

Summary of weather-related information needs at each stage of the crop's life

Agricultural decision	Weather-related information	Risks and management
Sowing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precipitation • Air temperature • Soil moisture • Soil temperature (between 8 – 12 degrees) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too wet: is the soil is too wet, the machinery may not be able to access the fields (postpone sowing). • Too dry: the soil may become too hard, it may become impossible to sow the seeds (consult crop rotation plan).
Fertilising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precipitation (no more than 10 – 20 mm / important 3 – 4 days after fertilisation has taken place) • Frost/snow • Soil moisture • Soil temperature (not below 3 – 4 degrees) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too wet: machinery cannot access fields, plants cannot or only partly access nitrates. Plants need a small amount of rain to help them access the fertilizer. Depending on how wet it is farmers will either postpone fertilising activities or fertilise despite the weather.
Pesticide application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind (maximum of 2 – 6klm/h – answers varied across interviewees) • Precipitation (information about whether heavy rain or little showers are expected as well as rain duration in addition to mm). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too wet: this is a problem for the development of infections as well as the treatment of them in regards to access to fields as well as the ability of the plant to absorb the pesticide. • Too dry: if there is no rain in the days after the pesticide has been applied to the crop, it might evaporate. Fertiliser requires a small amount of rain in order to help the plant absorb it.
Harvesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunlight hours • Precipitation • Temperature (maximum high) • Soil moisture • Residual moisture in the grain (less than 14 – 18% – answers varied across interviewees) • Humidity (less than 60%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too wet: unless farmers have access to drying facilities, it is of great importance that the grain is dry prior to harvesting. The dampness of the grain can lead to lower market prices.