summer rainy period
- Yemen interior: slightly wetter than normal (September) then drier than normal (October)
- Indo–Pakistan: a wetter than normal end to the monsoon rains (October)

Autumn breeding areas (October–December)

- Horn of Africa: drier than normal

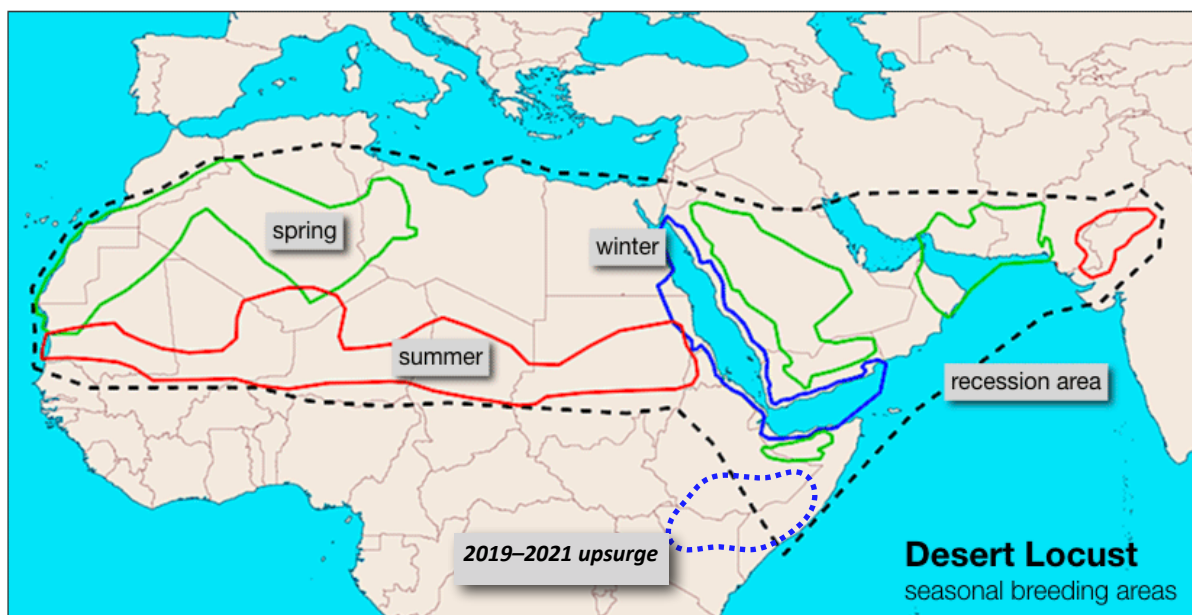
Winter breeding areas (November–March)

- Red Sea / Gulf of Aden: drier than normal

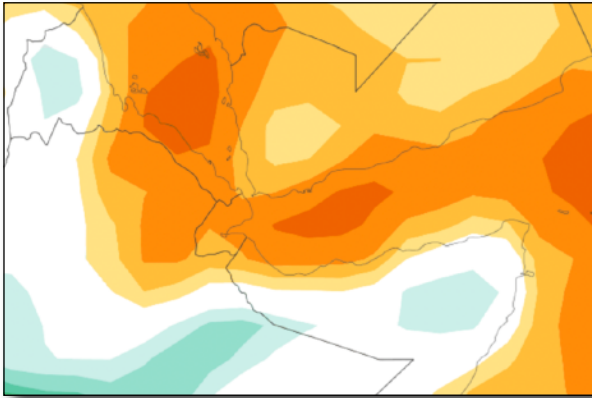
Spring breeding areas (March)

- Arabian Peninsula: drier than normal
- SE Iran / SW Pakistan: drier than normal
- NW Africa: drier than normal

