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The Canadian Agriculture Weather Prognosticator

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WORLD WEATHER ISSUES

- France Finally Began To Receive Some Moisture, But Much More Is Needed
- Parts Of SE Europe, Ukraine, Southern Russia And Kazakhstan Need Moisture For Better Winter Crop Establishment
- Argentina Received Enough Rain In Past Two Weeks To Ease Western Dryness And Improve Wheat And Support Better Spring Planting Conditions
- Brazil Crop Weather Has Been Nearly Ideal In Recent Weeks
- Dryland China Wheat And Rapeseed Areas Need Rain
- Australia's Winter Crop Maturation And Harvest Will Be Disrupted By Rain In Next Two Weeks; Crop Quality Declines Are Not Likely
- South Africa Summer Planting Weather To Improve
- U.S. Harvest Weather To Deteriorate Again
- India's Winter Planting Off To Good Start Thanks To Late Monsoon Withdrawal

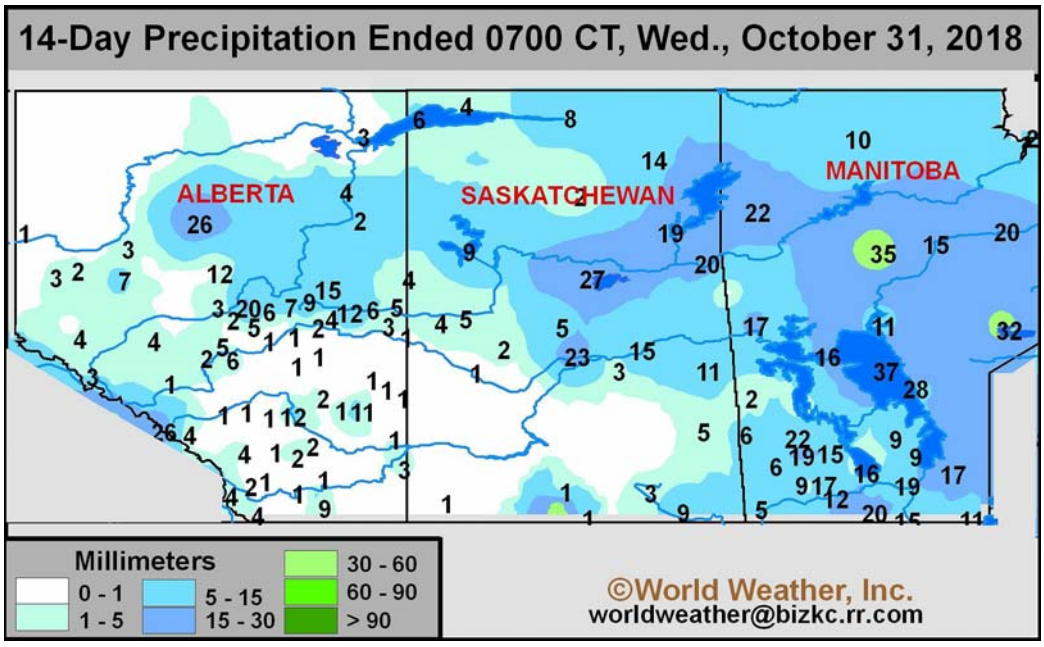
Recent Weather Break Helps; Not Enough

A badly-needed break from wet and cool late September and early October weather occurred over the past two weeks, but it was just not enough for some areas. Harvest conditions improved greatly, but the window of improvement was not open long enough to get all of the fieldwork completed. Unfortunately, the return of unsettled and cool weather over the next ten days will lead to a third year in a row of unharvested crops in a part of Alberta that may have to be collected in the spring.

Weather conditions improved enough for a huge leap forward on fieldwork over the past two weeks. Harvesting was close to being completed at the time of this report in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, although both provinces still have some crop to collect. Alberta also saw some significant progress toward completing this year's harvest, but nearly 22% of the crop was still outstanding on October 23. Some favorable progress may have occurred again in this latest week, but weather is going slip back into an unsettled patter before the last bit of this crop can be collected.

Precipitation totals over the two-week period since the last prognosticator was published was almost insignificant in much of Saskatchewan excepting the far north, extreme south and far eastern crop areas. Parts of Alberta also got by with less than 5 millimeters of moisture in many areas, but some of the northern most parts of Alberta and a huge part of Manitoba reported greater amounts of moisture that further frustrated many producers.

Some additional progress in the fields occurred during the last week of October, but the drier weather was a little short in duration to get all of the crop collected before stormy weather resumes.



