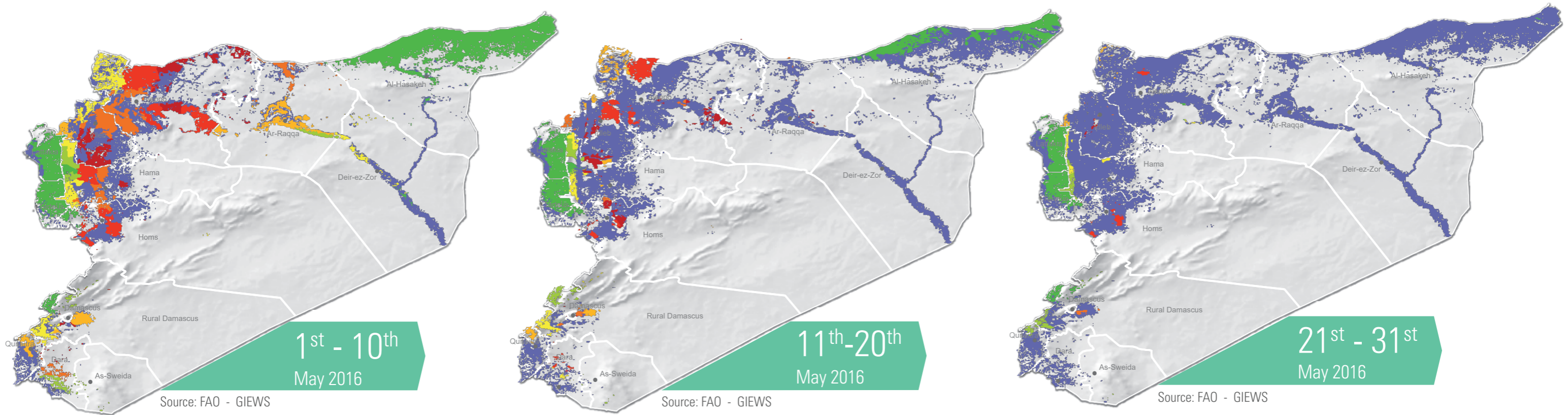


Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)

% of cropland area affected by drought per Governorate region

May 2016



The Agriculture Stress Index (ASI) helps show how 'stressed' crop areas are by combining vegetation condition and temperature variables. The compiled results are then analysed over time, by comparing current values to the long-term minimum and maximum, and spatially, by aggregating agriculture areas by administrative area.

The ASI should be analysed along with other variables such as Rainfall and Vegetation condition which are available as separate RFSAN products.

Analysis

The analysis for May 2016 shows that harvesting of winter crops (wheat and barley mainly) was completed for most agricultural areas by the end of the month. These areas are now highlighted in blue. The conditions in the preceding months have shown crops under stress for most of the season, so we expect a lower than expected harvest in those areas. The important wheat and barley producing area of Hasakeh has seen little stress this year in terms of rainfall, NDVI and temperature. This is not a guarantee for success however, as various other factors influence yields as well. This includes availability and access to agricultural inputs, labour and land. Please note that since the ASI is based on Remotely Sensed data only, there is no confirmation on what crops have been planted. Temperature conditions continue to remain high and rainfall in the normal range for May, with very little rainfall occurring.

Agricultural Stress Index (ASI)

- <10
- 10-25
- 25-40
- 40-55
- 55-70
- 70-85
- >=85
- Off season
- No season

Non-cropland pixels excluded METOP-AVHRR

Data Provided by:
FAO Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS)
<http://www.fao.org/giews/earthobservation/>

RFSAN will provide monthly updates on the progress of the Agricultural Stress Index and other bio-physical parameters. For updates every 10 days on ASI and other variables, please visit the FAO GIEWS Website.

