

meteoblue rainNOW

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1 Description

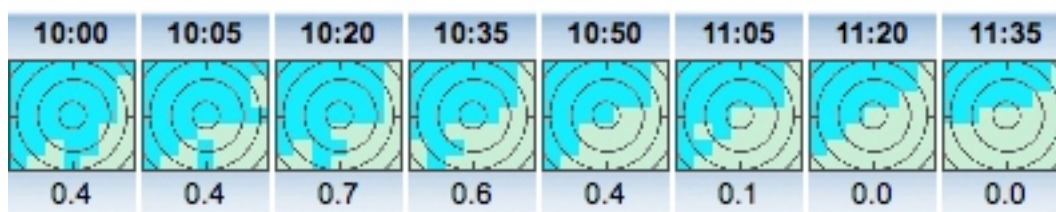
meteoblue [SPOT](#) is a local "region" overview: it gives you like a birds eye on the weather for your place. [SPOT](#) diagrams show weather events in the area surrounding the selected location, like precipitation in [rainNOW](#). The size of the area covered by [SPOT](#) is shown in the legend. [SPOT](#) colours levels show the intensity of the events, e.g. precipitation, cloud cover, wind, frost or others. With [SPOT](#), you can distinguish a thunderstorm (local) from a rainfront (whole area), or a band of showers (mixed distribution). If you know the area, you will see the effect of topography, wind direction or other weather developments in your [SPOT](#) diagram. Thereby you can [SPOT](#) what is expected in the neighbourhood, what risks are approaching, and how regional patterns develop.

rainNOW shows the short term precipitation development in 15 minutes steps, for the next 2 hours as well as the past 4 hours. This service is available for a majority of Central Europe.

The forecast is constantly calculated by different models and individual local observation data and adapted to the actual situation.

2 Display

2.1 Graphic

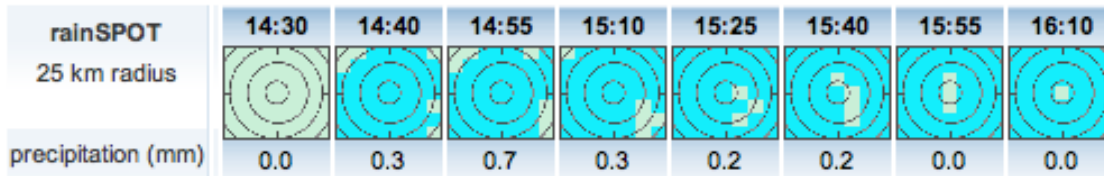


Picture 1. rainNOW diagram with passing precipitation.

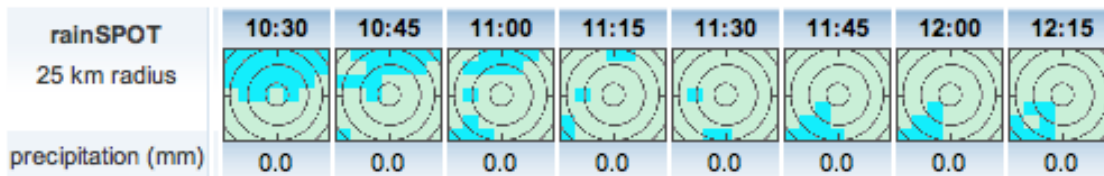
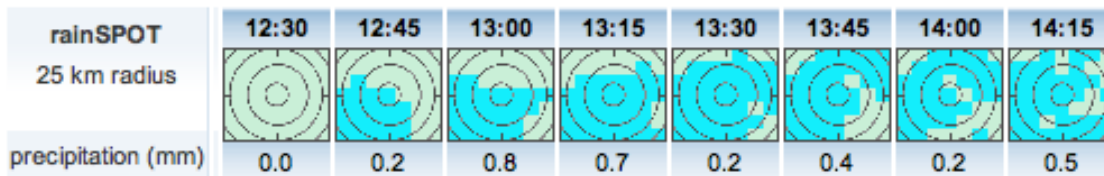
Braunwald < Glarus < Switzerland 🇨🇭

🔄 Nearby

Forecast :



Past:

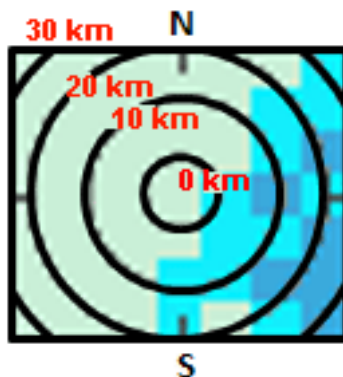


Picture 2. rainNOW with forecast of 2 hours and review of 4 hours.

