

Weather a review of 2009 and a forecast for 2010

Marc F. Clément, agronome Rendez-vous agroalimentaire de l'Outaouais 2010



Conference Plan

- 2005 conference what went wrong?
- 2009 season
- Global warming ????
- Forecast for 2010
- Your Resolutions for 2010



According to Ouranos



• Warmer, similar rainfall, more evaporation increase drought

 More extreme ... winds, heat, hail, storms, sleet, rainfall in winter.



- Hail ?
- Temperature ?
- Wind ?
- Precipitations?
- Market?
- Our way of farming?





Solutions

- Crops of corn, sorghum and millet (C4) have higher yield than traditional perennial grasses (C3).
- Adapt our crop selection to take advantage of available heat units.

Warmer summers



Crop selection



Solutions

- Selected species may require less water per kg of dry matter yield produced
- Deep rooted plants
 will benefit of all the
 water in the soil
 profile

Drought

Species selection





Solutions

- 1. Separate soils with many crop restrictions from the main crop rotation set. Permanents pastures (4-5).
- 2. Reintroduce small grain crops and annual forages in good soils (1,2,3).

Drought

Crop rotations

1. Too long crop rotations (hay and pastures).



Solutions

- 1. More pasture divisions, respect necessary re growth interval.
- 2. Clip for renewed re growth

Drought

Pasture management

Low productivity

Poor re growth



2005 conference what went wrong?

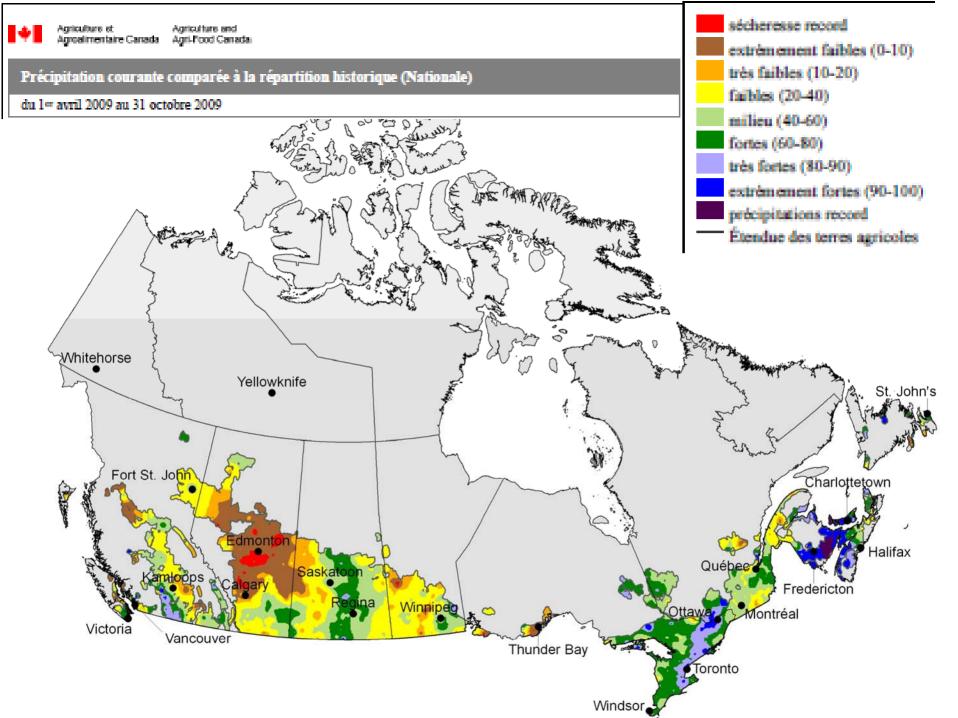
- After many years of warm and dry climate...higher than average...
- 2008 et 2009 where wet and cold years