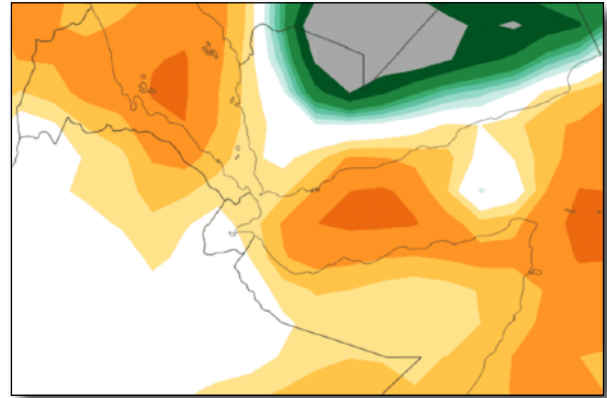
The latest seasonal precipitation predictions, provided by the World Climate Service (WCS) and derived from six models, CFSv2, ECMWF and Copernicus (CMCC, DWD, Météo-France, UKMO GloSea6), are one of the most sophisticated products available.



Weekly predicted rainfall anomaly (Horn of Africa and Yemen)

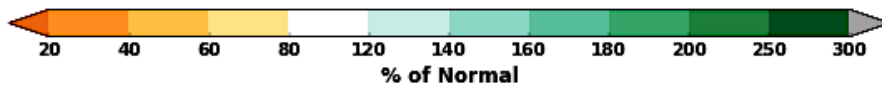


17–23 September 2021



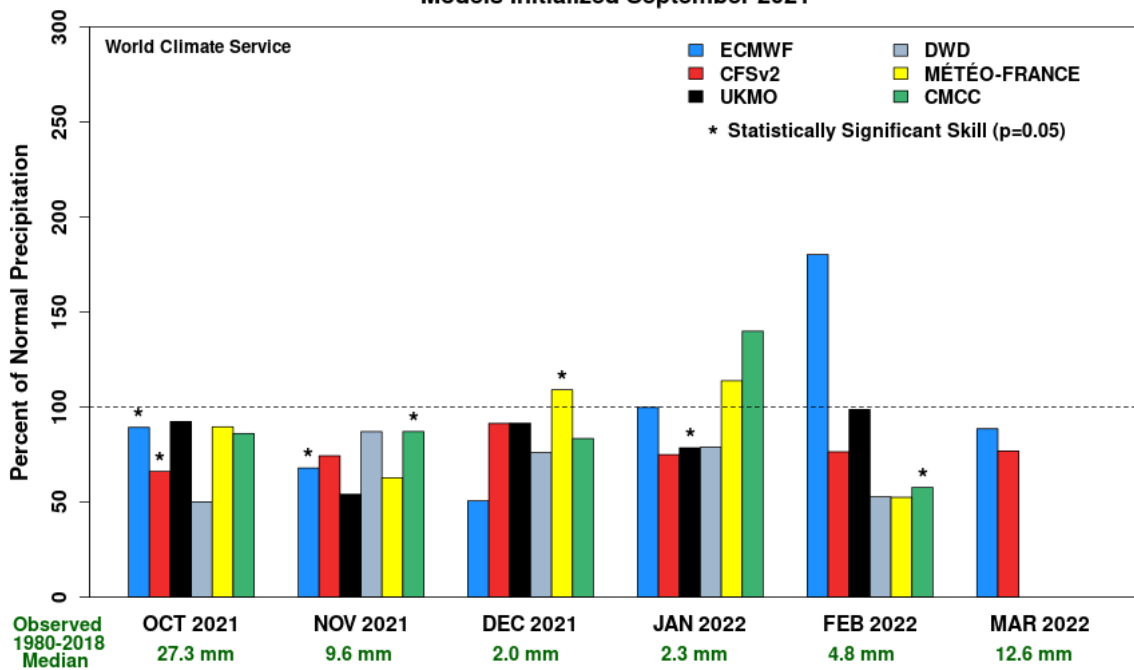
24–30 September 2021

NB. Higher than normal rainfall predicted in the interior of southern Arabia (24–30 September) is for areas that usually receive less than 5 mm; therefore, any anomaly rainfall would not be enough for breeding.