November, December Weather Unsettled

The slow evolution of El Nino conditions has left the Canadian Prairies in a more unsettled weather pattern that will be dominated by warm ocean water temperatures in the Gulf of Alaska and by a dominating northwesterly flow of air aloft. These two weather patterns will combined to produce periodic weather disturbances across the Prairies that will produce waves of rain and snow this month and periodic snowfall in December.

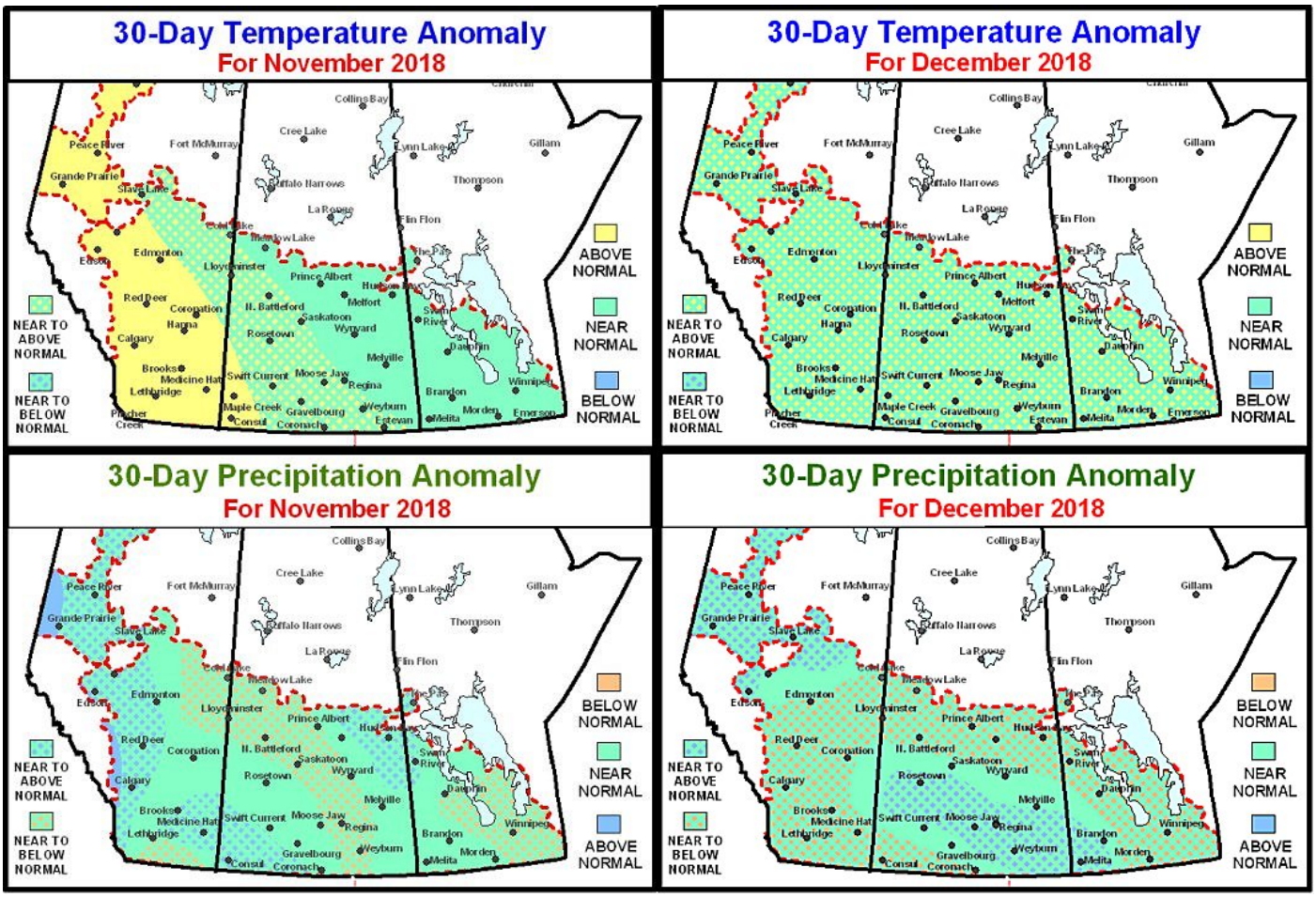
The above statement makes it sound like a wet finish to autumn weather, but it will not be as bad as it seems. Moisture is needed in the central and southern parts of the Prairies for use next spring and this weather pattern will be somewhat helpful for that cause. However, the precipitation pattern will make it difficult for late season harvesting to be completed without a struggle.

