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EU facing food crisis

A huge slump in yields will lead to higher grocery bills for consumers, economists have warned

Published 18 Aug, 2026 19:02

Agricultural producers across the EU have warned of sharp drops in yields after Europe has been hit by successive heatwaves this summer. Economists have said the losses are likely to push food prices higher in the coming months.

June and July were the hottest on record in western Europe, according to the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service, which has warned of a *"continued risk of heatwaves affecting much of Europe"* through August and into September.

In France, one of the EU's largest grain producers, groundwater reserves were severely



Damaged corn in a field, San Daniele Po, Italy, June 23, 2026. © Piero Cruciatti/Anadolu via Getty Images

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depleted across much of the country by early August, according to the national geological survey.

Prince de Bretagne, a major growers' cooperative in Brittany, warned last week of a *"historic"* vegetable crisis. It projected yield declines of 40% for peas, 60% for broccoli, and between 50% and 100% for artichokes this summer.

Eric Legras, president of Unilet, France's leading association of canned and frozen vegetable producers, said severe heat had also hit northern and southwestern France, describing the crisis as *"exceptional."*



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Livestock farmers have meanwhile warned of a growing *"forage production deficit"* ahead of winter. France's National Committee for the Promotion of Eggs has estimated that heatwaves have cut daily output by around one million eggs, while poultry farms have reported high mortality rates.

In northern Italy, home to one of Europe's main rice-growing regions, water shortages have left some paddies *"completely dead, burnt, with the rice dried out,"* according to Coldiretti, the country's largest farmers' association.

Farmers in Spain have likewise reported considerable shortfalls in cereal yields, as well as cattle fodder deficits.

The German Farmers' Association on Tuesday warned that grain production would be 7%, or 3.3 million tons, lower than last year. The worst-hit regions in the south of the country could potentially suffer total crop failures.

In neighboring Poland, business outlet Puls Biznesu predicted last month that persistent drought could force the country to become more reliant on food imports.

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Analysts at Zurich Insurance Group and several European banks have estimated that the heatwaves could cost the EU between €50 billion and €180 billion.

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P Patrick Walsh 8/18/2026 at 9:53 PM 0

This is a tremendous opportunity for the EUSSR
They can become more totalitarian and force people to eat bugs which is their goal.

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m marzio com 8/18/2026 at 9:51 PM 0

But it's true! When the Soviet Union collapsed and the borders were thrown wide open,
hordes of starving people arrived—all skin and bones with sunken eyes; I remember it well.
The same thing is happening with Islamic countries, because Islam isn't a religion—Islam is
a failed ideological cult as communism was too, that impoverishes and starves people, just
as communism did; I don't mean to offend you

.
Here in the EU, on the other hand, they only start to worry when they face a cocaine
shortage—that's what really matters; for them, eating is optional—something between retro
Muslims and the Soviet Union's vintage

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P Patterns Count 8/18/2026 at 9:46 PM 0

EU asked for it by siphoning funds meant for food and housing to fund US and Israeli
terrorism and genocide.

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Michel Fortin 8/18/2026 at 9:36 PM

1

Keep the bombings and war machines going. Put 🐻 in the air to keep the heat from dissipating and thats what you get.
Im not talking Greta Thunberg crap here.
All those missiles leave products floating around that are 100 times worst than just CO2 or water vapor from emissions of cars and trucks.
Next time you see a little hat wearing rat , thank him for his good deed of endless warring .
Now eat dust you fools

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Hocus Pocus 8/18/2026 at 9:32 PM

1

West-Europe is going the suicide path under the EU, NATO and US leadership! Thanks to sanctions, Russian agriculture products aren't allowed to be imported...

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PA Sucks (Pasuxx) 8/18/2026 at 9:26 PM

2

Yeah, let's blame mother nature's heat waves... or global warming... or santa claus lol and not accept the results of your own stupid policies. a shortage of cheap Russian fertilizer for one thing...

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Natalia 8/18/2026 at 9:21 PM

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Too bad no one is Europe is allowed to read this.

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james cox 8/18/2026 at 9:09 PM

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