

The forecast presented here is for August and the average of the August-September-October period for the United Kingdom as a whole. The forecast for August will be superseded by the long-range information on the public weather forecast web page (www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/forecast/#?tab=regionalForecast), starting from 31 July 2015.

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

SUMMARY - PRECIPITATION:

The latest predictions for UK precipitation favour below-average rainfall for August and August-September-October as a whole.

The probability that UK precipitation for August-September-October will fall into the driest of our five categories is around 30% and the probability that it will fall into the wettest of our five categories is 15% (the 1981-2010 probability for each of these categories is 20%).

CONTEXT:

Sea surface temperatures in the North Atlantic have been shown to influence rainfall in northern Europe during summer. The current pattern is associated with drier-than-average conditions in northern Europe, including the UK. Indeed, computer models are consistent in favouring below-average rainfall in the

coming months, with higher-than-average pressure more probable across northern Europe through until the early autumn. This is reflected in the difference between the probabilities for the driest and wettest categories shown in figure P2.

Fig P1

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

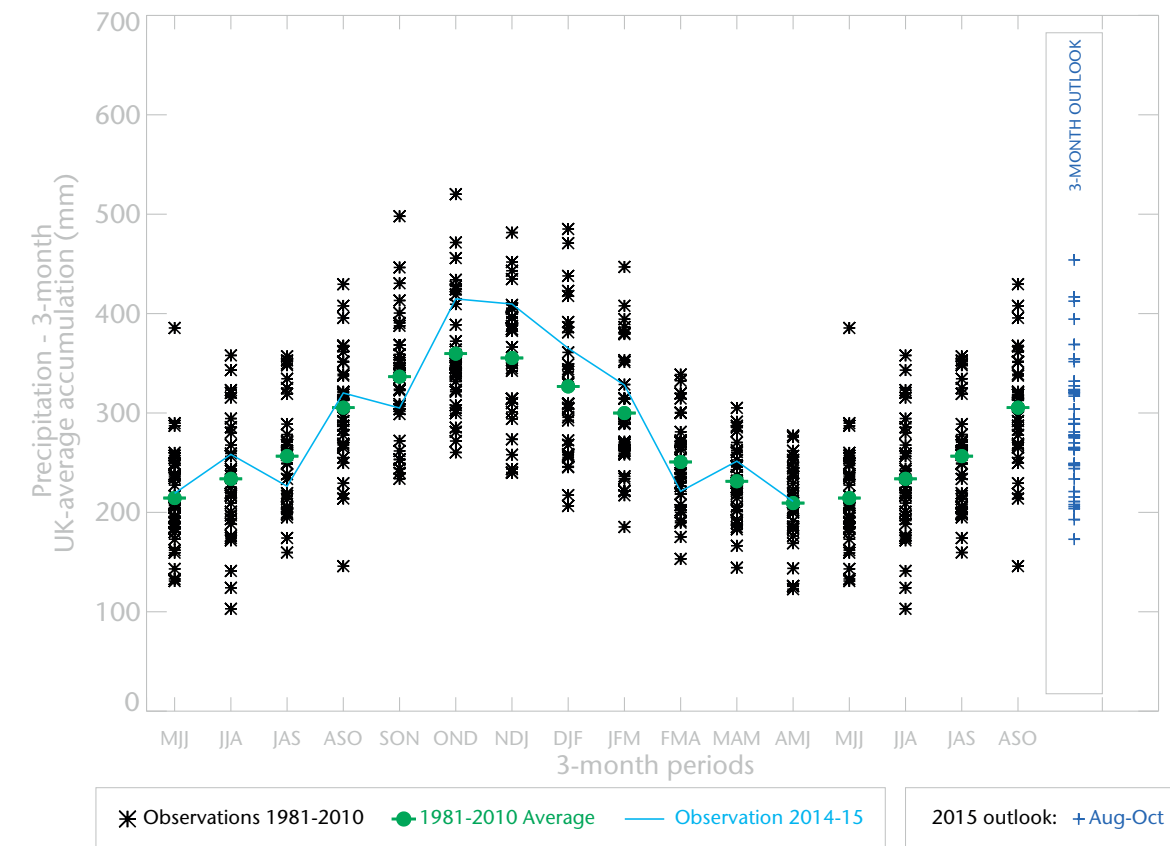
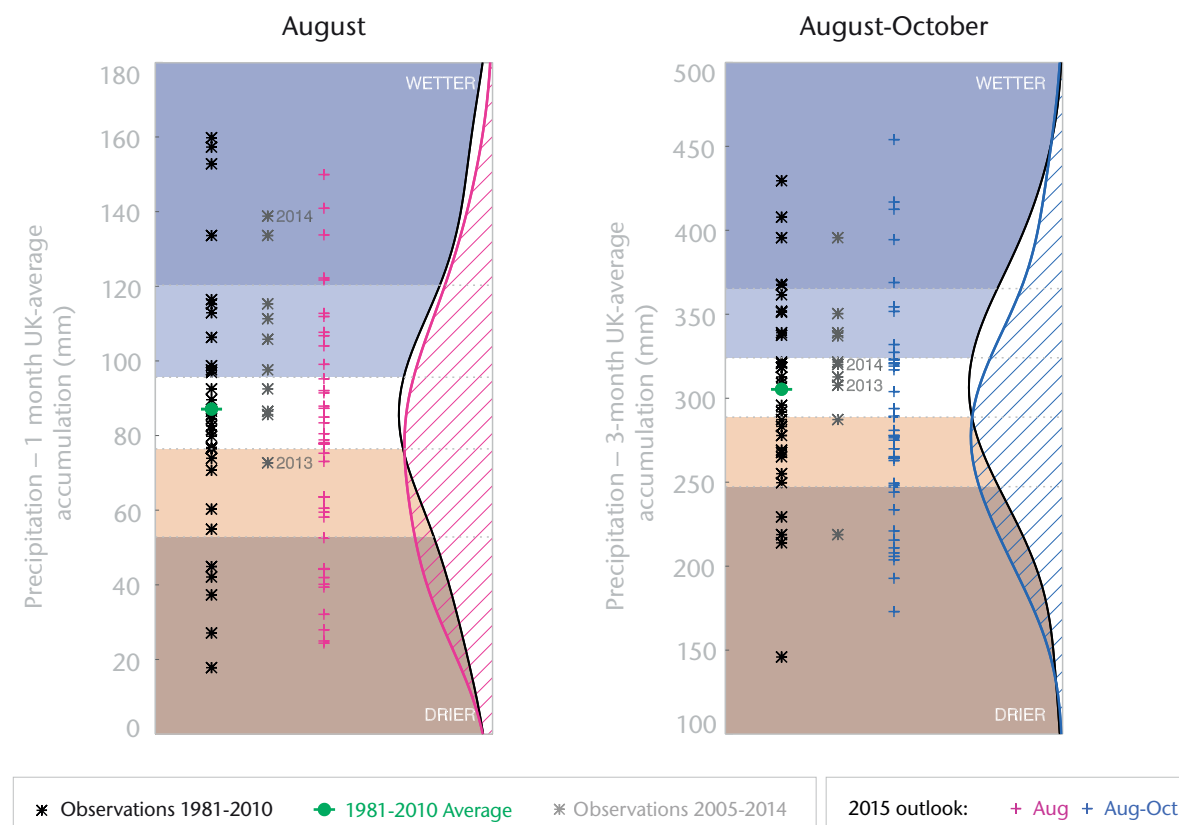
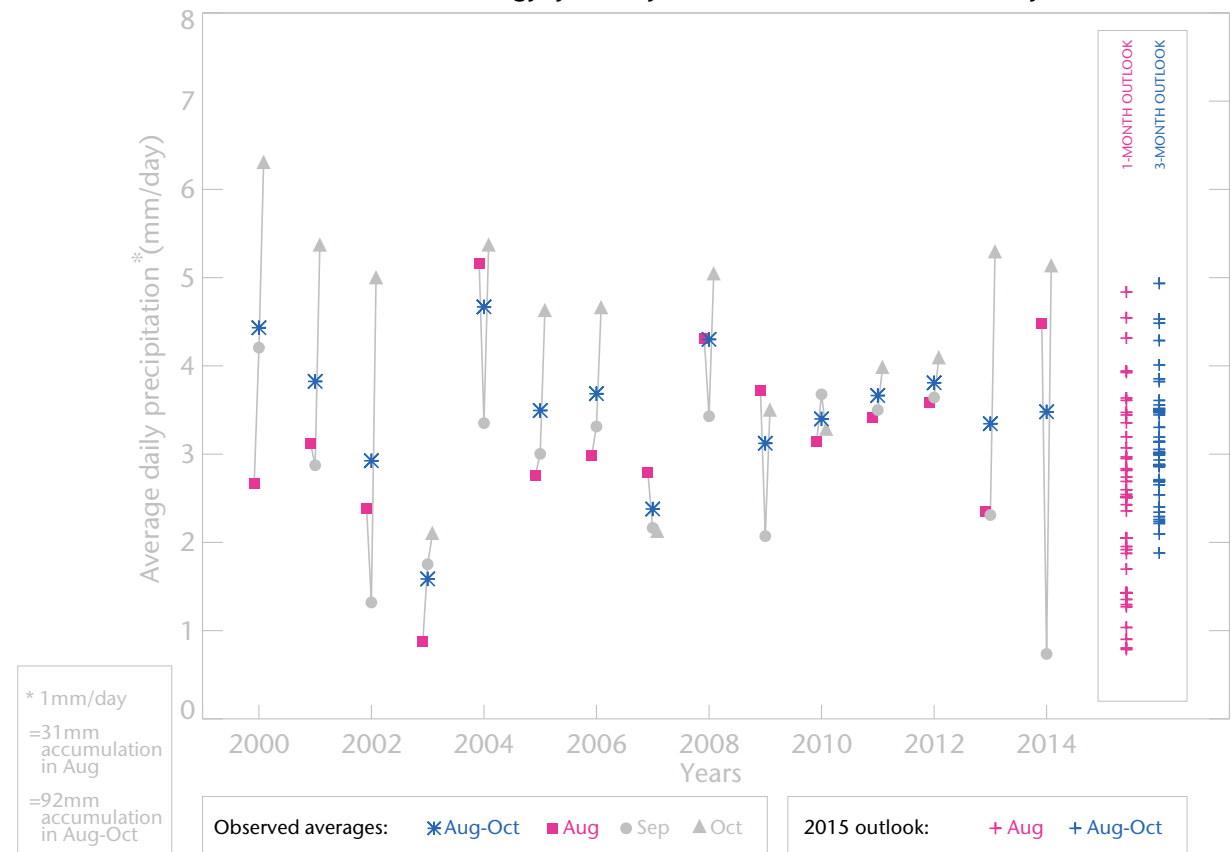


Fig P2

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



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-5-day) forecasts and warnings available to the contingency planning community from the Met Office.