2009 weather season

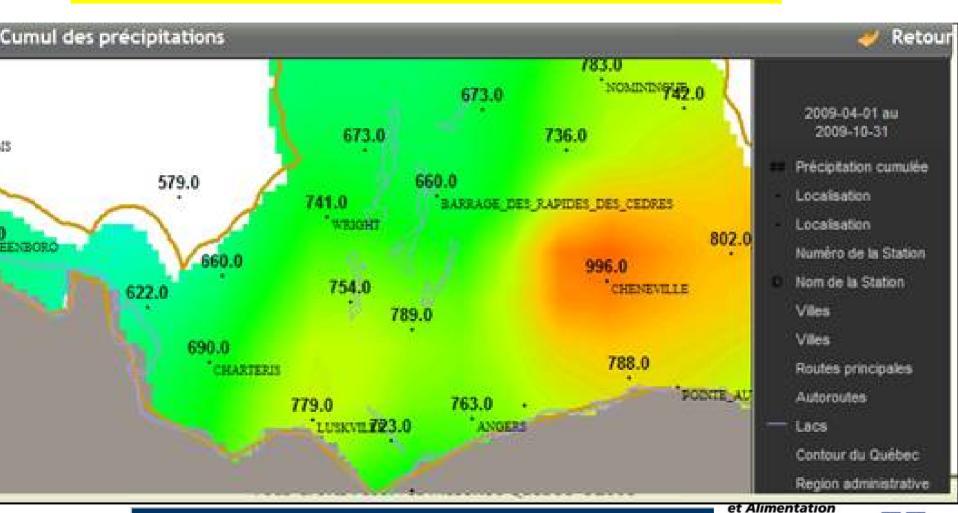
2009...Annus Horribilis





Maniwaki - Normal April to October 1971-2000

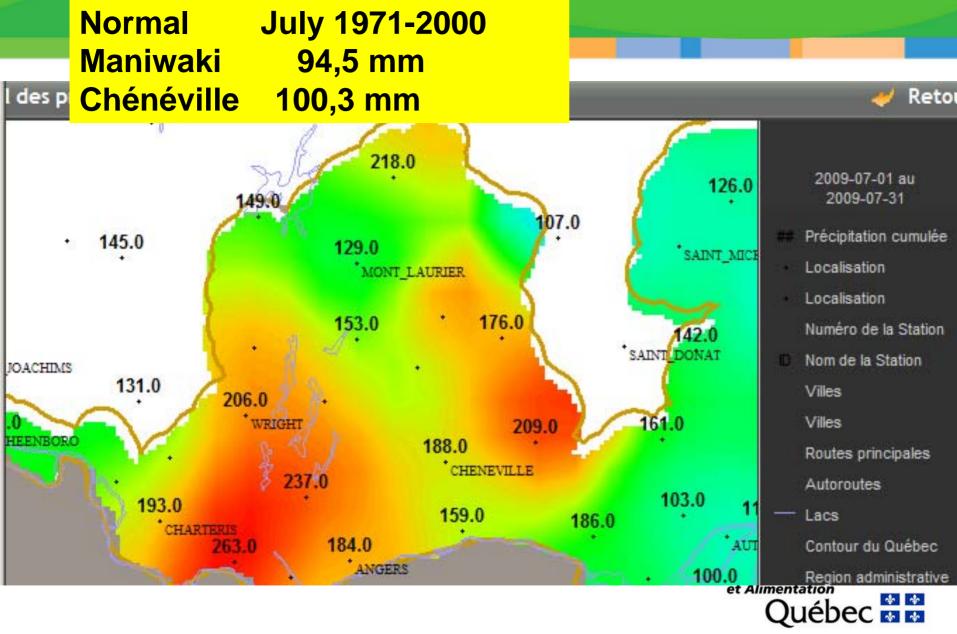
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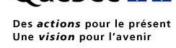


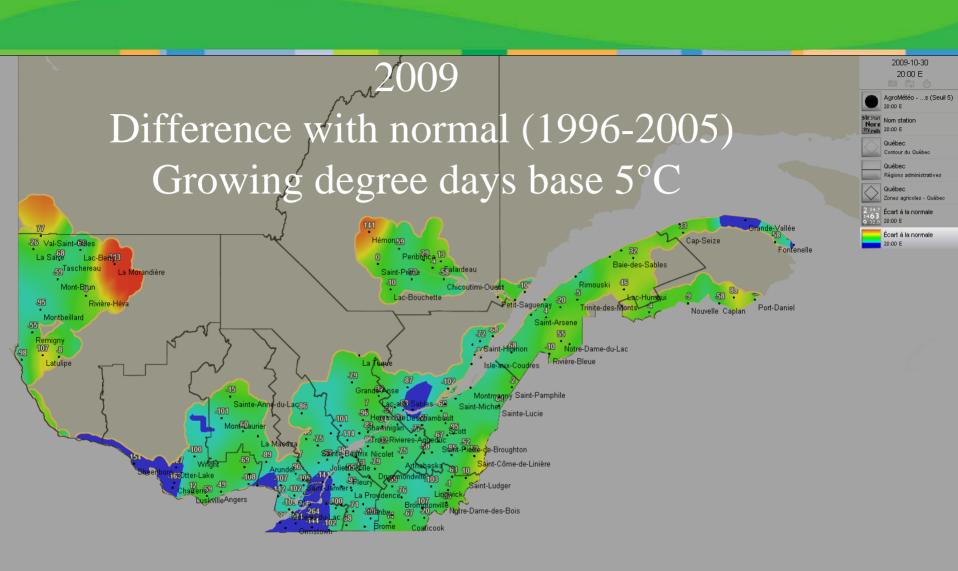
Outaouais	2007	2008	2009
Maniwaki	553.7	636.4	655.0

