



Drought in Slovakia in the year 2018

Maroš Turňa, Katarína Mikulová, Gabriela Ivaňáková, and Pavel Šťastný
Slovak hydrometeorological Institute, Bratislava, Slovakia (maros.turna@shmu.sk)

The extreme drought appeared in Slovakia in the year 2018 too. By the monitoring of soil drought, the worst situation was at the beginning of May, when the extreme drought hit about 16 % of the Slovak territory. This drought was serious primarily in the north-western and north-eastern Slovakia. The situation was also serious in the first half of June and later in September in the eastern Slovakia. The relative saturation was lower than 10 % on the fifth and nineteenth of August. The relative saturation below 50 % was on 2/3 area of our country in the latter half of August. Deficit of soil moisture was to -100 mm in the utmost part of eastern Slovakia primarily in September and October. SPEI indicated the worst situation in the first decade of May. By this index the extreme drought was at 50 % stations in May. In autumn in the south-western and north-western Slovakia were also hit by the extreme drought. Two stations had the lowest value of SPEI since 1981. CMI index was below value -3 in the south-western and also south-eastern Slovakia. On the base of information by experts, the evaluated losses of yields were in many districts. The losses of yields were higher than 40 % in the southern part of the eastern and middle Slovakia. The greatest damage expressed on the yields of potatoes, maize and sugar beet. The information about impacts of drought on crops don't represent the whole districts, because of the local thunderstorms, which were accompanied by heavy rain and strong wind especially in summer season, but had influence only in the delimited region.