



The APEC CLIMATE CENTER

Climate Outlook for May-July 2009

BUSAN, 23 April, 2009 - Synthesis of the latest model forecasts for May-July 2009 at the APEC Climate Center (APCC), located at Busan, Korea, indicates below normal rainfall with anomalously warm conditions in Indonesian and Malaysian regions of the maritime continent, while the mainland South Asia may experience above normal rainfall. East Asia in general may experience above normal temperatures

Current Climate Conditions

The period from February through the first two weeks of April 2009 was marked by inter-monthly variations in many regions owing to the transition from boreal winter to boreal spring. On average, Japan, Korea, many portions of central and western China, and Mongolia experienced anomalously warm and dry conditions. The northwest India and adjoining regions also suffered warm and signals through March. The Indochina region received above normal rainfall; the maritime continent saw anomalously dry signals in March, but above normal rainfall in the other period. Anomalously dry signals were also seen in central Australia through March while the western region also suffered a similar condition from March. Tropical South America was anomalously wet in the first two months, but the anomalous signals changed in April; mid-latitudes, however, indicate consistently drier than normal signals. Mexico was anomalously warm and dry except in April when the temperature turned near normal. Anomalously warm and dry conditions were also seen in southcentral and southeastern USA in February, but confined only to the southwestern USA in March. The northeast Canada also witnessed anomalously cold and dry signals, while the western part experienced fluctuating inter-monthly signals, particularly in the rainfall.

Forecast

The APCC forecast for May-July, 2009 indicates horse-shoe shaped positive anomalies of temperature and rainfall in the tropical western Pacific, extending from the south of Japanese Archipelago, through Philippines and the mainland south Asia to its west, Papua New Guinea, and the adjoining Polynesian islands. On the other hand, the maritime continent covering Indonesia and Malaysia may experience an anomalously warm and dry condition. A few regions in the western and northern edges of the Australian continent may experience slightly above normal temperatures, with near normal rainfall. There is a chance that a few portions of the southern Australian continent may experience slightly below normal rainfall. The Indian subcontinent, except in the northwest, is likely to receive above rainfall while experiencing cooler-than-normal temperatures. Further west of the subcontinent, the Middle East region and adjoining northern tropical Africa are expected to experience drier and warmer than normal conditions. The Mediterranean region and continental Europe are likely to experience below normal rainfall with anomalously warm temperatures.

Most of the north-central Asia and many regions in Eastern Asia will experience above normal temperatures. There is a chance that some regions in the northern Japanese archipelago, the Korean peninsula, and the central east China region, may receive slightly below normal rainfall in July. On the other hand, a few of the southeast China coastal regions are likely to experience slightly above normal rainfall.

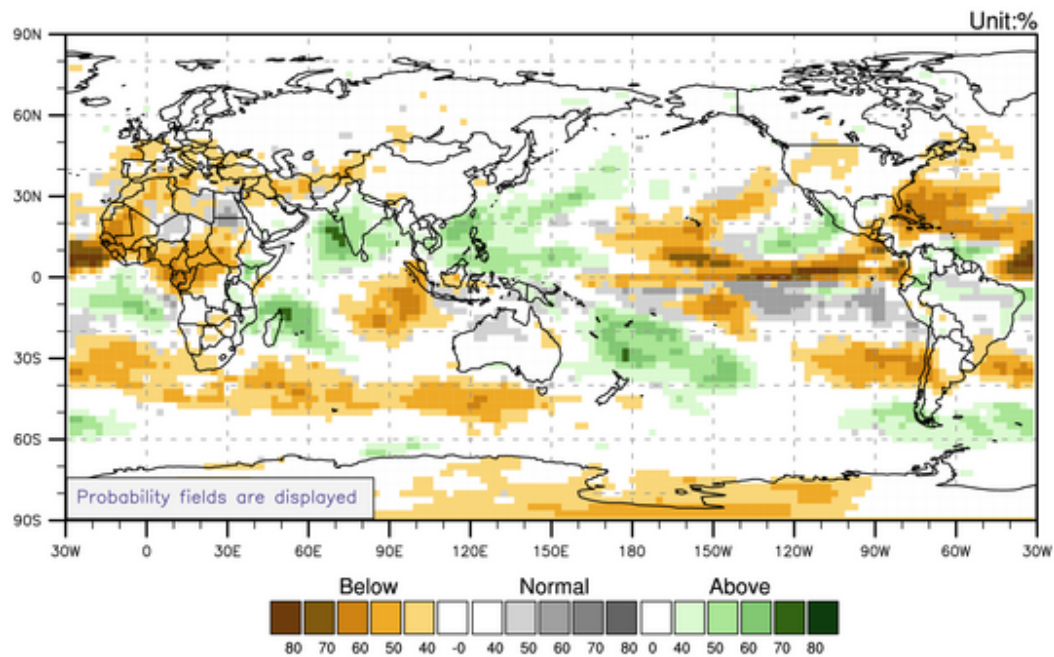
Anomalously dry signals may be experienced in the eastern seaboard and, in a few areas in the north-central North America. Slightly above normal temperatures are likely in central and northeast North America. Tropical South America is likely to experience near normal to slightly above rainfall conditions with below normal temperatures. Mid-latitudes, on the other hand, may experience anomalously warm and dry signal.

