



Met Office

Met Office 3-month Outlook

Period: May – July 2019 Issue date: 26.04.19

The forecast presented here is for May and the average of the May-June-July period for the United Kingdom as a whole. The forecast for May will be superseded by the long-range information on the public weather forecast web page (www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/forecast/#?tab=regionalForecast), starting from 30 April 2019.

This forecast is based on information from observations, several numerical prediction systems and expert judgement.

SUMMARY – PRECIPITATION:

For May and May-June-July as a whole, the chances of above- and below-average precipitation are similar. On balance, drier-than-average conditions are marginally more likely.

The probability that UK-average precipitation for May-June-July will fall into the driest of our five categories is around 25% and the probability that it will fall into the wettest of our five categories is between 20% and 25% (the 1981-2010 probability for each of these categories is 20%).

CONTEXT:

Global drivers have somewhat less influence on UK weather patterns at this time of year than in the winter season. Therefore, predictability of precipitation amounts and distribution is lower, resulting in typically only small shifts in the likelihood of above- and below-average precipitation.

For May, there is only a small increase in the chance of anticyclonic conditions near the UK, and therefore the chances of above- and

below-average rainfall remain similar to usual (see left-hand graph of figure P2).

For the May-June-July period overall, there is a marginal increase in the likelihood of drier-than-average conditions (see right-hand graph of figure P2). In spite of this the chances of the period being notably wet remain similar to normal.

