

Agrometeorological forecast for the month of September

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Significant rainfall is not expected during the first ten-day period. On most days of the period, conditions will allow for the execution of seasonal field work - harvesting sunflower and the earlier corn hybrids, performing deep plowing and pre-sowing tillage on areas intended for sowing with winter rapeseed. The optimal agrotechnical period for rapeseed sowing is during the first half of September.

During the month, a large part of the red wine grape varieties, earlier than the usual dates, will reach technological maturity. A grape harvest with high sugar content is expected.

In September, the development of late agricultural crops, which have overcome the negative consequences of the prolonged summer drought, will proceed at temperatures around and above the climatic norms. The rainfall at the end of August, in some places over 25-30 l/m² (Vidin, Lom, Lovech, Veliko Tarnovo, Shumen, Silistra, Plovdiv, Sliven), was late for part of the spring crops, which, due to a soil moisture deficit, concluded their

vegetation prematurely. This rainfall improved conditions for the development of second crops and late corn hybrids.

At the beginning of September, the late corn hybrids will be in the milk maturity phase, while the mid-late ones will show widespread wax and full maturity.

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At the beginning of the second ten-day period, a significant drop in temperatures, rainfall, and an increased risk for the development of pathogens causing rot on the ripening fruit and grape harvest are forecast - gray mold on grapes (*Botrytis cinerea*), brown rot (*Monilia fructigena*) on the fruit of autumn-winter fruit varieties.

In the second half of September, the final phases of development of the late agricultural crops will proceed under the usual thermal conditions for the end of summer and beginning of autumn. By the end of the second ten-day period, a large part of the late corn hybrids will show wax and full maturity. During the third ten-day period, cotton will be in a widespread ripening phase.

At the beginning of the third ten-day period, the forecasted rainfall will improve soil moisture reserves in the upper layers, which is of significant importance for the normal progression of the initial vegetation phases of winter rapeseed. By the end of September, rapeseed crops sown within the agrotechnical period will be in the emergence phase.

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Source: NIMH-BAS