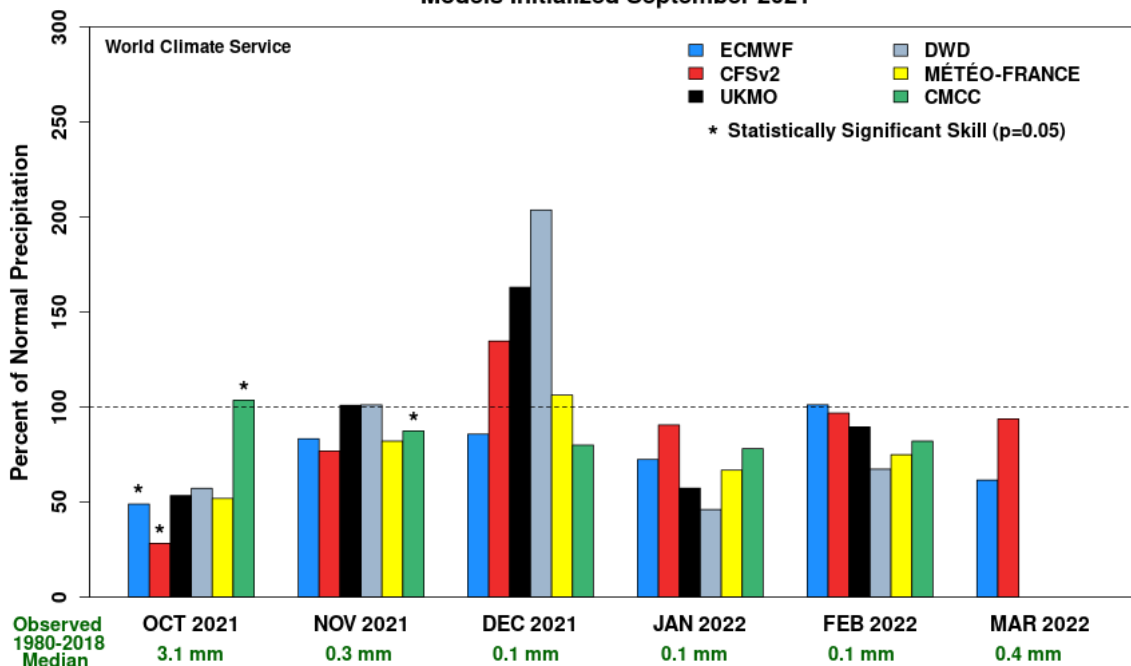
How to interpret the precipitation forecast charts. A value of 100 on the left axis indicates normal rainfall; values less than 100 indicates drier than normal conditions; more than 100 indicates wetter than normal. Little variation between models suggests greater confidence and reliability. An asterisk 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.

Precipitation Forecast Summer/Autumn Breeding Region (Horn of Africa) Models Initialized September 2021



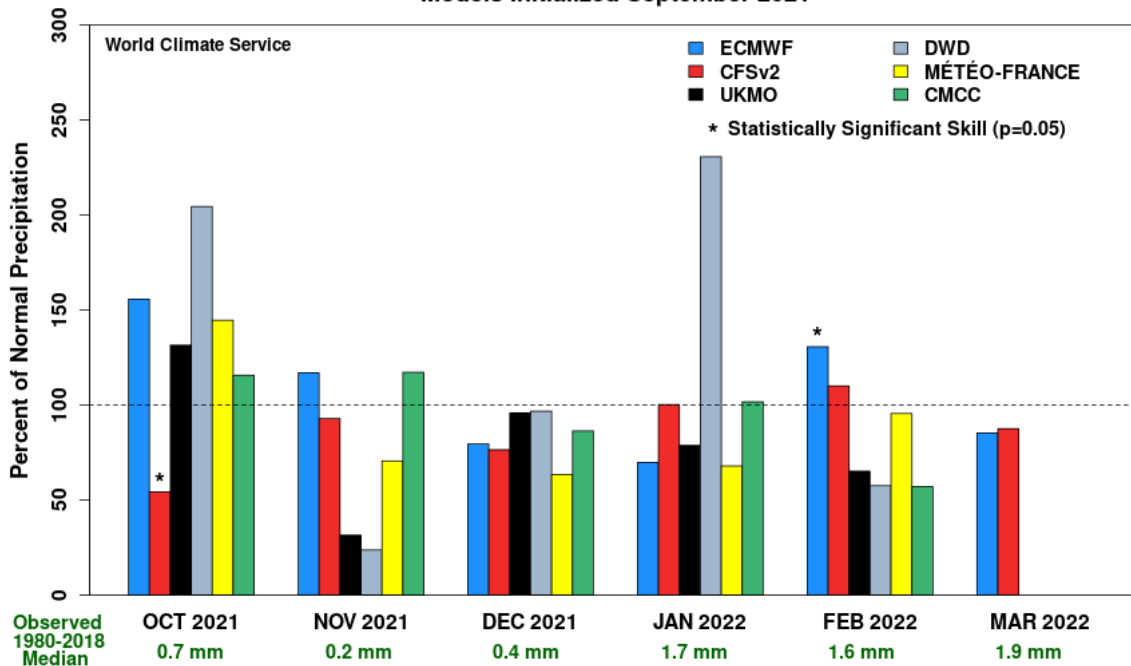
Autumn breeding, October–December (Horn of Africa)

