

NEWS LETTER

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FRENCH GRAIN PRODUCTION : EXCEPTIONALLY poor weather conditions led to crop yield losses

ALL WENT WELL UNTIL MAY - JUNE

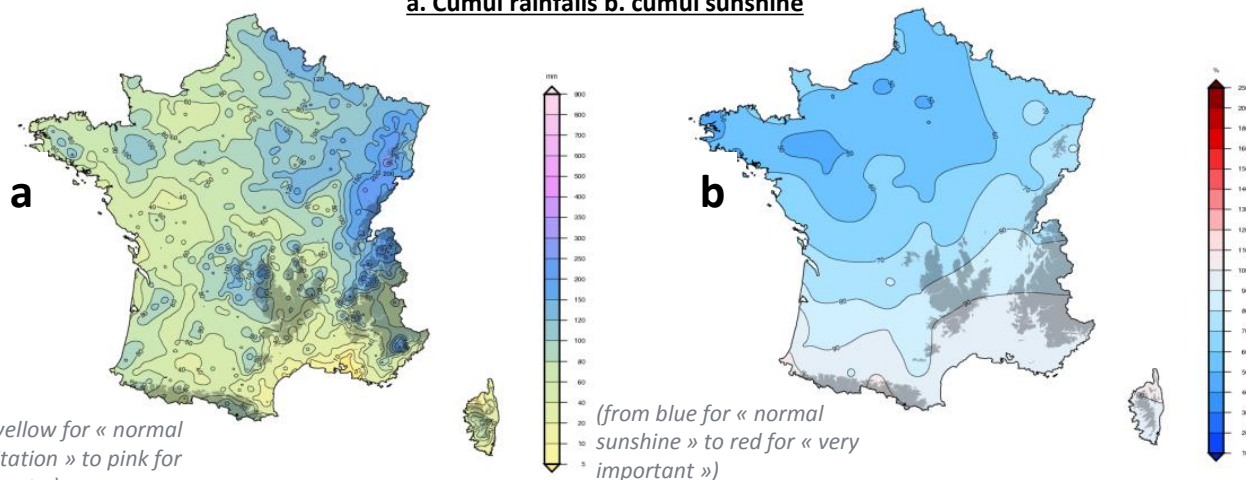
During Winter, the weather in France was very favorable to crops especially for wheat and barley and yield potential was very hopeful.

In May and June 2016, climate started to deteriorate and all the country was marked by EXCEPTIONALLY large rainfall and lack of sunshine.

TOO MUCH RAINFALL AND NOT ENOUGH SUNSHINE IN MAY AND JUNE

Chart 1 : Weather conditions in France – June 2016

a. Cumul rainfalls b. cumul sunshine



(from yellow for « normal precipitation » to pink for « very wet »)

(from blue for « normal sunshine » to red for « very important »)

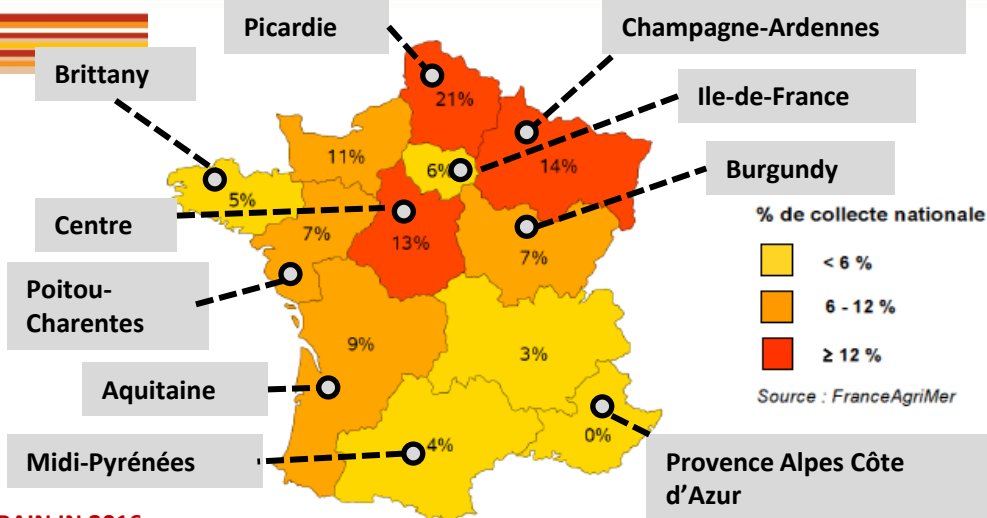
May and June 2016 were characterized by:

- Cumulated rainfalls above the average in the Eastern half of France (**Chart 1 a**). Totals often equivalent to one and a half to two and a half times the normal from the Brittany to the border of North and Northeast of the country, where monthly record were recorded. On average in France, surplus exceeded 25%.

