

Exchange of views on the drought situation in EU

State of play and European
Commission response

*Presentation by DG AGRI to the European
Parliament Committee on Agriculture and Rural
Development on 30.8.2018*



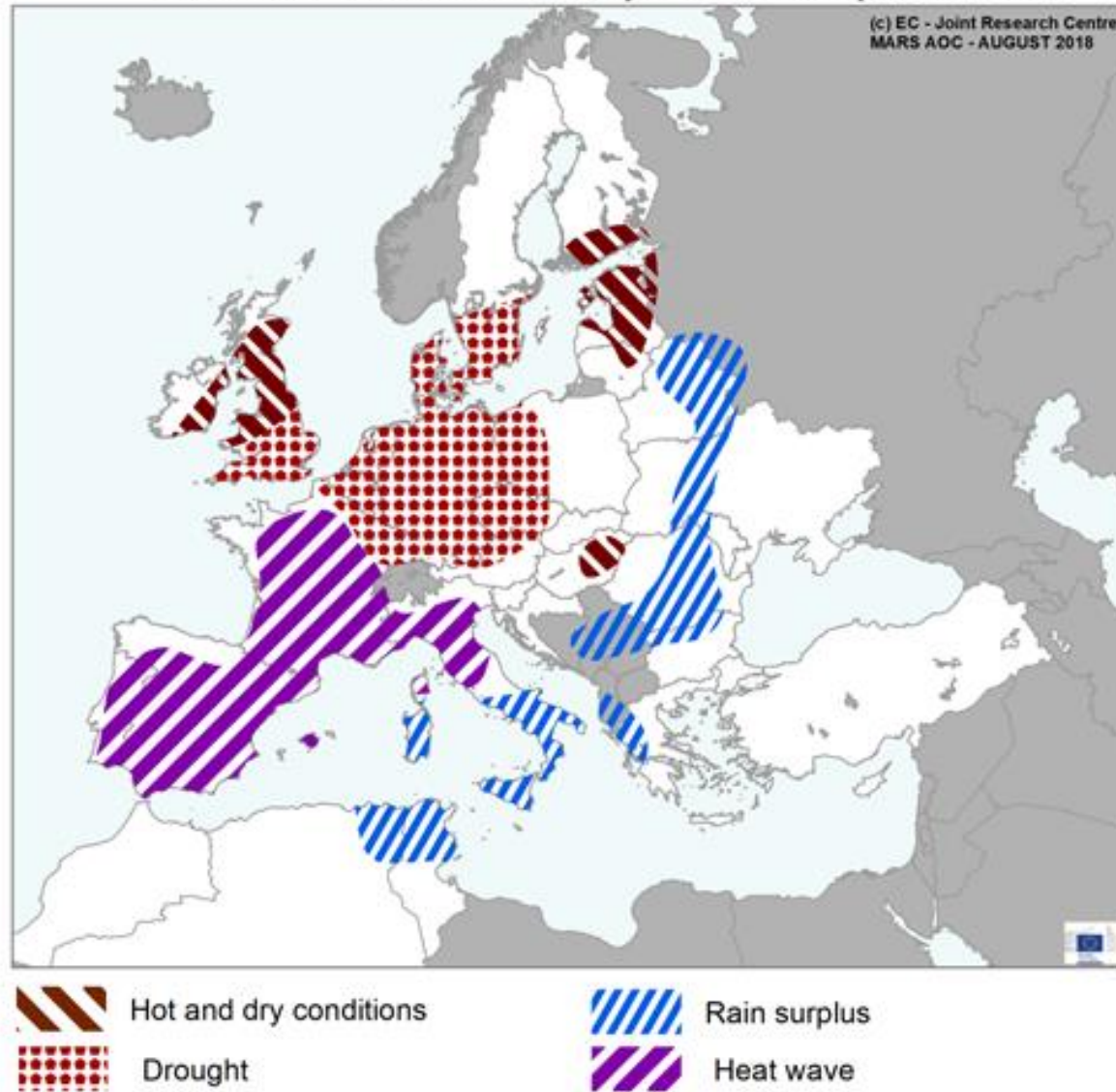