Precipitation Forecast
Summer Breeding Region (Western)
 Models Initialized September 2021



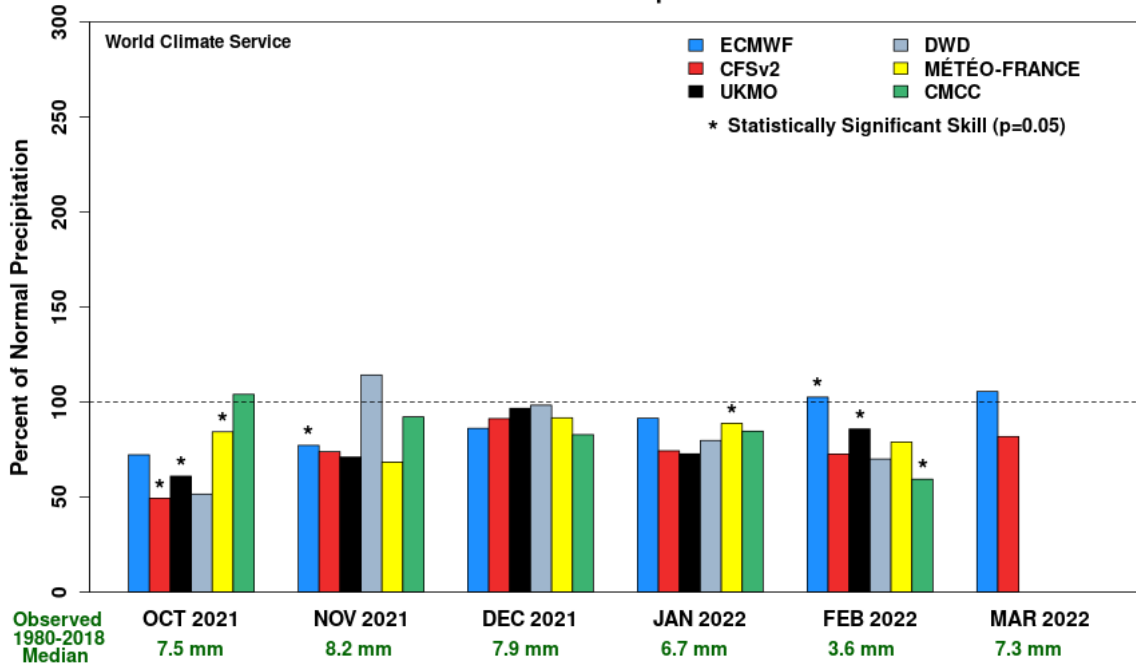
Summer breeding, October (Sahel of West Africa – Sudan / W Eritrea)

Precipitation Forecast
Summer Breeding Region (Eastern)
 Models Initialized September 2021



