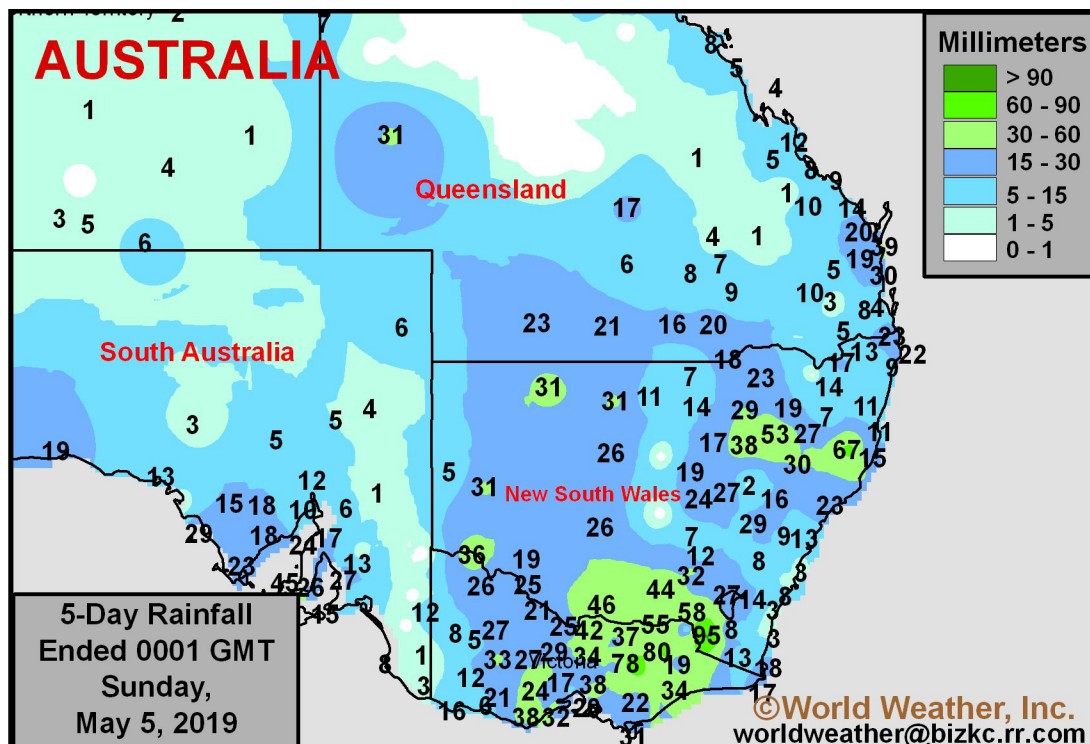


Southeastern Australia Rain Bolsters Planting Moisture

By Andrew Owen and Drew Lerner

Kansas City, May 5 (World Weather Inc.) – *Much of the winter wheat, barley, and canola areas in Victoria and New South Wales recently received significant rainfall to bolster soil moisture for improved planting potentials. Follow up precipitation is needed for all of these areas and some will occur later this week in Victoria and southern New South Wales while the remaining areas will have to wait for at least ten days for another opportunity for rain.* Western Australia's winter crop areas remain a little too dry for much autumn fieldwork, although rain fell in a part of the region in late April. Western Australia and parts of Queensland and South Australia are expected to be driest over the next ten days.

Rainfall during the first few days in May was greatest in western and southern New South Wales, in much of Victoria and in a part of northeastern New South Wales. Each of these areas reported 0.75 to 1.25 inches with local totals getting to 2.00 inches near the mountains in northeastern New South Wales and over 3.00 inches in non-agricultural areas of northeastern Victoria. Rainfall in southernmost Queensland varied from 0.20 to 0.80 inch with a few amounts to 0.92 inch. The remainder of Queensland, South Australia, extreme western Victoria and a small part of east-central crop areas in New South Wales received 0.05 to 0.71 inch of moisture while Western Australia was left mostly dry.



