

Beekeeping together within agriculture | MONTRÉAL, 8-12 SEPTEMBER, 2019



46th APIMONDIA
International Apicultural Congress



Canadian Honey Council

The future of Global Beekeeping Facing New Challenges European vue



AGRO
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Etienne Bruneau
11/09/2019 : Round Table

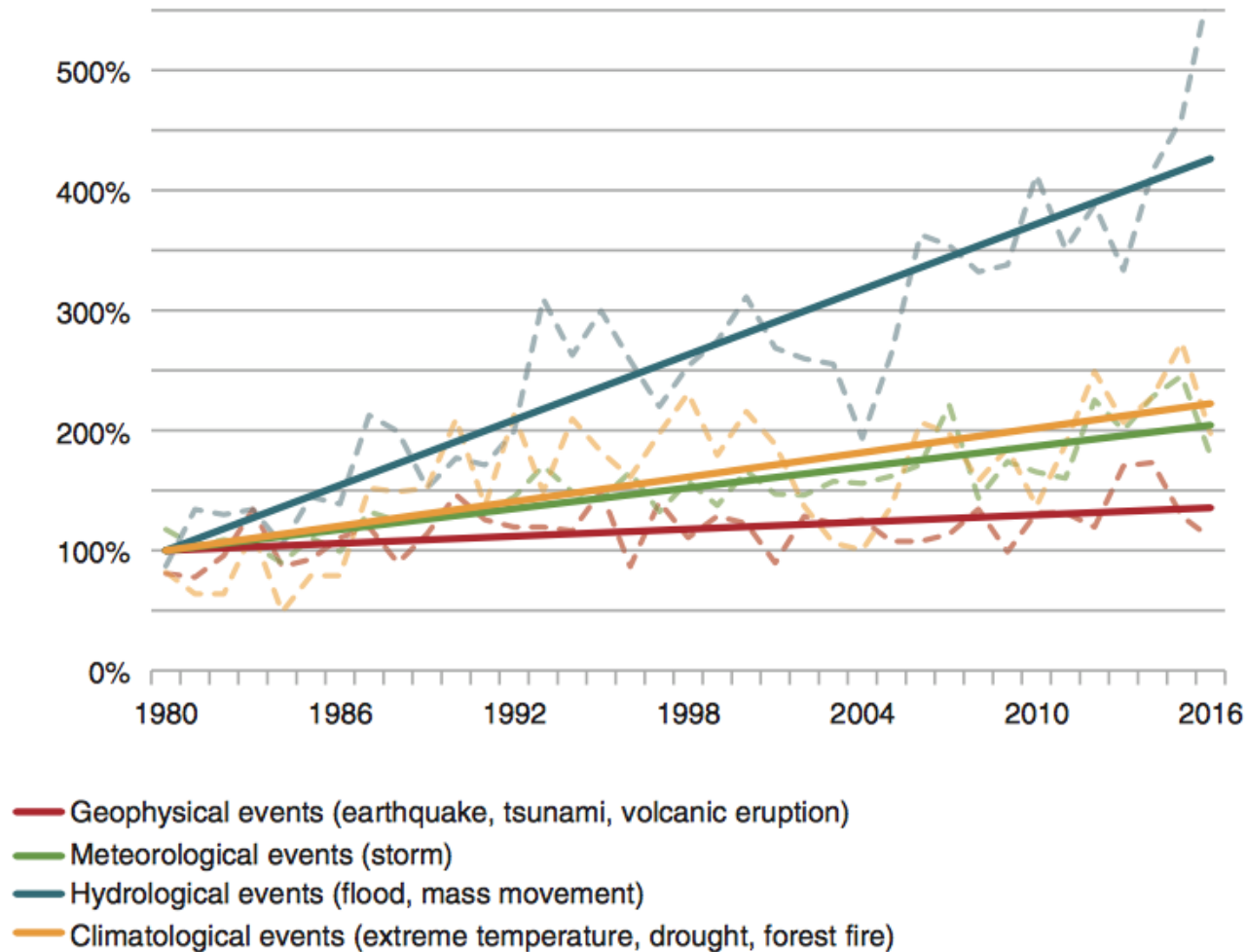
Trends in EU

- ▶ Intensive agriculture continue on the same way
 - ▶ Increase of surfaces
 - ▶ Use of pesticides more and more sophisticated
 - ▶ ...
- ▶ **BUT**
 - ▶ Organic farming is now growing very quickly
 - ▶ Consumers are asking natural and local products
 - ▶ 0 waste start to be an important topic

Climate change

- ▶ **Climate change is a reality for everybody**
 - ▶ Persons start to see the impacts on climate but also on flora and on agriculture
- ▶ They see that extreme weather events are increasing