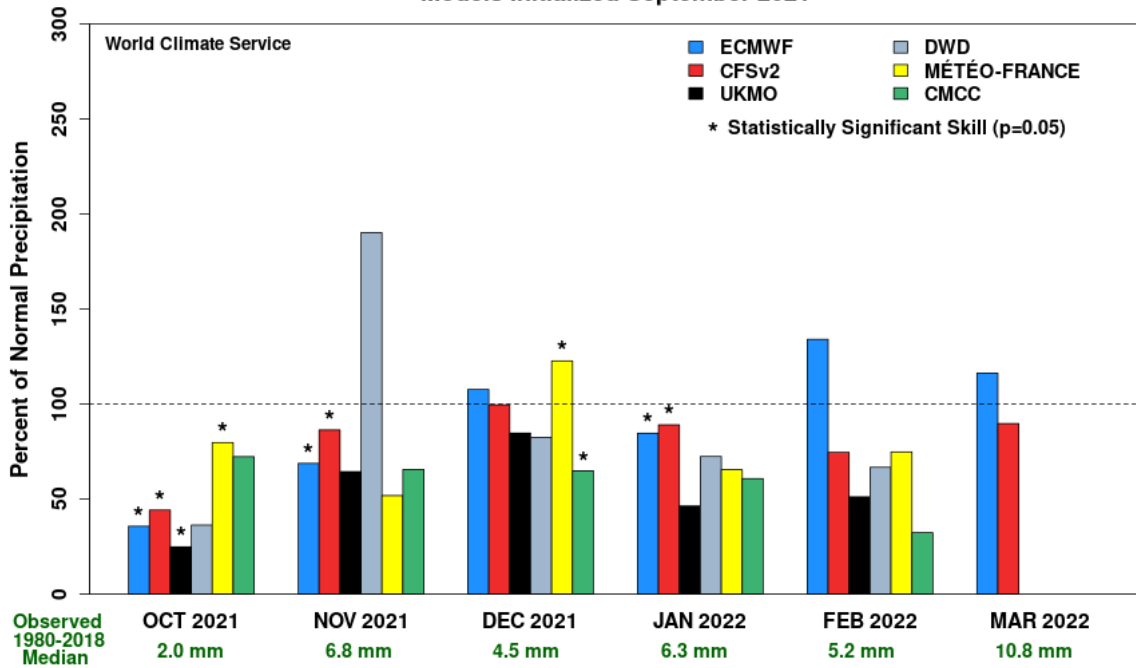
Summer breeding, October (Indo/Pakistan)

**Precipitation Forecast
Winter Breeding Region
Models Initialized September 2021**



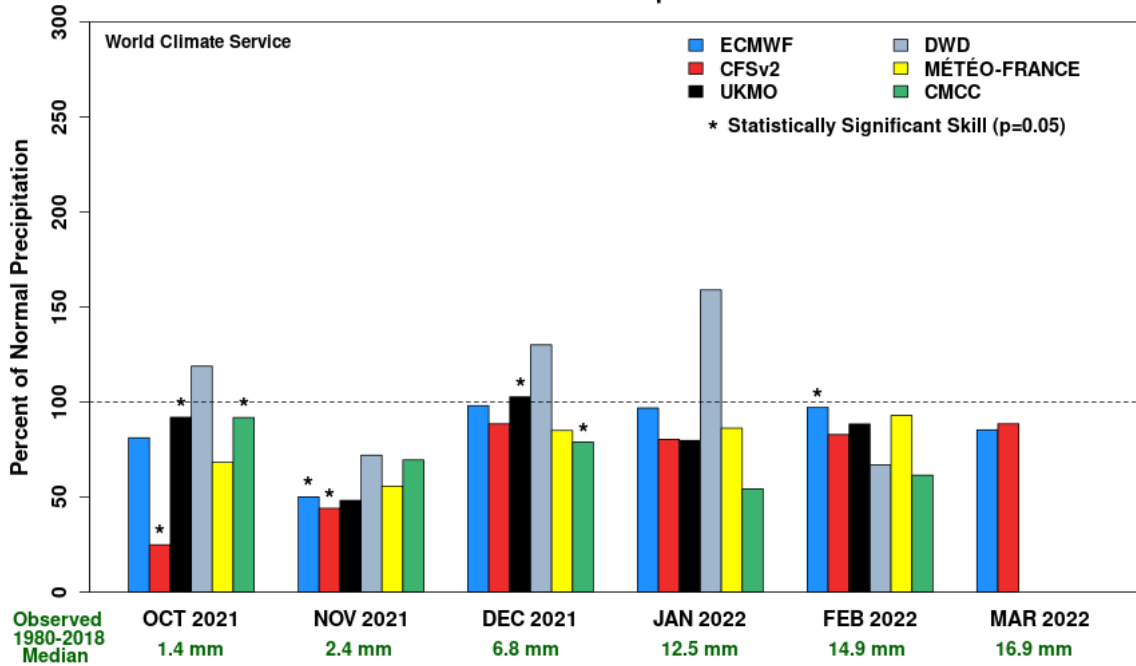
Winter breeding, November–March (Red Sea / Gulf of Aden)
[Historically best: Météo-France]