OUTLINE

1. Weather situation
2. Impact on fodder & crops
3. Commission and Member States response

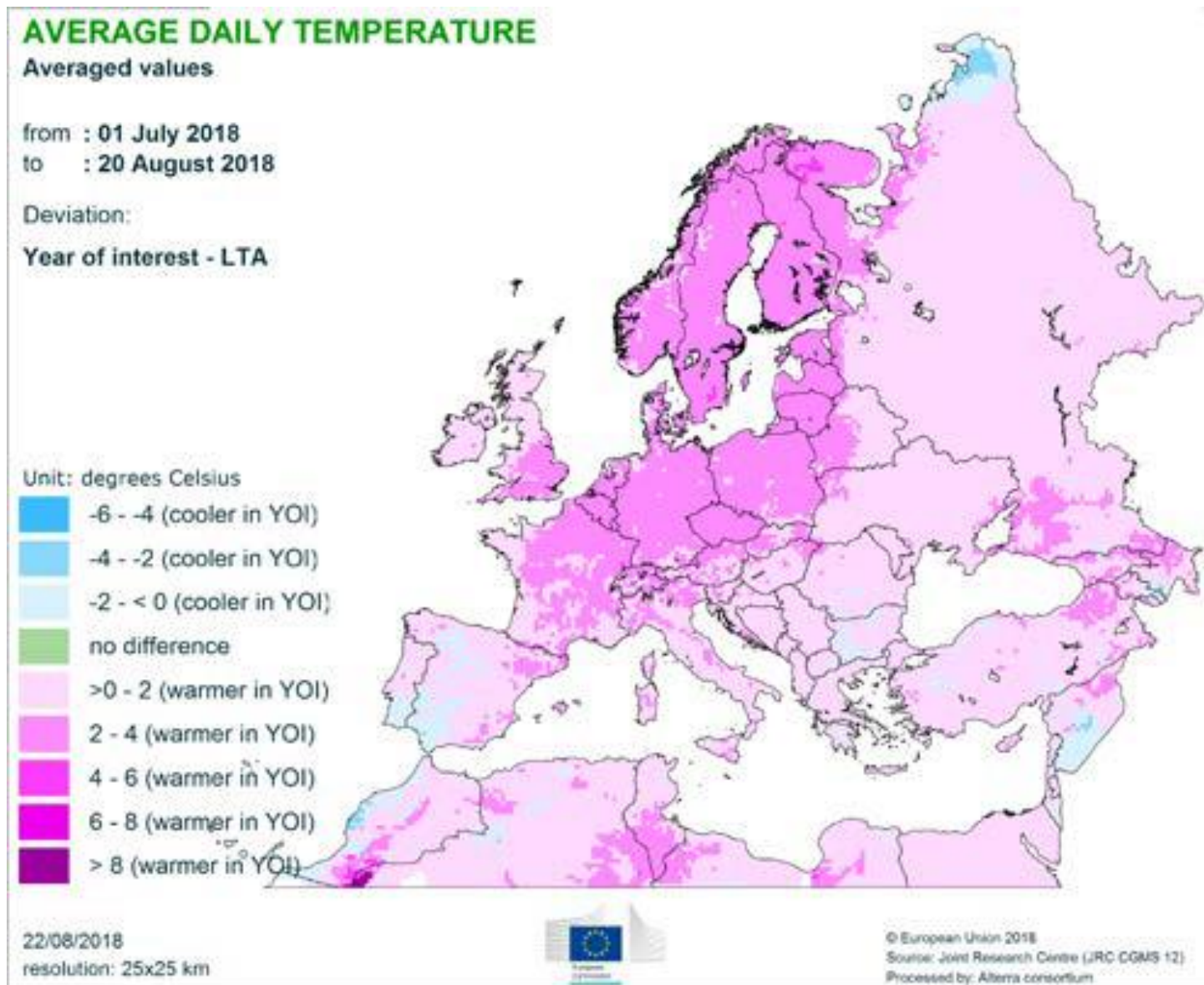
WEATHER SITUATION

AREAS OF CONCERN - EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS

Based on weather data from 1 July 2018 until 1 September 2018



WEATHER SITUATION



WEATHER SITUATION

NUMBER OF DAYS WITH SIGNIFICANT RAINFALL

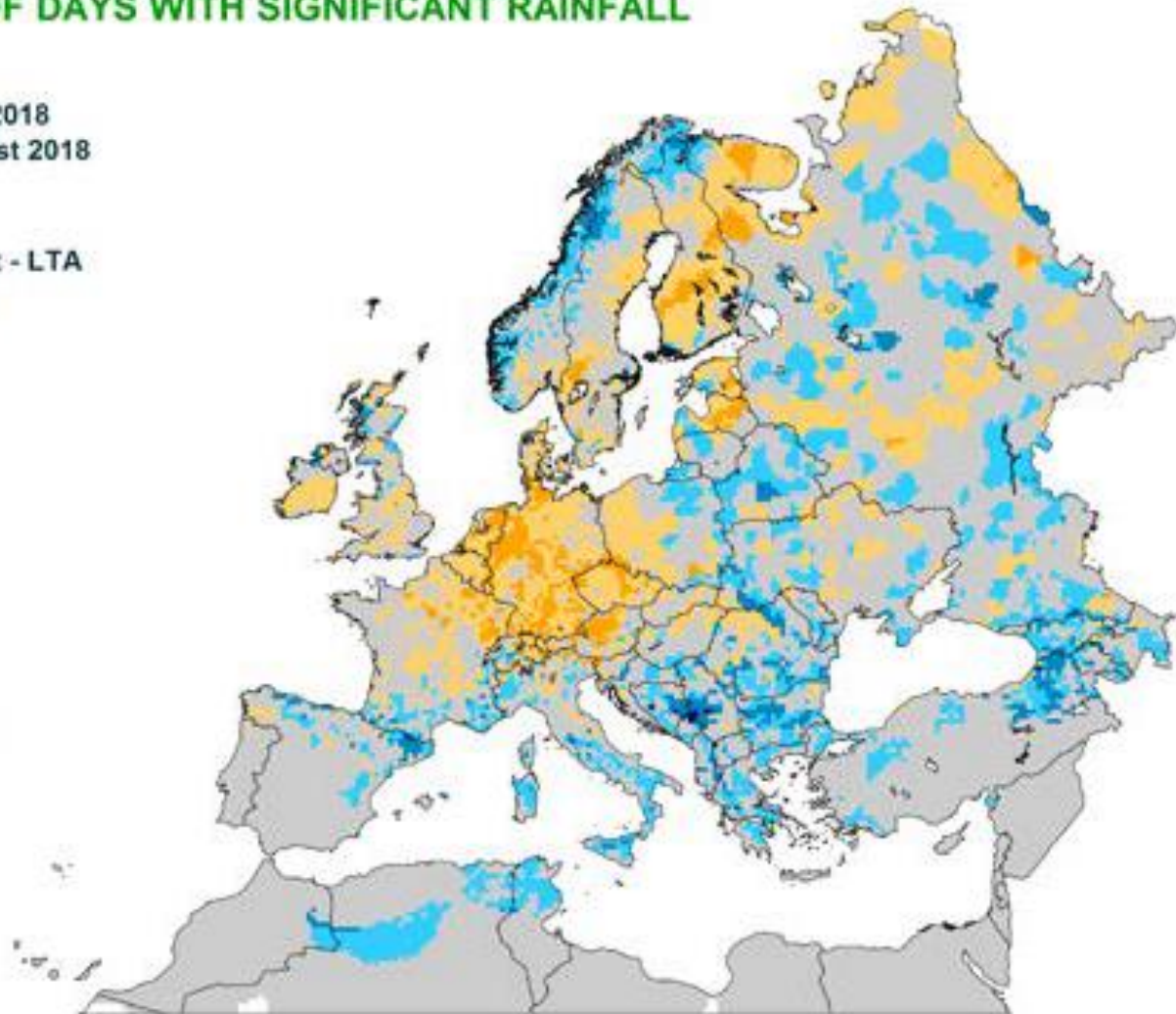
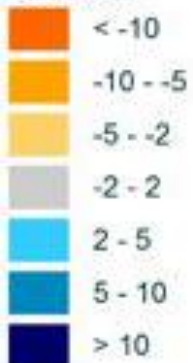
from : 01 July 2018
to : 20 August 2018

Deviation:

Year of interest - LTA

Rain (mm) > 5

Unit: days

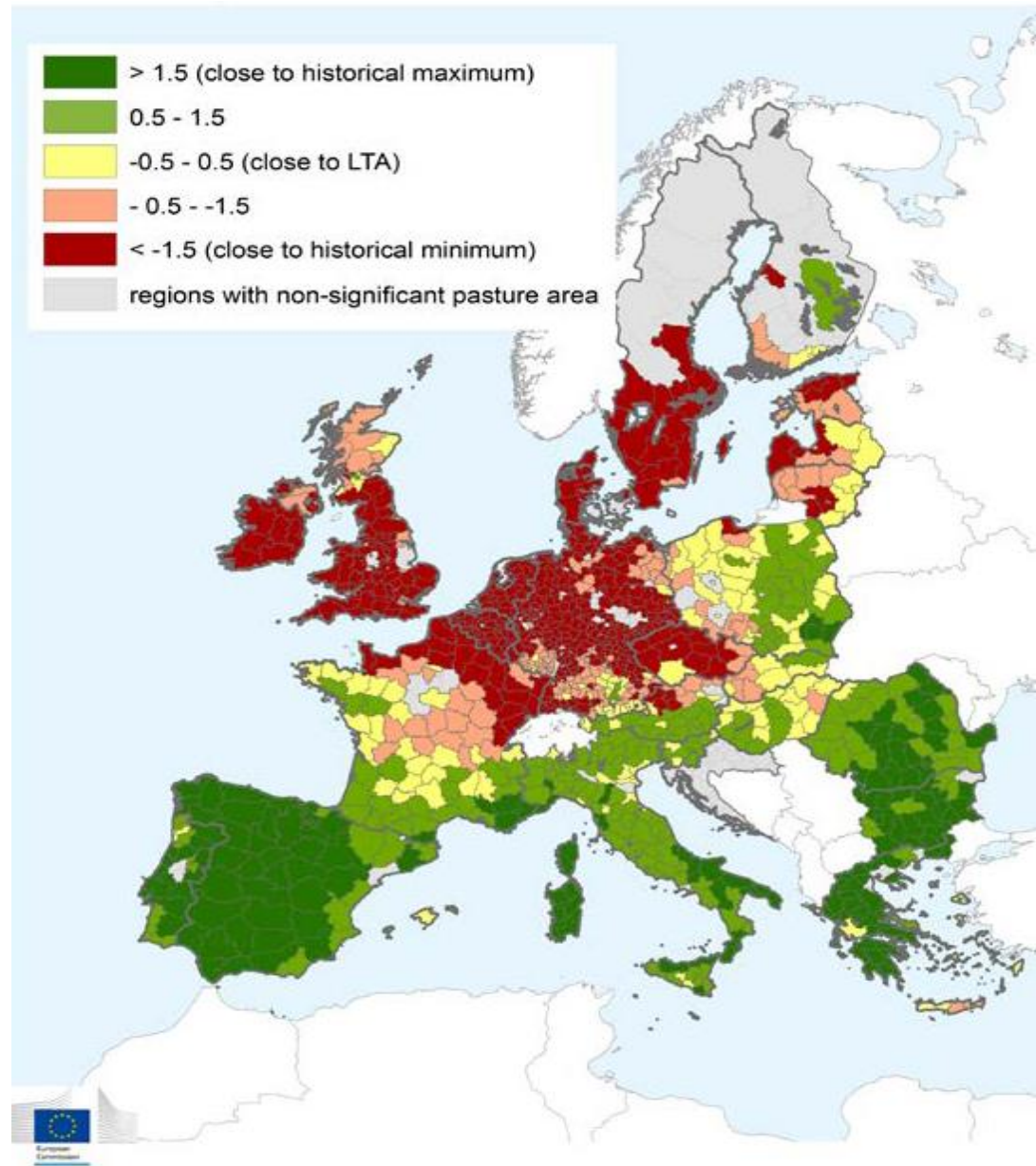


22/08/2018
resolution: 25x25 km