November's outlook has changed from that of two weeks ago because of the returning ten days of unsettled weather. Enough rain and snow will impact the Prairies to disrupt farming activity once again. New snow is going to accumulate and with average daily temperatures dropping a little further with each passing day it will become more difficult to get the snow to melt off in parts of the unharvested crop areas of Alberta.

Precipitation in November is expected to be erratic with some areas a little wetter biased while others a little drier biased, but it will certainly not be like some of the significant El Nino years of the past when it was hard to get any precipitation to fall and temperatures were well above average. That is what we need this year, but it is not likely to come along anytime soon. A more traditional El Nino pattern may evolve during the heart of winter, but that will not help the harvest cause that is stressing producers today.

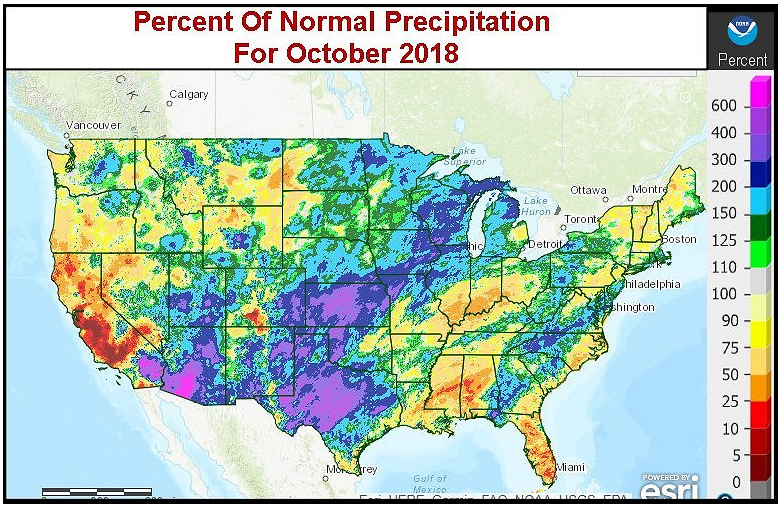
December's weather is advertised to be a little warmer biased over a larger part of the Prairies, but the erratic distribution of precipitation is expected to continue.

The running theme over the next two months will include alternating periods of wetter and drier weather. The wetter and drier periods may come and go at 10-day intervals. The pattern will lead to ever increasing amounts of snow in parts of the region. That implies that November's warmer bias in the west will be the only hope of melting snow that accumulates periodically for just enough time to possibly resume harvesting, but there may not be enough time for drying the soil between precipitation events.



November U.S. Weather To Be Wet In East

Most of the significant October weather anomalies in the United States were determined in the first ten days of the month as significant precipitation fell from the southern Plains into the western Corn Belt. Weather conditions improved during the second half of the month, although field progress was slow. November weather is expected to shift the greatest precipitation bias to the eastern Midwest and Delta as well as the northeastern corner of the nation where precipitation in October was often lighter than usual. A restricted precipitation pattern will continue in the western United States while conditions in the central states are favorably mixed for late season farming activity.