Extreme Weather Events



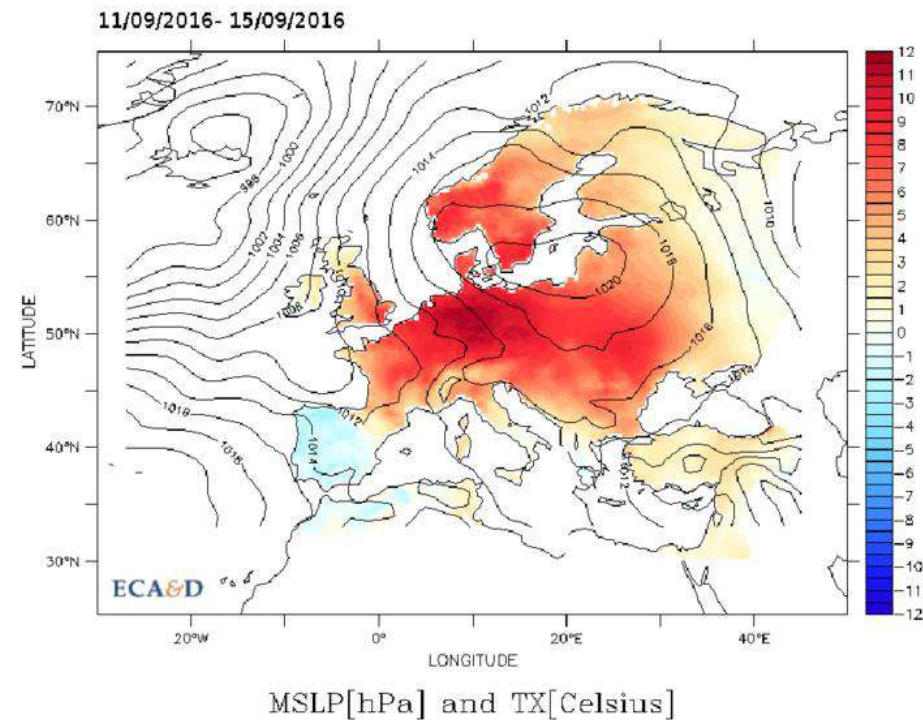
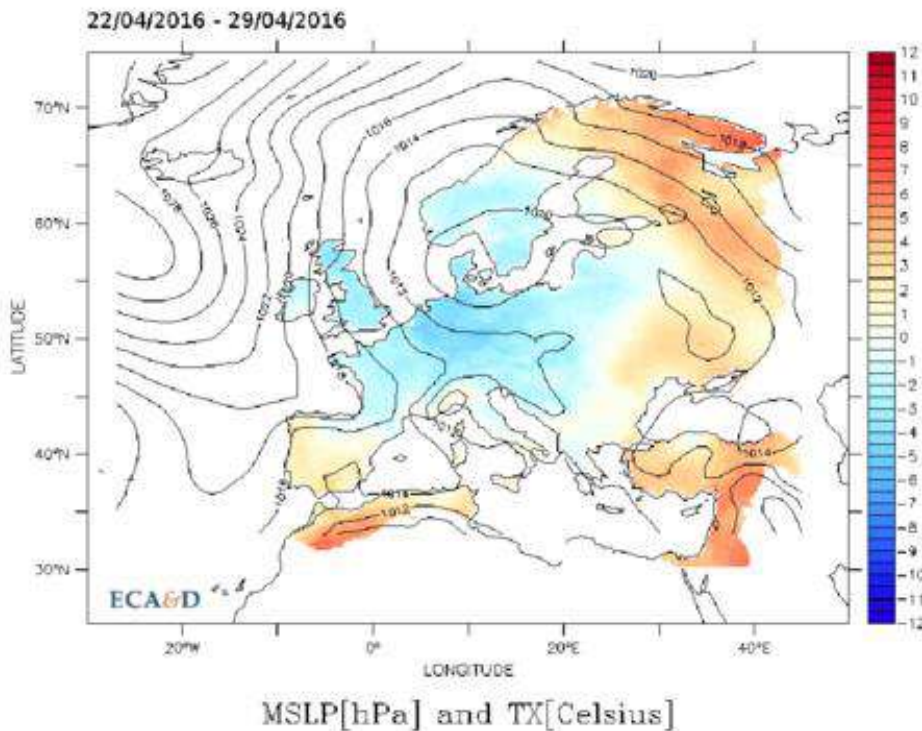
https://easac.eu/fileadmin/PDF_s/reports_statements/Extreme_Weather/EASAC_Statement_Extreme_Weather_Events_March_2018_FINAL.pdf

Trends in different types of natural catastrophe worldwide 1980–2016 (1980 levels set at 100%). MunichRe NatCatSERVICE.