The APEC Climate Center is a major APEC science facility, which was established in November 2005 during the leaders meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Forum in Busan, Korea. It produces seasonal and monthly forecasts of climate conditions for all seasons around the globe. APCC collects seasonal forecasts from 16 institutes in the APEC region: SENAMHI of Peru, National Aeronautics and Space Administration USA, National Centers for Environmental Prediction USA, International Research Institute for Climate and Society USA, Center for Ocean-Land-Atmosphere Studies USA, Hydrometeorological Research Center of Russia, Voeikov Main Geophysical Observatory of Russia, National Institute of Meteorological Research Korea, Korea Meteorological Administration Korea, Seoul National University Korea, Japan Meteorological Agency Japan, Central Weather Bureau Chinese Taipei, Institute of Atmospheric Physics China, Beijing Climate Center, China Meteorological Service of Canada and the Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

APCC climate forecasts are based on model simulations from 15 prominent climate forecasting centers and institutes in the APEC region. These forecasts are collected and combined using state-of-the-art schemes to produce a statistically 'consensual' forecast. The APCC forecasts are based not just on the magnitude of the seasonal changes that are predicted, but also take into account their simulated probability.

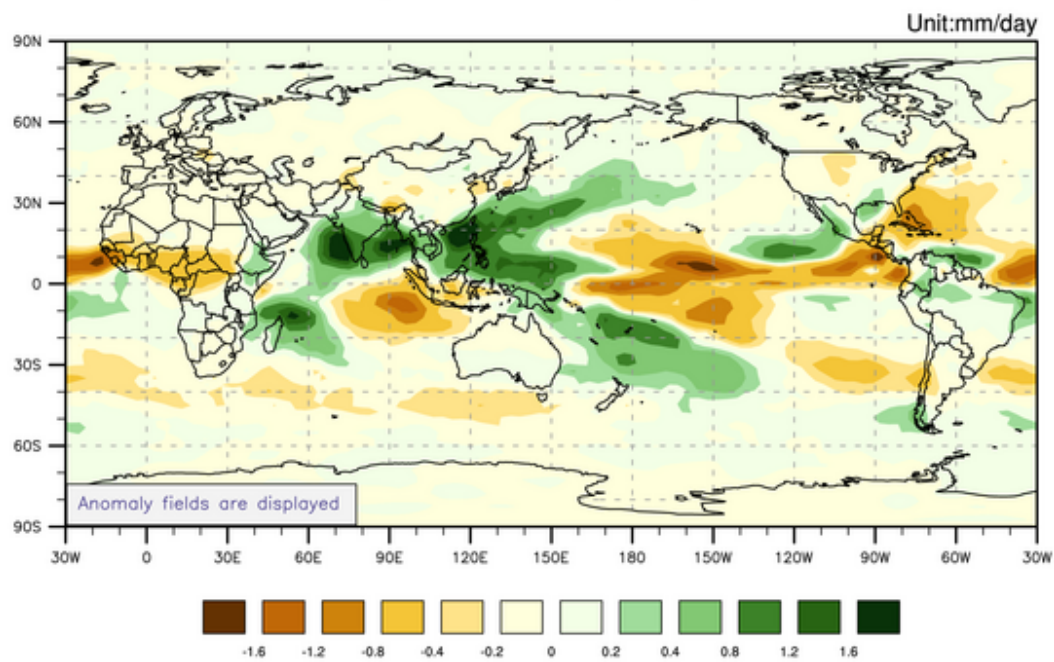
Further details, and verification for the forecasts on a long term basis are available at <http://www.apcc21.net>. The historical verification of the forecast performance is based on a retrospective forecast period of all the models for the period 1981-2003.