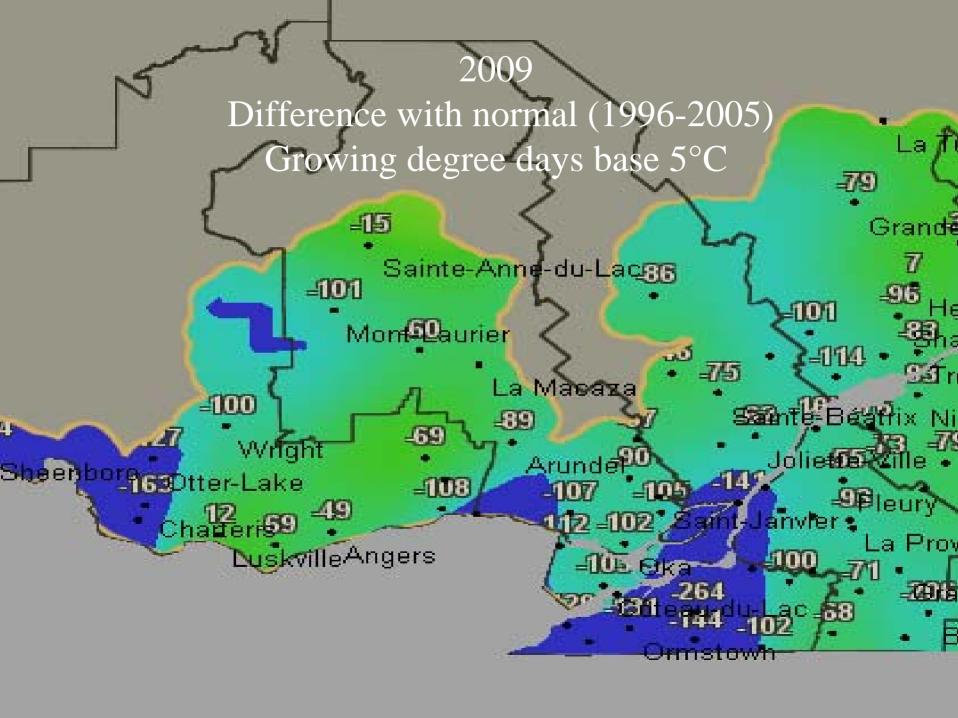


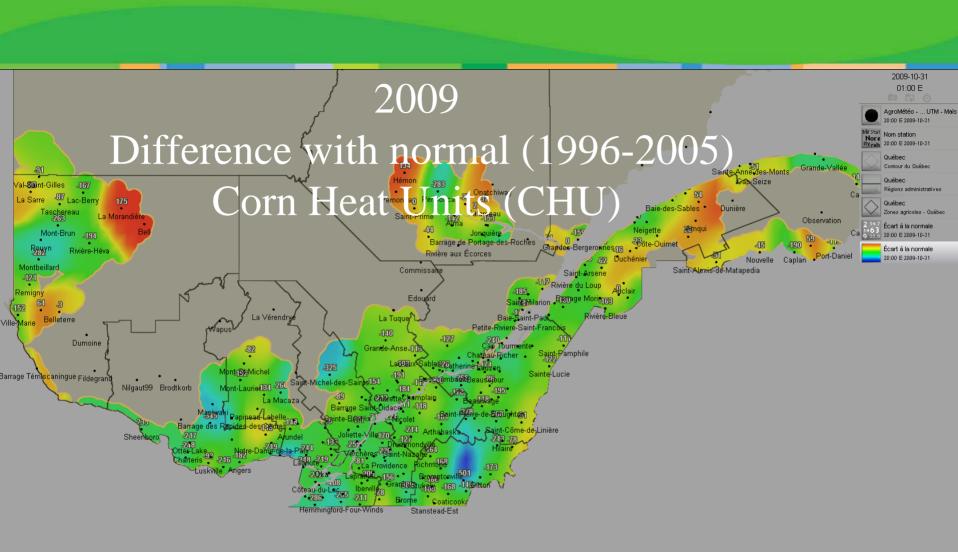
Des **actions** pour le présent Une **vision** pour l'avenir