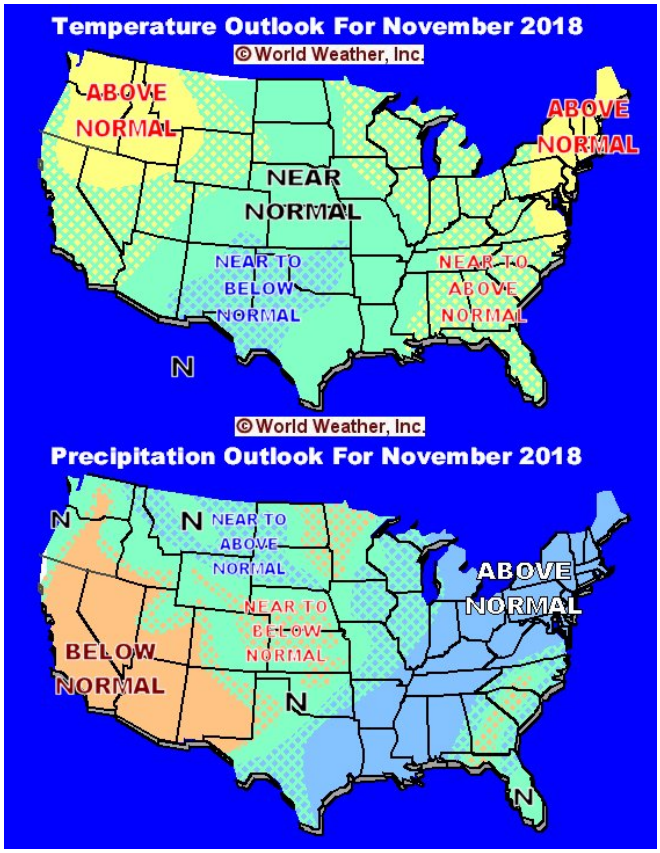


Precipitation in October was well above average from Kansas and east-central Colorado southward into the heart of Texas. A large part of the western Corn Belt was also anomalously wet during the month. Nearly all of the anomalous rain in October occurred in the first half of the month when rain fell excessively.

In contrast to the moisture abundance, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and areas from Kentucky north into southern Illinois, southern Indiana and southwestern Ohio all reported less than half of the normal precipi8tation. Fieldwork advanced most favorably in these drier biased areas.

Rain in California was minimal during the month along with that in Oregon and portions of the region from Idaho into western North Dakota and northwestern South Dakota.

Temperatures during the month were colder than usual in much of the Great Plains and upper Midwest with readings varying from 2 to more than 5 degrees Fahrenheit colder than usual. In contrast, temperatures in the central and eastern Gulf of Mexico Coast region into Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York were 2 to 5 degrees warmer than usual. Warm weather also occurred in random areas in the western states.



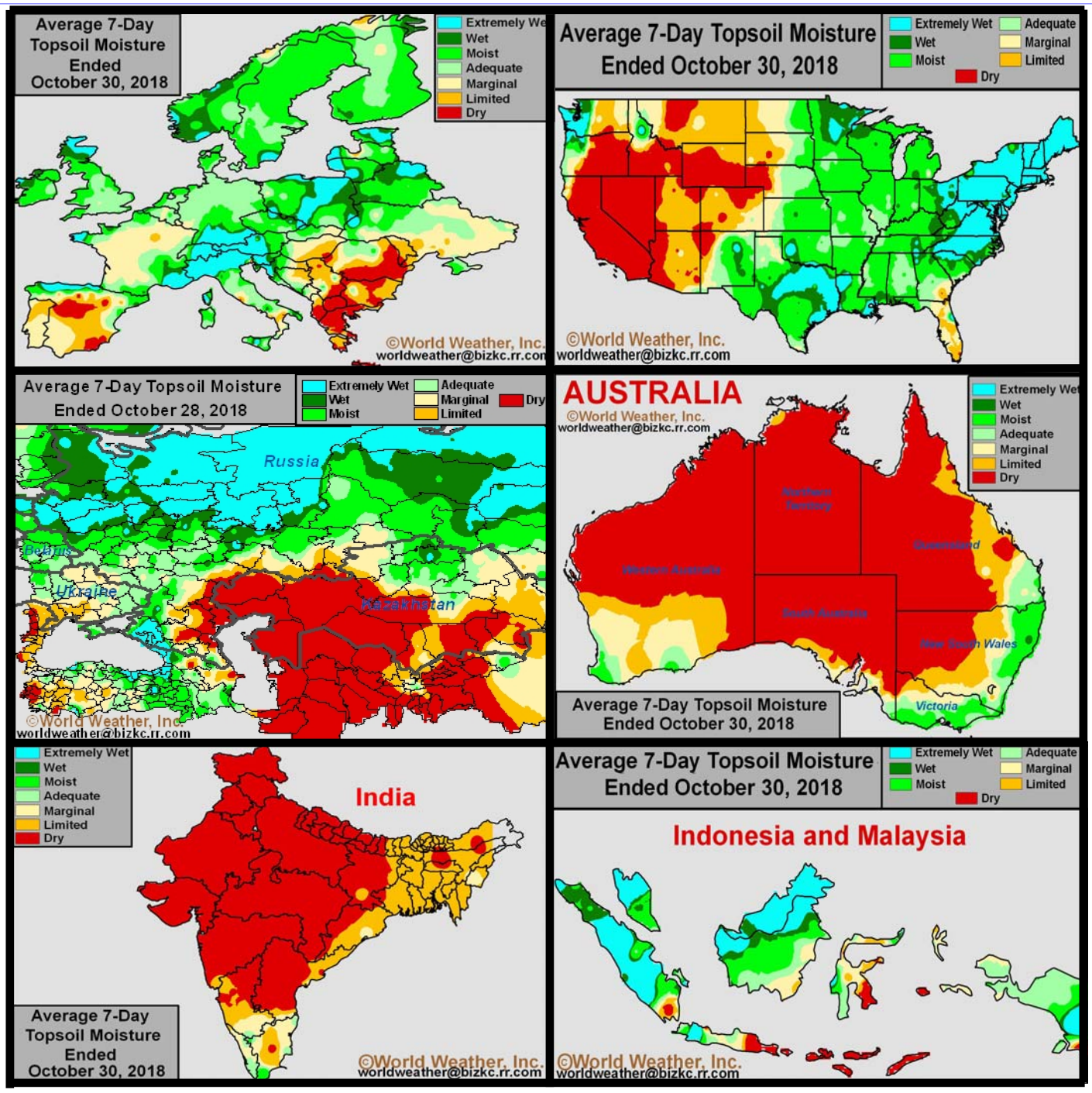
Weather patterns in November will be similar to those of October with a general shift to the east in some of the anomalies. Rainfall will be greater than usual in most of the central and eastern Midwest, northeastern states, Delta and southeastern Great Plains. Similar to October many of the weather anomalies for the month will be set and determined by the first half of the month weather.