Fig P1

3-month UK outlook for precipitation in the context of the observed annual cycle

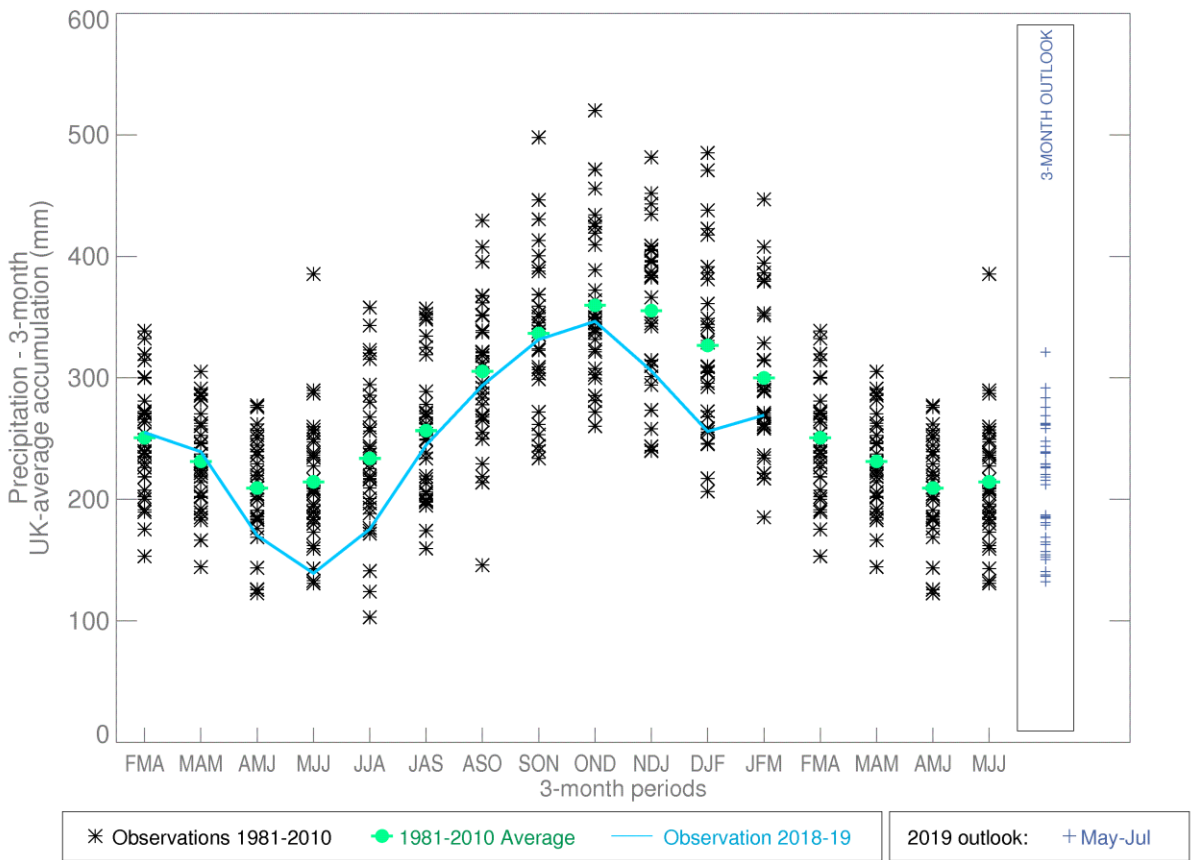


Fig P2

1-month and 3-month UK outlook for precipitation in the context of observed climatology