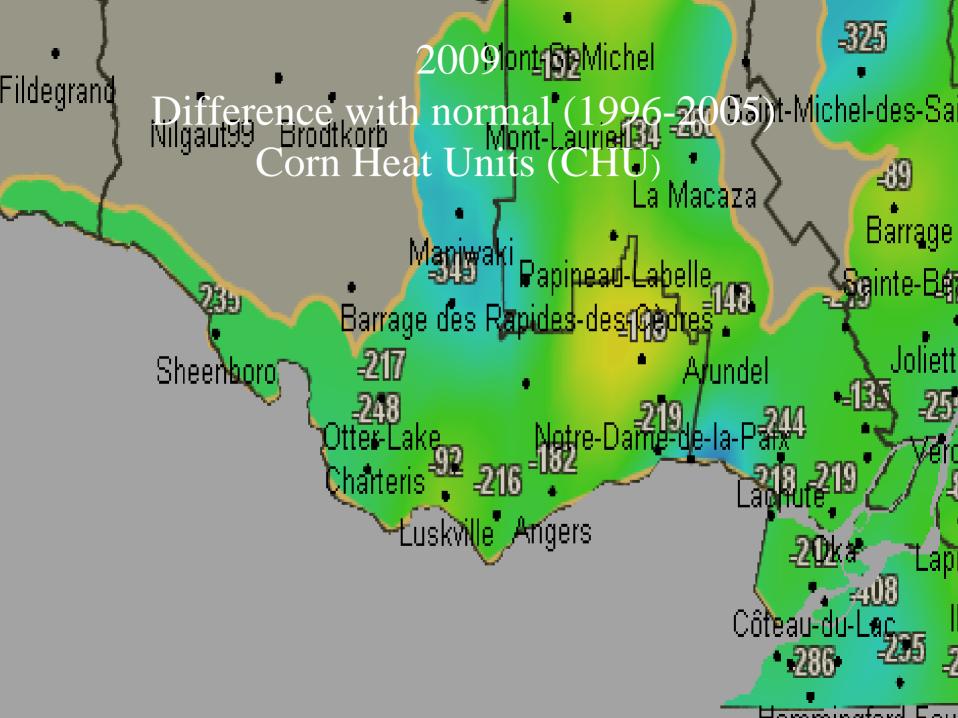






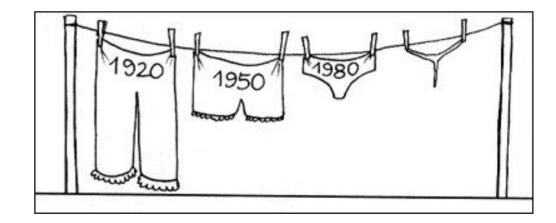








Global Warming ???





Une vision pour l'avenir





- Global warming: 2000-2009 is the warmest decade since 1850!
- The year 2009 is likely to rank in the top 10 warmest on record since the beginning of instrumental climate records in 1850, according to data sources compiled by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).).

Geneva, December 8th 2009 (WMO)



They said...



• Temperatures above normal have been recorded this year around the world. Only North America (United States of America and Canada) experienced temperatures below average, and based on data available to date, 2009 should be the warmest year in history.

(WMO)





Weather forecast (long term) are becoming

Predictably Unpredictable Vincent



La Niña? El Niño? 2010?

• While the beginning of the year was marked by an anomaly of La Niña, El Niño began to appear in June 2009.

(OMM)



December 1st 2009 (OMM)

The expected continued presence of El Niño into early 2010 has implications for many climate patterns around the world over the next several months (...) Decay of the El Niño event to near-neutral conditions across the tropical Pacific during the approximate March-May 2010 period is considered the most likely further development. The possibilities of a second year of El Niño conditions or rapid transition to a La Niña situation are considered unlikely at this time.



- 2005 recommendations are still valid
 - Crop selection
 - Species selection
 - Crop rotations
 - Pasture management
 - Increasing crop and livestock yield





How can one offset the effect of excessive rainfall?

- Upgrade ditches and drainage systems
- Maximise pasture span (180 days instead of 120 days?)
- Dry hay or silage? (be prepared to cut when the crop is ready to be harvested)





Be prepared to cut when the crop is ready to be harvested

be prepared to:

- Harvest earlier
- Store silage instead of dry hay
- Analyse forages lots
- Store by lots that are well identified
- Evaluate feed requirement
- Design a feeding strategy



It's a race you must win!

Agriculture, Pêcheries et Alimentation

Québec

Your resolutions for 2010?

To be ready?

Thank you!

