

Europe faces severe drought conditions in Spring 2025



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Brussels, May 7, 2025 – Europe is experiencing some of its most severe drought conditions in recent history, with significant impacts on agriculture, water resources, and ecosystems. The continent has faced significantly reduced river flows, low soil moisture, and declining vegetation health across much of the continent.

The Iberian Peninsula, southern France, and most of Italy have thus far experienced comparatively milder conditions. However, parts of Cyprus, Greece, and the Balkans, as well as Turkey, have reached the red “alert” stage, indicating critical drought levels. In contrast, central and northern Europe, including Germany, France, and the UK, are facing escalating drought conditions, with many areas now under warning status. March 2025 was the driest March ever recorded in Germany, and the water level of the Rhine River in Cologne on April 12 was measured at 1.54 meters about half the usual level for the period.

Experts attribute these conditions to a combination of warmer-than-average temperatures and below-average precipitation since the beginning of the year. The forecast for the coming months suggests continued dry conditions in many parts of Europe, raising concerns about the impact on agriculture, river transport, and ecosystems.

Authorities are urging immediate action to address the situation, including measures to conserve water resources, support affected communities, and mitigate the potential long-term impacts of this severe drought. The situation underscores the urgent need for coordinated efforts to address climate change and its effects on the environment and society.