A portion of the southeastern states and upper Midwest will see a more mixed weather pattern with some areas drier than usual and some wetter biased. A more definite dry weather anomaly will be present in the far western states from the Yakima Valley of Washington through California and Nevada and then east into western Colorado, New Mexico and a part of west Texas.

A part of the central Plains and upper Midwest will also experience near to below average precipitation during November while the northwestern Plains experience near to above average precipitation.

Temperatures in November are expected to be near to above average in much of the contiguous United States. However, much of the Great Plains will experience near normal temperatures with a cooler than usual bias expected from Oklahoma and southeastern Colorado into southern New Mexico and most of west Texas. Temperatures will be most above average in the northeastern and northwestern corners of the nation.

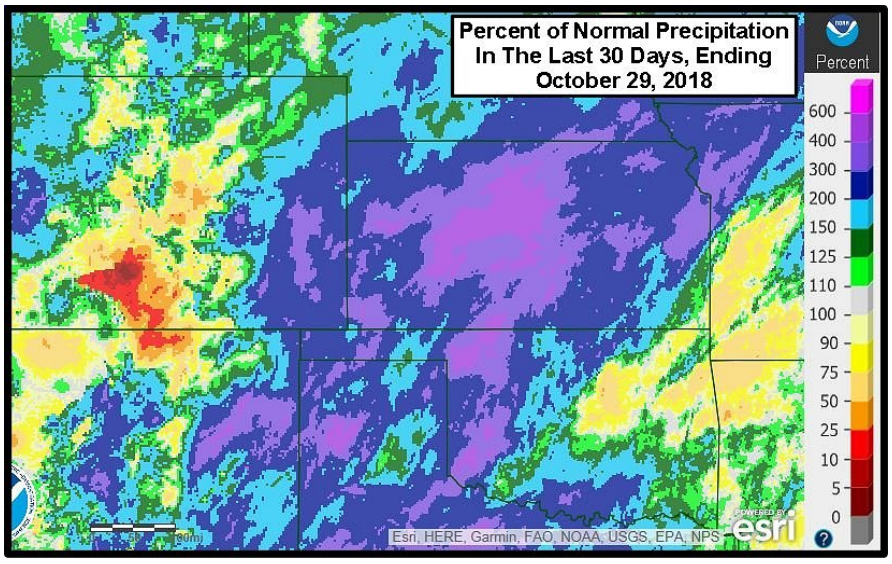
Selected Weather Images From Around The World



Europe's weather has been improving gradually over the past couple of weeks. Soil moisture is still well below average in many areas, but especially in France and from the southeastern countries into Kazakhstan. Recent rainfall was sufficient to bolster topsoil moisture just enough to improve establishment for wheat, barley, rye and rapeseed, but more rain is needed. U.S. soil conditions have improved after too much moisture fell in early October, but portions of the Midwest are getting ready to turn wet again with a new round of storminess expected over the next ten days. Eastern Australia soil moisture has improved in only a few areas. Summer sorghum and cotton planting in eastern Australia will be limited to irrigated fields only this summer because of El Nino. Winter crop maturation and harvest weather has been good thus far, but rain in the next two weeks will likely slow field progress and raise some quality concerns. Southern India will trend wetter in the next two weeks favoring late season grain, oilseed, cotton and sugarcane. Southern Parts of Indonesia still need greater rain, but recent rain in the north has been welcome.

