

Global Warming is still a large issue when we look at the future development of humankind, temperatures are carefully monitored and regular predictions are made about the future of our environment. These images show the state of the Earth's temperature over the past 129 years. They show that although the Earth has a natural warming and cooling cycle the temperature averages are increasing rapidly. This can have a dramatic effect on the development of humankind.

Average global temperature increasing means areas that depend on agriculture for sustainability will be greatly effected. Increasing global temperature will cause sea levels to rise and will change the amount and pattern of precipitation, likely including an expanse of the subtropical desert regions. Other likely effects include Arctic shrinkage.

Precipitation projections have been calculated by the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) relative to the calculations made between 1961-1990 in the diagram. This diagram shows a reduction in surface water in Provence by 15-20% which will have a dramatic impact on the agriculture in these areas. In Italy and areas of South France where the annual rainfall reaches approximately 2,000mm and is relied upon for the main agricultural exports, a loss of 400mm would greatly reduce the crop yield. In these cases a change in agriculture may be essential to the sustainability of entire regions.

Crop migration is an inevitable factor and by looking at the North of Italy it gives us a general idea of the target crops that would pass further North into the South of France and areas such as Provence. Crops are highly sensitive to climate change and places that are well known for growing certain crops may need to look at alternative crops to grow in the area. The growth of crops will migrate further from the equator producing a dangerous economic loss for countries that rely on such exports to sustain their development.