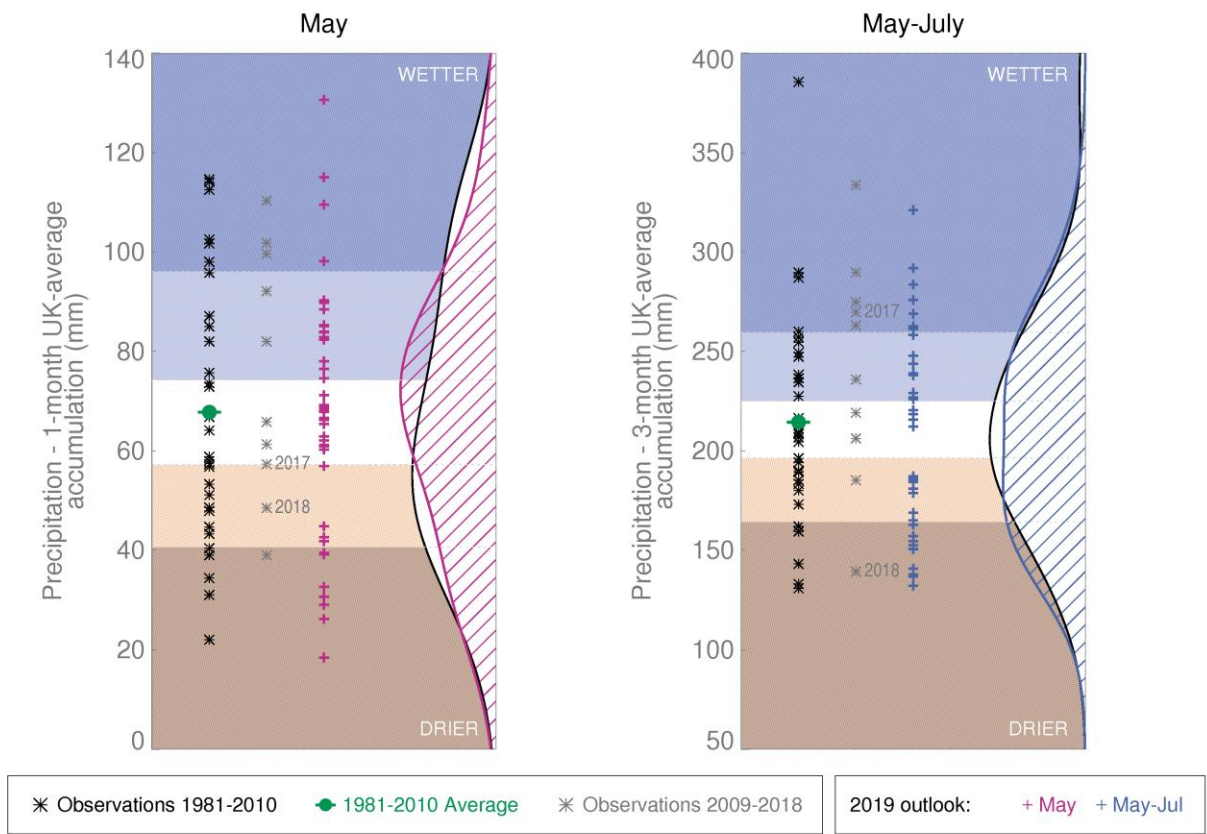
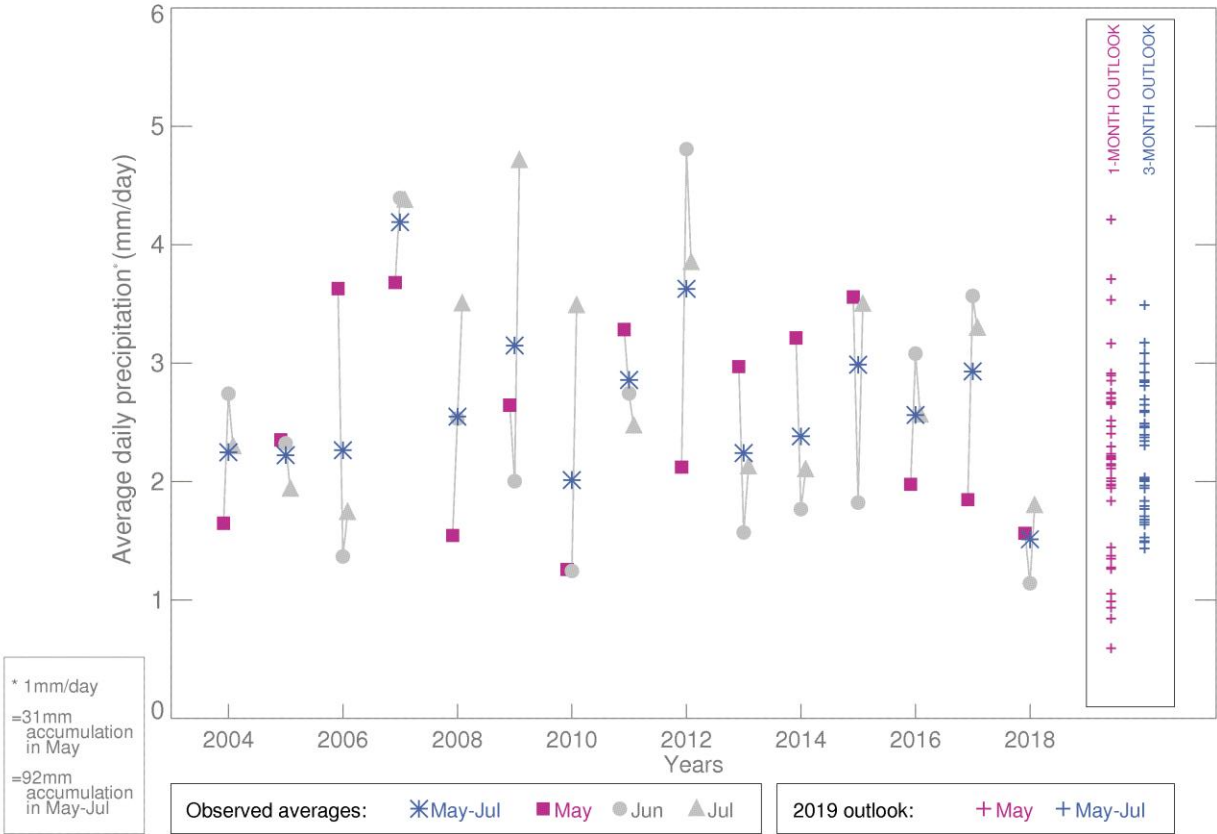


Fig P3

1-month and 3-month UK outlook for precipitation in the context of recent climatology: year-to-year and within-season variability



This Outlook provides an indication of possible temperature and rainfall conditions over the next 3 months. It is part of a suite of forecasts designed for contingency planners. The Outlook should not be used in isolation but should be used with shorter-range and more detailed (30-day, 15-day and 1-to-7-day) forecasts and warnings available to the contingency planning community from the Met Office.