

Dear colleagues,

I can offer some more maps (see the attached files) just to puzzle you even further . There you can find maps from the Beijing climate center, the Tokyo climate center, the NCEP, and Ibimet. Most models favor warm to normal and dry to normal summer in Bulgaria. The American model is wet and cold. However it actually has no skill over Bulgaria and I tend to ignore it since they have made changes some 1.5 year ago. The Italian forecast has got a couple of good strikes in predicting wet summer month in Bulgaria before. Their latest forecast (as you can see in the attached documents) favors wet summer in parts of the Balkans. The Japanese forecast favors again dry to normal and warm summer in the region of Bulgaria.

Apart from that I have tried to find analogous years in terms of state of the sea-surface-temperature anomalies. I have actually identified the last 3 post La Nina summers with a SST pattern in the North Atlantic that resembles the current state. These are the summers of 1996, 2001, and 2008. All these summers were dry and warm in Bulgaria with preference to warm and dry first half of the season. Previous post La Nina summers also tend to be dry (1985, 1989).






The overview of the predicted circulation patterns suggest that the high pressure over Europe will continue to dominate in June and most probably will decay in the later half of the summer. This suggests that the month of June should not be excessively warm while the later summer should not be excessively dry.

The latest forecast month by month for the summer season (see the Ibimet maps in the second attached file and you can also find other on the websites of BCC, TCC and NCEP) and the latest forecast for the month of June (the ECMWF and others) suggest that it will not really be very dry in Bulgaria in June. Having in mind that the month of June is the wettest month of the year though, we (me and my colleagues) favor a month of June with precipitation near or below normal. We also give preference to a month of June with temperatures near or above normal.






At the end I would expect the following for Bulgaria:

An overall normal to dry season in terms of precipitation and normal to warm season in terms of temperature. I would favor normal to warm and normal to dry month of June, normal to warm month of July with precipitation within the normal, and a month of August with temperatures and precipitation within the normal. This is against normal for a reference period 1980-2009.

Temperature	Month	Summer
June		
July		
August		

	warm
	warm or normal
	normal
	cold or normal
	cold

Precipitation	Month	Summer
June		
July		
August		

	wet
	wet or normal
	normal
	dry or normal
	dry