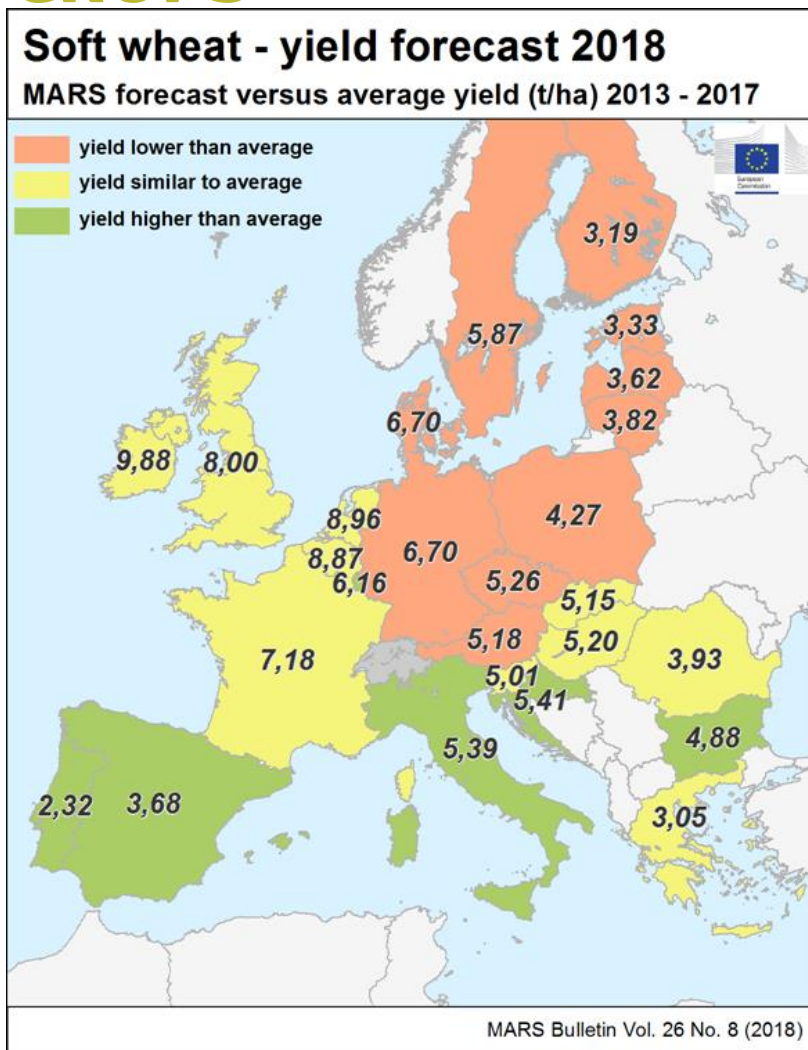


© European Union 2018
Source: Joint Research Centre (JRC CGMS 12)
Processed by: Alterra consortium