U.S. Plains Wheat Needs More Dry Weather

Fieldwork advanced in hard red winter wheat areas relatively well in September and the first days in October, but substantially wet conditions developed during the weekend of October 6-7 and continued into October 9 that saturated fields and brought fieldwork to a standstill. That wet period was then followed by much cooler temperatures that slowed drying rates and prolonged planting delays for the 2019 wheat crop. Multiple days of dry weather were hard to come by, especially in the southern Plains with more rain falling in Oklahoma and Texas October 11-13, in Texas October 15-17 and in both states again October 18-21. Another short term break in the precipitation developed after that and then more rain fell throughout the central and southern Plains October 24-25. A big part of this period of time was cool and evaporation rates were slow.



Needless to say the moisture abundance in the central and southern Plains kept wheat fields too wet to be worked and harvesting of summer crops was kept on hold. Today (October 30) was the sixth day in a row of rain free conditions in the heart of the wheat production area. That was badly needed and helped to firm up the topsoil. Warm temperatures contributed to the improving trend. However, prior to this past weekend there had not been much opportunity for farming activity – at least not aggressively. But conditions have been improving and some fieldwork has advanced more aggressively.

Rainfall since the last couple of days in September was 1.5 to 4.0 times normal. Even though the rain helped to eliminate drought from the region it also delayed fieldwork.

Weather conditions in the past two weeks improved greatly with rainfall below average in much of southern Kansas and northern and central Oklahoma while still greater than usual in a part of the Texas Panhandle, north-central Texas, southwestern Oklahoma and from east-central and southeastern Colorado to northwestern Kansas. Again, most of the past six days have been dry and temperatures last weekend reached into the 70s and lower to middle 80s stimulating some of the best drying conditions of the month. Fieldwork resumed, but the favorable weather will have to prevail to get planting completed.

Soil conditions have been improving after their saturated situation of ten days ago. Much of the wheat region has adequate soil moisture in the top and subsoil. There is some dryness in western Nebraska, eastern Colorado and far western Kansas, but some of that is "normal" for this time of year. The most important part of the recent soil analysis is the relative improvement from the saturated conditions of ten days ago to the more adequate moisture levels present today. A few more sunny and warm days is about all that is needed to get planting completed. However, a temporary setback in the improving conditions is forthcoming.

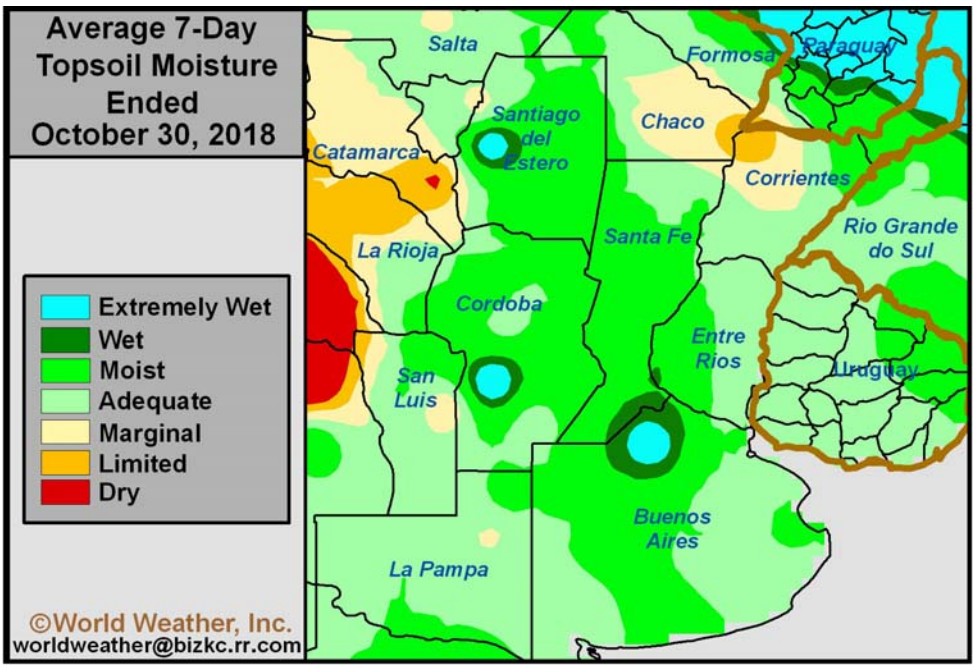
Showers will impact at least part of the Hard Red Winter Wheat region most days into early next week; however, a majority of these showers is likely to be light and insignificant. Wednesday, Saturday and next Monday will be the wetter days and because of that additional fieldwork and planting delays are expected, although they will be brief in duration. Moisture totals through Monday are expected to be in a range from a trace to 0.35 inch with locally more than 0.50 inch in parts of central Oklahoma and in western portions of the Oklahoma Panhandle. There will be some accumulating snow in southeastern Colorado tonight into Wednesday; however, warm temperatures later this week will melt it quite quickly. Less frequent and less significant precipitation is expected Nov. 6-12 which may be a better time for fieldwork to conclude. Temperatures will also trend warmer after Nov. 7.