- Sunshine were in average below normal level on the most of the country, slightly higher in the southern where values were near normal. In June, deficit was one of the lowest observed (**Chart 1 b**). It was lower than normal by more than 30 % in the northern half, and from 40 to 50 % from the Brittany to the Centre-Val de Loire, the Champagne and the Nord-Pas-de-Calais.

During these months, crops were in heading stage and both surplus of rain and lack of solar radiation had been disastrous for their development.

Division of the average collecting of the last 5 marketing years



THE FRENCH PRODUCTION OF GRAIN IN 2016

Poor weather conditions led to a decrease of wheat and barley yield. Consequently, French production estimates were revised in down by 9.88 Mt (compared to average of last 3 MY) at 28.5 Mt and barley production by 1.45 Mt at 10.1 Mt. Durum wheat production should reach 1.4 Mt compared to 1.7 Mt (three-years average).

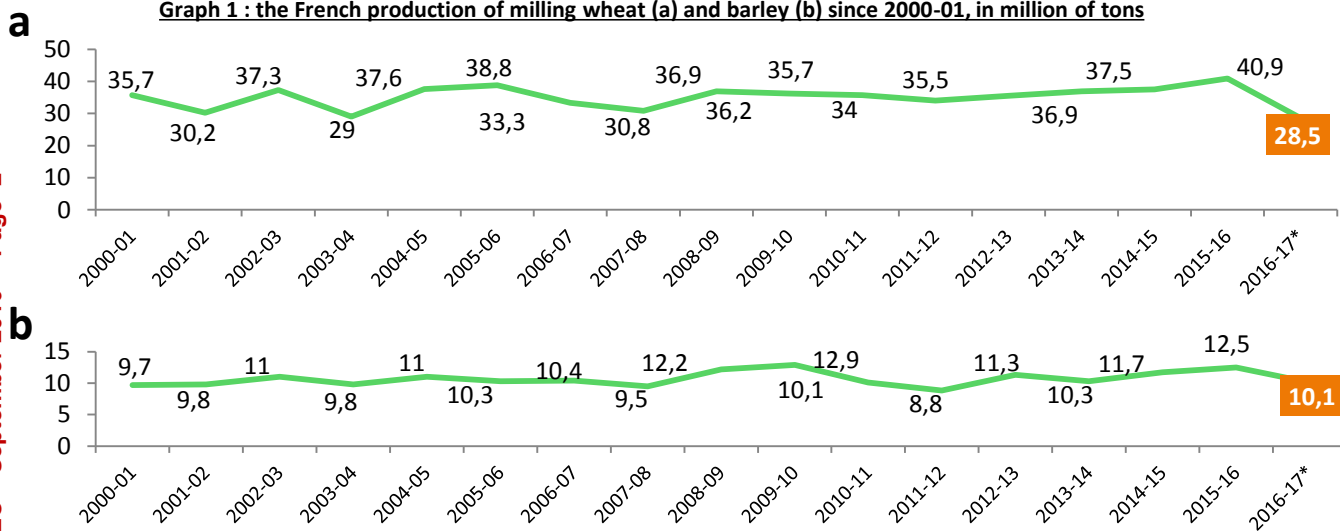
Table 1 : the French production of cereals in 2016

	Average 3 MY (2013-14 to 2015-16)			Marketing Year 2016-17 (July-august 2016 harvest)			2016/17 / average 3MY
	Area (Mha)	Yield (t/ha)	Production (Mt)	Area (Mha)	Yield (t/ha)	Production (Mt)	Δ production
Milling wheat	5,05	7.6	38,38	5.23	5.45	28.5	-9.88
Barley	1,74	6.63	11,55	1.85	5.44	10.1	-1.45
Durum	0,32	5.43	1,715	0.35	4.1	1.4	-0.32
TOTAL 3 grains	7.11	-	51.65	7.43	-	40	-11.65

Source: FranceAgriMer- September 2016

28.5 Mt is the lowest historical level of wheat milling production (**Graph 1 a**). For barley production, decrease is less significant (**Graph 2 b**)

Graph 1 : the French production of milling wheat (a) and barley (b) since 2000-01, in million of tons



Source: FranceAgriMer- September 2016

“France Export Céréales” (FEC), is a non profit organization, founded in 1997 as an initiative of grain producers (wheat, other cereals & maize). It promotes French cereals and the French cereal sector on export markets and provides information to their members on current and future needs of France’s export customers, so that they can adjust French offer to specific requirements, and capture new markets.