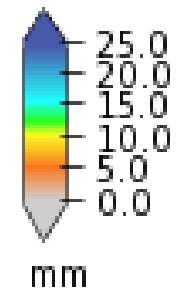
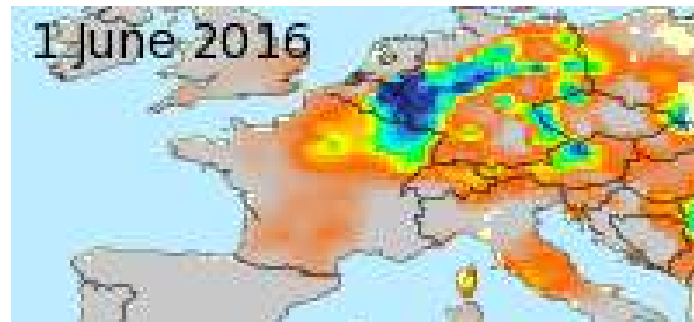
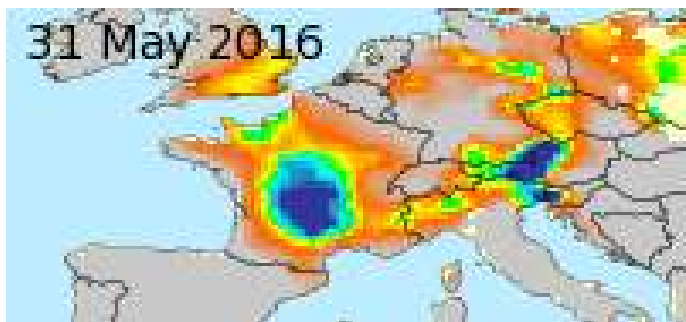
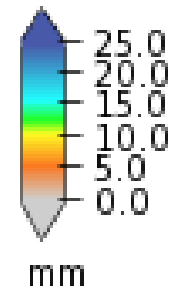
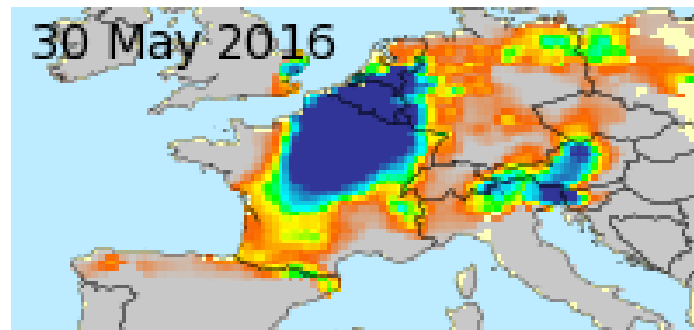
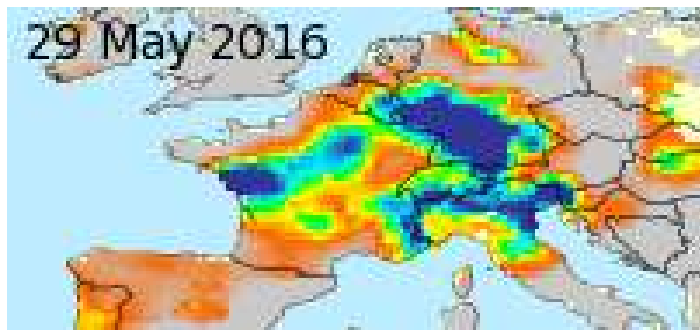
Exceptional air temperature event in 2016

- ▶ Average daily maximum temperature anomalies and mean sea level atmospheric pressure



Precipitations intensity

► 29 May - 1 June 2016



http://cib.knmi.nl/mediawiki/index.php/European_climate_in_2016



Food Product

- ▶ **Consumers ask to have**
 - ▶ Products of high quality
 - ▶ Healthy
 - ▶ Natural - Organic
 - ▶ Good Traceability
 - ▶ Local
 - ▶ Without waste

Future of beekeeping : questions

- ▶ Can we consider that beekeeping is non intensive ?
Are we working in the same line as intensive agriculture ?
 - ▶ Travelling around a country with bees
 - ▶ Very high level of selection of lines of bees
 - ▶ High density of hives in apiaries
 - ▶ Increase use of medicine in hives
 - ▶ No respect of the natural needs of bees (avoid swarming and propolis, frequent requeening...)
- ▶ **→ New trend with the development of natural beekeeping**
 - ▶ Actions to improve the well-being of bees (guide, ...), to protect the feral bees...

Future of beekeeping : questions

- ▶ Are we ready to face Climate Change ?
- ▶ → To adapt a lot of different things in our management
 - ▶ Adapt our beekeeping practices to become more reactive
 - ▶ To reinforce the immune system of bees (to be more close to the natural behaviour of the bees)
 - ▶ To invest in new non intrusive tools to have a clear vision of the situation
 - ▶ Inform the farmers that our bees are an essential partner for the agriculture of tomorrow
 - ▶ To diversify our productions to maintain an economic equilibrium...

Future of beekeeping : questions

- ▶ **Are we commercializing bee products of very high quality?**
 - ▶ If bee products are very well done by bees, the processes we use for harvesting, packaging and storage can generate losses of biological activity, modify the composition...
 - ▶ Information on most of the products commercialized is unsatisfactory.
 - ▶ We can find a lot of adulteration of bee products.
- ▶ **We have to develop a specific politic to**
 - ▶ Inform beekeepers of the real quality of their products to know how to keep it as far as possible.
 - ▶ To clean the market of all the wrong products