Several days of warmer than usual weather and no rain is needed to provide the best environment for late season fieldwork. The coming drier biased weather in Texas, Oklahoma and parts of Kansas will help promote some new fieldwork, but temperatures will be mild and that may limit drying rates at times.

Even though precipitation will be brief and light in this next ten days to two weeks there will still be precipitation periodically and that is liable to delay the final wheat plantings until more deeply into November raising some concern about crop establishment due to seasonal cooling likely later in the month.

South America Weather Remains Very Good

Seasonal rainfall was a little slow getting started in western parts of **Argentina** this spring raising worry among some producers and traders that a second year of drought was evolving. However, in the past two weeks sufficient amounts of rain have evolved to reduce dryness throughout the west. Rain earlier this week from central Cordoba into northern Buenos Aires was helpful in easing dryness that had been most stubborn in abating recently. Topsoil moisture was rated adequately in the majority of Argentina Tuesday, but follow up rain is still needed.



Rainfall over the most recent seven-day period ending dawn today was greatest from the heart of Cordoba and a part of San Luis into southern Santa Fe and north-central Buenos Aires. Rainfall in the region varied from 0.80 to 1.77 inches with a local total of 2.12 inches in west-central Cordoba and 2.79 inches in interior southwestern parts of the province. The rain fell in some very important wheat, peanut, corn and soybean production areas and further reduced dryness that was once widespread from La Pampa and western Buenos Aires to Santiago del Estero early this month.

Significant dryness relief occurred ten days ago in Santiago del Estero, La Pampa and western Buenos Aires and relief occurred in Cordoba and western Santa Fe in this most recent five day period. The change from too dry to favorably moist has greatly changed the spring outlook throughout western Argentina.

Today's topsoil assessment is rated adequately moist in nearly all of Argentina. A few pocket s of dryness are still present and the lack of good data density in Argentina does not identify some of those drier pocketed areas very well. Some dryness is obvious in northeastern cotton areas, but that area will get significant rain in this coming week. Another area of dryness is in La Pampa and southern San Luis and in a few locations from eastern Buenos Aires to Corrientes. None of these drier biased areas are critically short of moisture and most will receive additional rain over the next two weeks.

The coming week to ten days of weather for Argentina is expected to be quite favorable with most areas getting rain at one time or another. Amounts will not be dramatically great in central parts of the nation and that area will need to be closely monitored in case some of the rain fails to develop. Entre Rios does not get much rain during the forecast period along with Uruguay and even though the outlook is quite positive there is reason to continue closely monitoring the situation.

Weather conditions across Brazil during the past week were favorable for spring fieldwork, soil moisture and crop development. The latest planting progress report clearly reflected the past few weeks of well mixed weather with the advancement of soybean planting at a record pace. A few areas in Brazil are still a little too wet, but not so wet to cause huge problems and the distribution of rainfall in this coming week is expected to be good enough to maintain a very fine outlook through the first half of November.