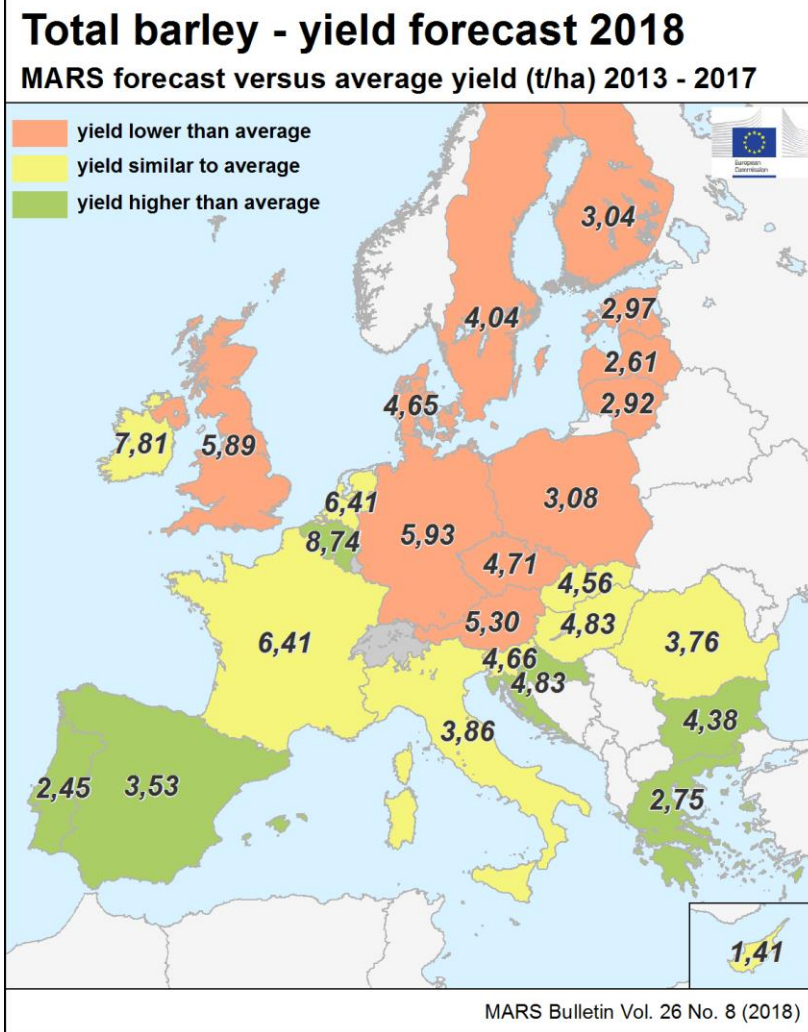
IMPACT ON PASTURES



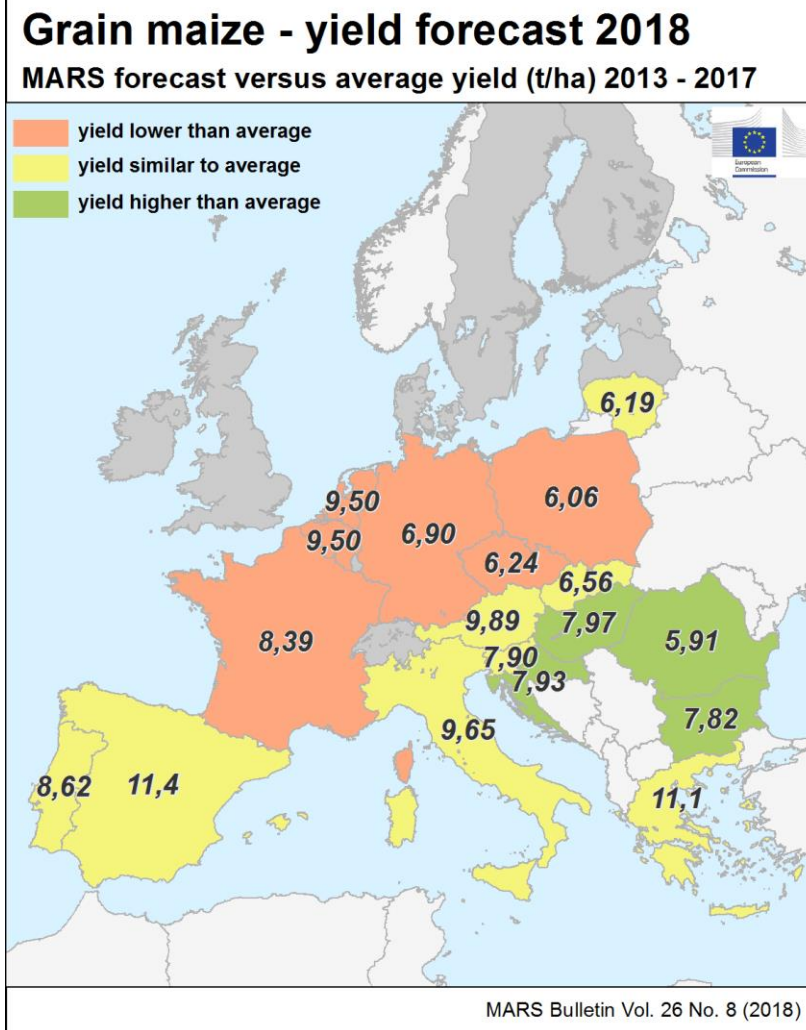
IMPACT ON CROPS



IMPACT ON CROPS

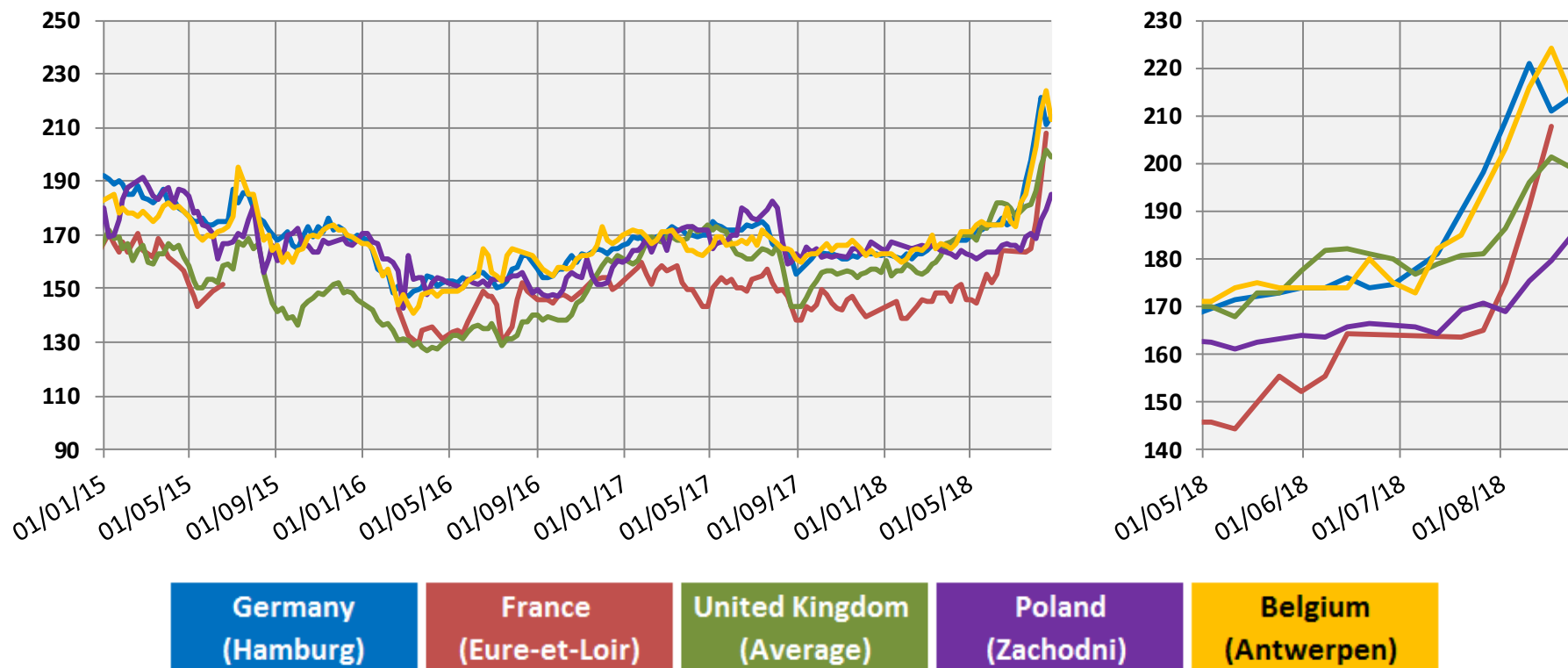


IMPACT ON CROPS



IMPACT ON CROPS

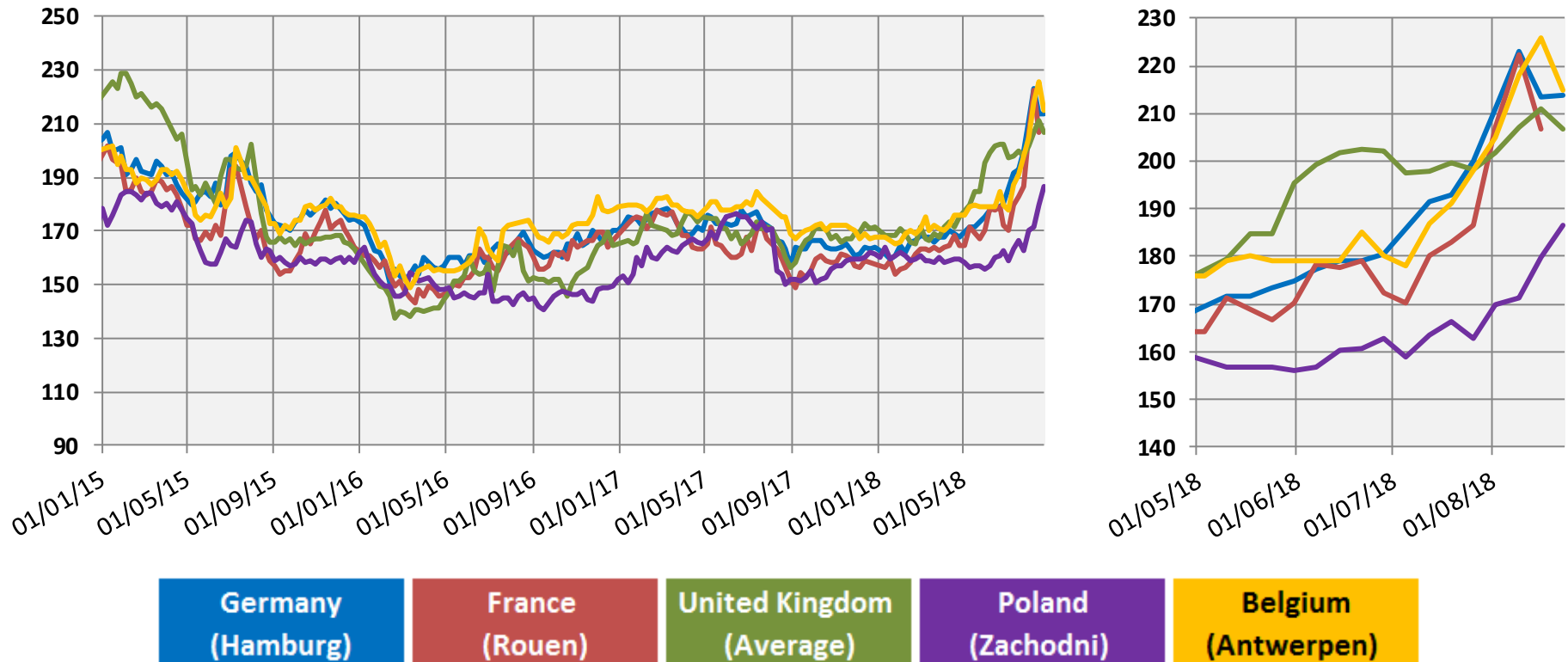
EU Market prices for feed wheat (€/tonne)



Source: Member States notification - Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1185 Art.11, Annex I Point 1




IMPACT ON CROPS

EU Market prices for milling wheat (€/tonne)



Source: Member States notification - Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1185 Art.11, Annex I Point 1

COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATE RESPONSE

- Commission **acted swiftly**:
 - remind MS of **support options already available** (RD, greening flexibility) 
 - **derogation to greening rules** to allow fodder production on land lying fallow 
 - initiate work on **further derogations** (to allow **higher** and **earlier advance payments** and further **greening** derogations) 

COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATE RESPONSE – options available