Precipitation for May-July 2009



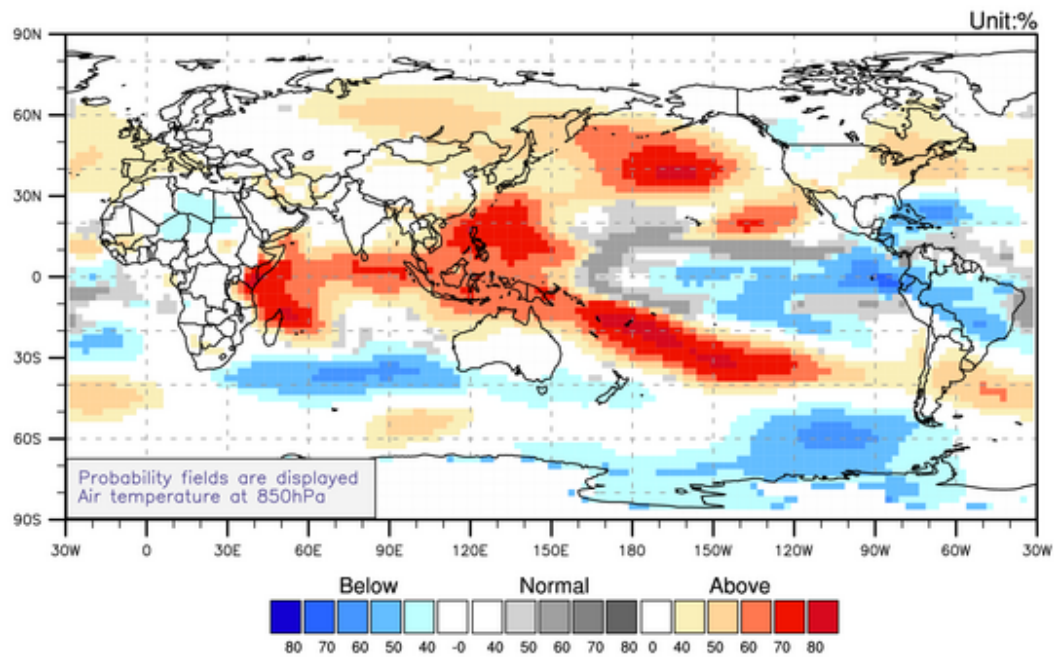
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Precipitation for May-July 2009



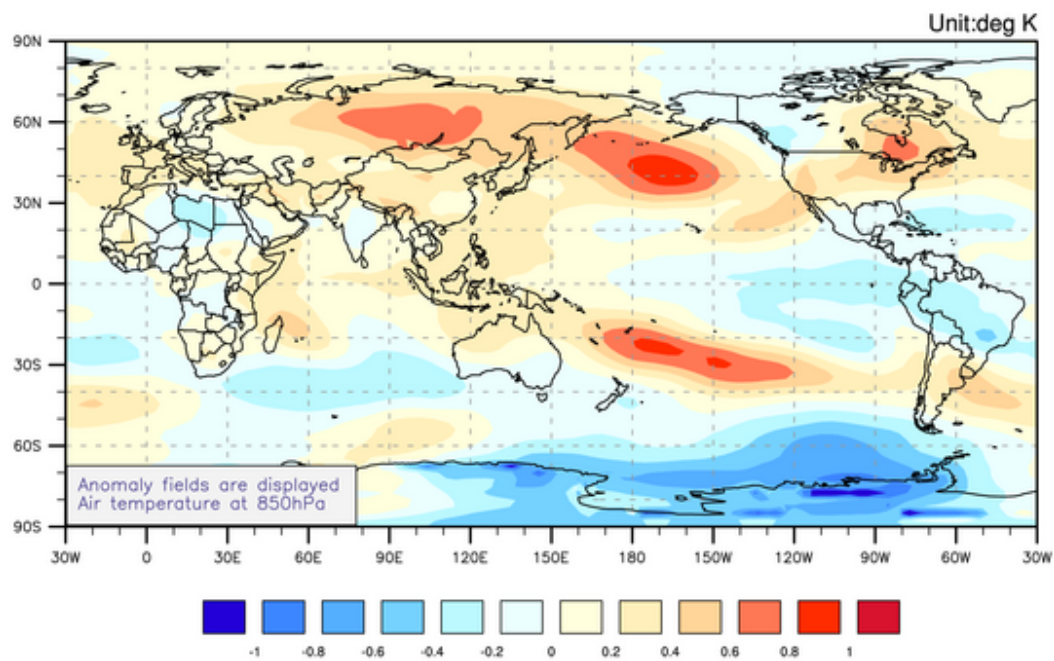
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Temperature for May-July 2009



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