**Precipitation Forecast
Spring Breeding Region (Central)
Models Initialized September 2021**



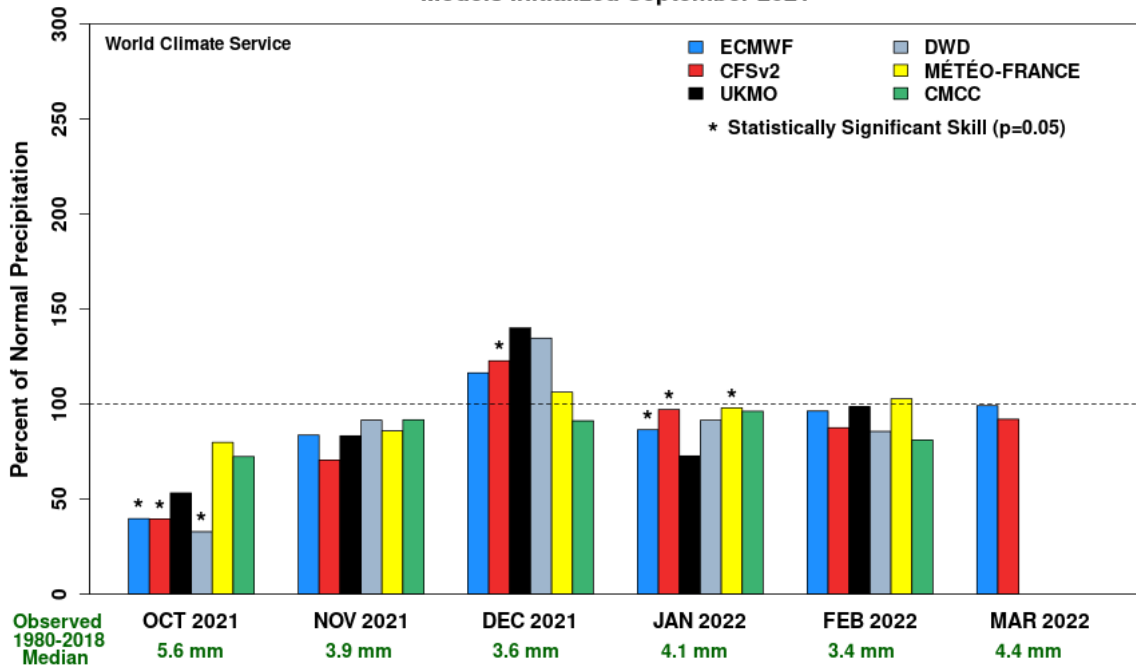
Spring breeding, March (Arabian Peninsula)

Precipitation Forecast
Spring Breeding Region (Eastern)
 Models Initialized September 2021



Spring breeding, March (SE Iran / SW Pakistan)

Precipitation Forecast
Spring Breeding Region (Western)
 Models Initialized September 2021



Spring breeding, March (NW Africa)