- **State aid:**
 - up to 80% of the damage caused by drought (e.g. purchase of fodder can qualify)
 - compensation for damage can also be granted without the need to notify the Commission (the so-called "de minimis aid" - up to €15 000 per farmer over three years)

COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATE RESPONSE – options available



- **Rural development:**
 - up to 100% for **restoration of agricultural production potential** (e.g. re-seeding pastures)
 - possibility to recognise **exceptional circumstances** (release from commitments with no penalty)
 - **risk management** instruments (mutual funds or income stabilisation tool)
 - **RDP modification**

COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATE RESPONSE – derogations & interpretation

- **Greening:**
 - 14/08: adoption of decision allowing EFA fallow land to be harvested/grazed
 - 30/08: discussion with MS of second decision (1) allowing fodder production on EFA catch crop area and (2) adaptation of period to allow sowing of winter crop
 - Force majeure: interpretation to ease use in MS to avoid administrative burden
 - Possibility to cut/graze EFA with catch crops: interpretation

COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATE RESPONSE – derogations



- **Advances:**
 - 30/08: discussion with MS
 - Increase max advance to 70% of direct payments and 85% of rural development support
 - October instead of December
 - **Higher** and **Earlier**

COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATE RESPONSE – requests from MS

- **Advances:**
 - Belgium, Czech Republic, Ireland, Italy, Greece, France, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Croatia, Poland, Portugal (Azores), Romania, Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom (Northern Ireland)
- **Greening (1&2nd Decision):**
 - Belgium, Estonia, Denmark, Ireland, Germany, Finland, France, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Finland, Sweden

COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATE RESPONSE – requests & announcements by MS

- **Greening/other environmental obligations – force majeure:**
e.g. France
- **State aid:**
e.g. Germany, Ireland, Poland, Sweden

THANK YOU!