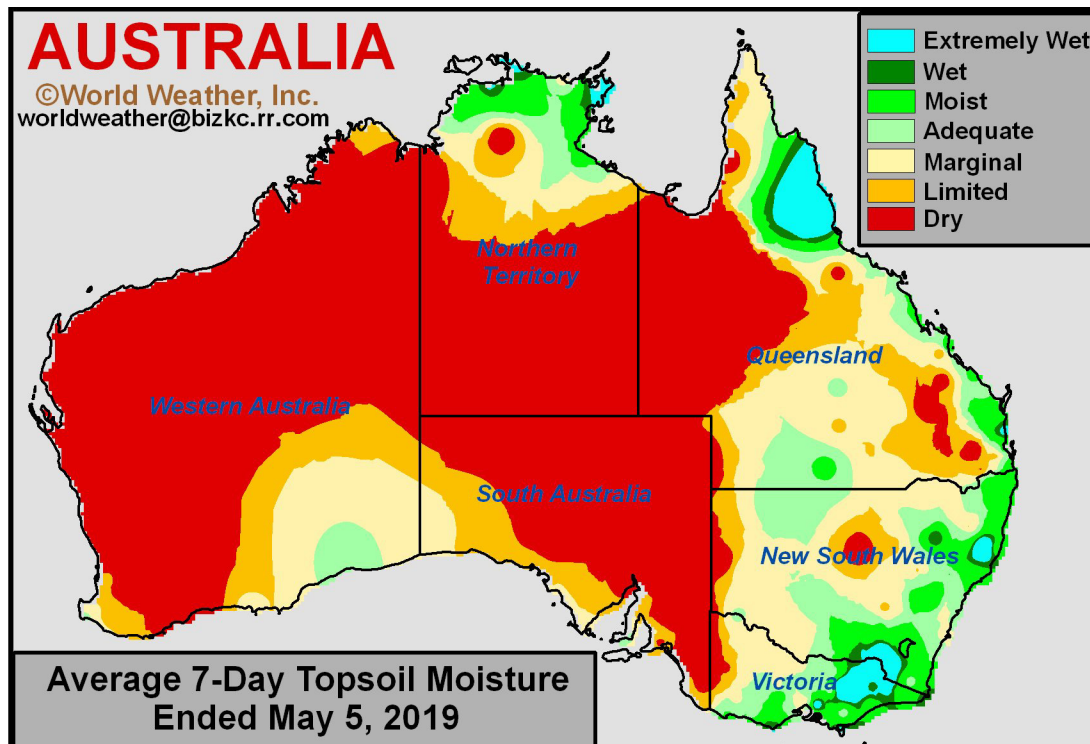
Last week's rain was the most generalized and significant of the autumn planting season which began in the second half of April and will last through June and possibly into July if necessary. Sufficient amounts of moisture occurred to improve topsoil moisture in many important crop regions and fieldwork has likely already begun

Southeastern Australia Rain Bolsters Planting Moisture

following the rain during the weekend. Most of the nation's winter crop areas were considered too dry for planting prior to last week's rain.

In the meantime, the precipitation induced harvest delays for cotton, sorghum and a few other crops. There was some concern for cotton quality, but returning dry weather this week will help bleach the crop white once again. A previous rain event of significance occurred April 21-25 from western New South Wales into central Queensland. That event also brought some delay to cotton harvesting and some fiber quality declines. Most of the unharvested cotton needs drier conditions for the next few weeks to bring back the best quality while harvesting resumes.

Many Western and South Australia crop areas are still rated very dry, despite rain that fell in late April and last week respectively. The rain events failed to produce enough moisture to counter evaporation and fieldwork has not likely advanced very well except possibly in a few locations. Significant rain is needed in the coming weeks to reverse the moisture deficits and improve crop prospects and some is expected.



Very little rain will fall in interior portions of Western or South Australia in the next two weeks and most of Queensland will be dry as well. The drier conditions will leave autumn planting on hold while supporting the resumption of summer crop harvesting. Dryness is not unusual for this time of year and there will be plenty of time for improved precipitation since the optimal planting season dates run from now through June. Some rain will fall in coastal areas of both Western and South Australia and a few crop and milk production areas will benefit from the moisture.

Follow up rain is expected this week in Victoria and Southern New South Wales. Victoria will get some rain Monday into Tuesday along with southeastern coastal areas of South Australia. A greater rain event is expected Wednesday and Thursday in Victoria and the southern two-thirds of New South Wales. Between the two weather systems, rain totals

Southeastern Australia Rain Bolsters Planting Moisture

by Saturday will have ranged from 0.05 to 0.65 inch in New South Wales and northwestern Victoria while varying from 0.50 to 1.50 inches from southeastern coastal areas of South Australia through the remainder of Victoria's crop areas. The moisture coupled with that of last week will maintain a very good environment for planting, emergence and establishment of wheat, barley and canola. Any rain that reaches into unharvested cotton areas of New South Wales will not likely have much additional impact on fiber quality and any disruption to fieldwork will be confined to a quick couple of days.

Temperatures in most of southern Australia will bounce around a little bit over the next two weeks, but most readings are expected to be near average.

World Weather, Inc. forecasts and comments pertaining to present, past and future weather conditions included in this report constitute the corporation's judgment as of the date of this report and are subject to change without notice. Comments regarding damage or the impact of weather on agricultural and energy as well as comments made regarding the impact of weather on the commodity and financial markets are the explicit opinions of World Weather, Inc. World Weather, Inc. can not be held responsible for decisions made by users of the Corporation's information in any business, trade or investment decision.

©2019 World Weather, Inc. Any unauthorized redistribution, duplication or disclosure is prohibited by law and will result in prosecution.