2.2 Interpretation

Interpretation of the example above (Figure 2):

- 1) **Overview:** the diagram shows just a low intensity of precipitation.
- 2) **The Past:** From 10:30 to 11:00 o'clock a small zone of low precipitation intensity is passing the area. From 11:15 to 12:30 a few small showers are in the area and disappear towards the end. At 12:45 showers become more dense covering nearly the whole area.
- 3) **Forecast:** At 14:30 precipitation is interrupted. This may also be a short drop with just a drizzle which may not be picked up by rainNOW. From 14:40 to 16:10 precipitation extend and cover the whole area of 30km.



Picture 3. Components of the rainSPOT.

2.3 Area

The selected location is in the **center**. The **circles** show the distance from the center. **North** is at the top, **West** on the left, **South** below and **East** on the right (as in any map). The **radius** of the outside circle is indicated in the [SPOT](#) legend, and can vary from 10 to 240 km.

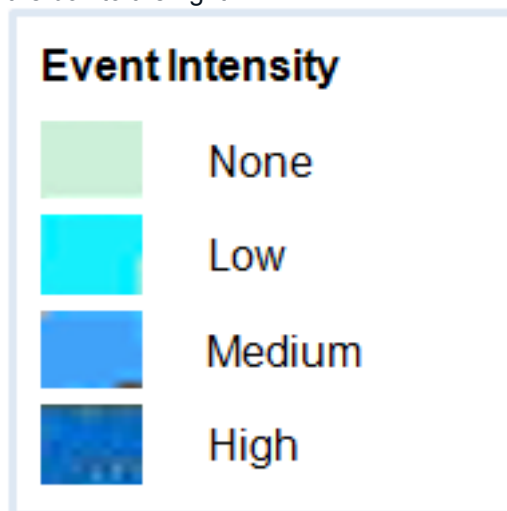
2.4 Updates

The rainNOW diagram is updated every 15min. Thereby, all the locations in the area were recalculated .

3 Units

3.1 Levels

The [SPOT](#) legend besides the diagram shows the radius of the area covered, and the colour scale used to show the different levels. The [SPOT](#) colour scale: An example of a precipitation intensity scale is shown in the box to the right.



Picture 4. Levels of precipitation intensity .

3.2 Measurements

The measurements of rainNOW are given in mm (millimetre = liter per square metre) if available. The scale of colours (Figure 4) is for comparing the different intensities of precipitation (amount per time unit).

Measurements do apply to the whole area and can't be compared to measurements which are taken at a single location. The accuracy of rainNOW measurements is not suited for quantitative purpose (measurements, warnings etc.). The amount of precipitation can be looked up in the [pints](#) meteograms.

3.3 Accuracy

The accuracy of rainNOW can differ depending on the area, because it depends partially on observation data. In situations of low intensity (i.e. drizzle, fog, snow showers) and undulating areas, the difference to reality can become significant . The accuracy also declines with the length of the forecast (from 15 towards 120 minutes).

3.4 Display of precipitation

Examples for precipitation:

No event: no precipitation in the entire area, this means that the chance of precipitation is very low



Light event: no precipitation at the selected place (center), but some light precipitation in the surrounding. This indicates a chance of showers



Light-medium event: light precipitation in the center and medium in the surrounding indicates a medium chance of precipitation for the center during the forecast interval, or an interval between two fronts.



Medium event: medium precipitation overall. This indicates high probability of uniform precipitation in the entire area.



Medium-heavy event: precipitation from medium in the Northwest to heavy in the Southeast. Very high chance of precipitation, with possibility of high intensity.



Heavy event: precipitation expected to be heavy in most of the surrounding area. This could indicate a risk of flooding.



4 Availability

rainNOW is available nearly all over Central Europe, for all locations and can be viewed using a point+ subscription. Beyond Europe this service isn't available.