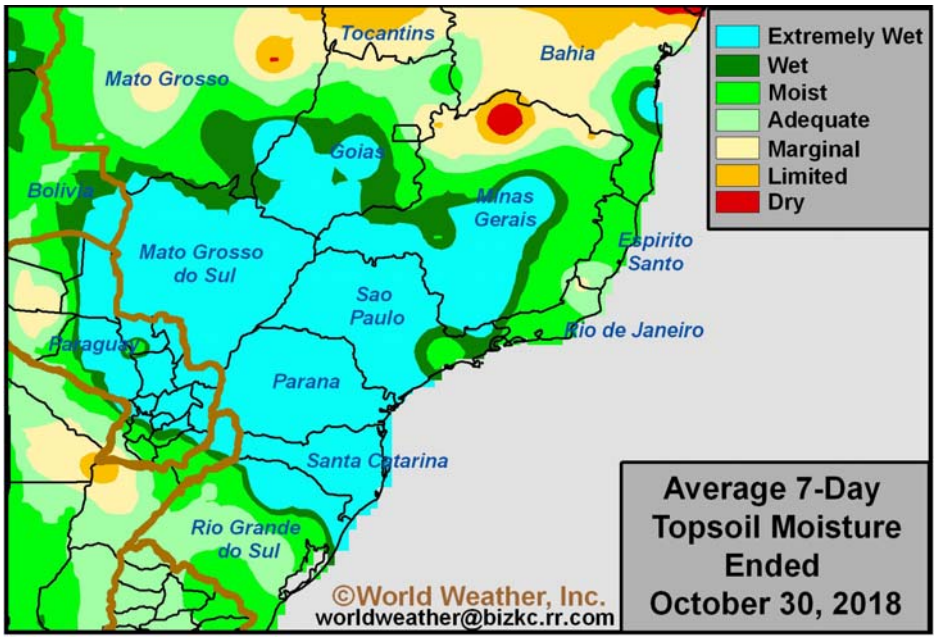
Rain in Brazil during the past week was widespread, although not enough fell in the far south, northeast or far northwest to counter evaporation. None of the dryness noted was a big concern, however, Dry weather in Rio Grande do Sul was needed to protect wheat conditions. About one third of the wheat crop is now harvested and the drier bias lately was great for filling and maturing winter crops especially with good subsoil moisture present to support late season crop development.

Rain in central and southern Rio Grande do Sul was no more than 0.55 inch during the seven-day period ending at dawn today (Monday). Rainfall in Bahia and northernmost Minas Gerais was only slightly greater with totals of 0.15 to 0.71 inch with a local total just slightly over 1.00 inch. Drying in this part of Brazil is quite normal for October since its seasonal rainfall rarely arrives this early and any rain is welcome and beneficial. Western Mato Grosso also experi-

South America Weather Remains Very Good (from page 6)

enced restricted rainfall during the past week, but the environment was still good for planting. Soybean planting was reported to be 77% complete in western Mato Grosso and a boost in rainfall in the next few weeks will be ideal for simulating rapid crop development.

In contrast to the drier biased areas, rainfall from northern Parana into the heart of Mato Grosso do Sul during the past week was abundant. Totals varied from 4.00 to more than 6.00 inches with a few exceptions of lighter rain. The precipitation was spread out enough during the week to reduce the incidence of flooding, although central Mato Grosso do Sul and the far northwest may have experienced a brief period of local flooding when the greatest rain fell. Another region of heavy rainfall varying from 3.50 to 4.67 inches occurred in central and northeastern Espirito Santo and along the lowermost coast of Bahia. A few areas in southeastern Mato Grosso do Sul reported 2.00 to 4.39 inches of rain. Most other areas not mentioned above reported 1.00 to 2.25 inches of rain during the past week.



The month of October, like that of late September, was wetter than usual. Many areas from southern Goias and southern Minas Gerais to Santa Catarina and far northern Rio Grande do Sul and Paraguay reported 1.00 to 2.75 times' the usual rainfall. Late September and early October are not usually as wet as this year has been and soil conditions are saturated in much of the region reporting this moisture surplus.

Despite the abundant moisture in October, fieldwork has advanced significantly. Soybean planting was 46% completed compared to 30% last year and 28% in the five year average. That is a substantial lead and there is already much talk about this year's Safrinha corn and cotton being much more successful than last year because planting will occur much earlier than last year due to this early start to soybean planting. Large soybean and corn crops in South America, however, are not likely bode well for commodity futures prices – which may disappoint many farmers around the world searching and waiting for higher prices.

A few areas in Brazil are still reporting lighter than usual rainfall, but most of that is in Mato Grosso, Tocantins and Bahia, all of which usually get much greater rainfall when the annual monsoon kicks in during the next few weeks. This year's monsoon will get started in time to fix these moisture deficits and to reinforce the already favorable production outlook.

Despite the variance in rainfall this month planting of soybeans is ahead of average in all states with Parana 48% done, Goias 50% done, Mato Grosso do Sul 35% completed and Mato Grosso 62% finished. Planting in Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, Sao Paulo Minas Gerais and Bahia has also advanced favorably.

World Weather, Inc. believes the next 30 days will provide sufficient rainfall in Argentina and Brazil to maintain a favorable production outlook. The month of November may be a little wetter than usual in eastern Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and far southern Brazil while the remainder of Argentina receives near normal amounts of rain.

Temperatures in November are expected to be near to below average in southwestern Argentina and close to 30-year averages elsewhere in the nation.

Brazil rainfall will be near to above average with a small part of western Mato Grosso expected to be drier than usual while temperatures are near to above average.