EMS Annual Meeting Abstracts
Vol. 9, EMS2012-265, 2012
12th EMS / 9th ECAC

Seasonal predictability based on model results over the Iberian Peninsula

E. Sanchez, F. Franco, and E. Rodriguez
AEMET, Madrid, Spain (erodriguezc@aemet.es)

It is widely acknowledged that operational climate prediction on seasonal timescales for mid-latitudes is a very difficult problem due to the low predictability of atmosphere over such regions. Most operational centres base their seasonal predictions on ensembles generated from atmosphere-ocean general circulation models. However, operational models have yet a long way to fully exploit known sources of predictability not well simulated by models such as anomalies on soil moisture, snow cover or stratospheric phenomena. A practical approach to operational seasonal prediction makes use of the information available from all centres generating seasonal forecasts and combines all pieces of information in an optimal way after evaluating the predictability of the different systems. The first task within this approach is therefore to explore the predictability of the different systems depending on variable, season and metric considered. This contribution presents some preliminary results obtained for the Iberian Peninsula aiming to support the operational activities on seasonal forecasting.