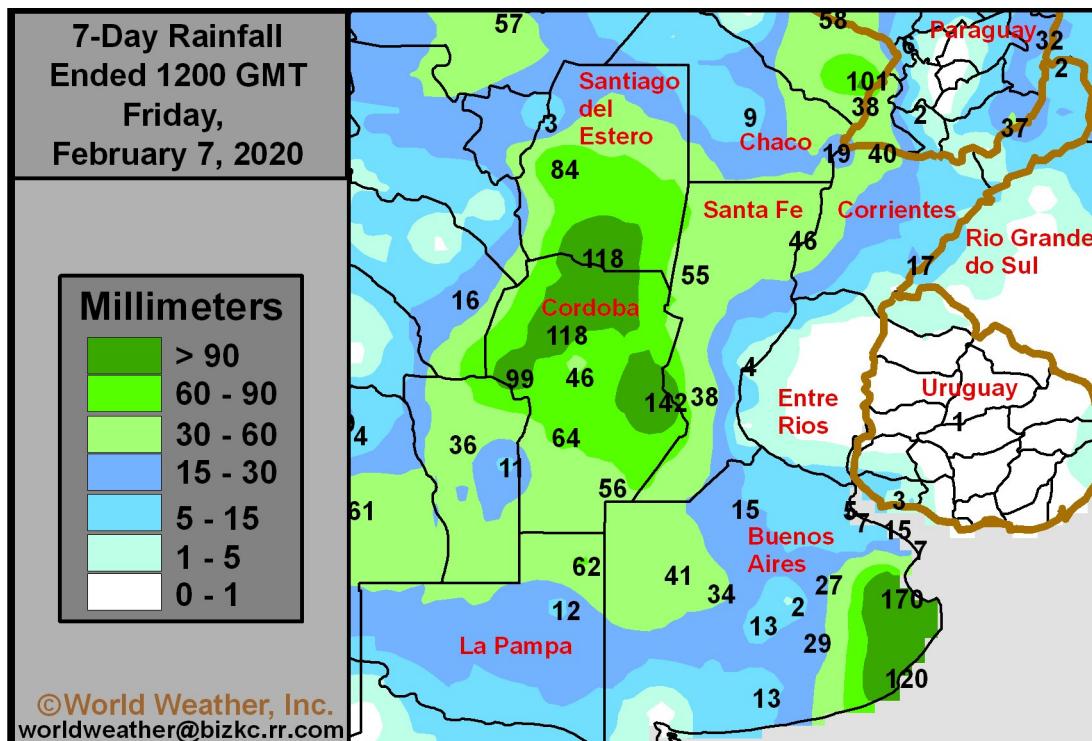


Argentina Rain Eases Dryness; Raises Production

By Drew Lerner

Kansas City, February 7 (World Weather Inc.) – Argentina received some additional rain of significance over this past week bolstering soil moisture in a meaningful manner. The precipitation follows a week of net drying that had been firming the soil and raising more concern over crop health. However, the rain came at the perfect time while crops were reproducing and filling which actually helped improve the production potential.



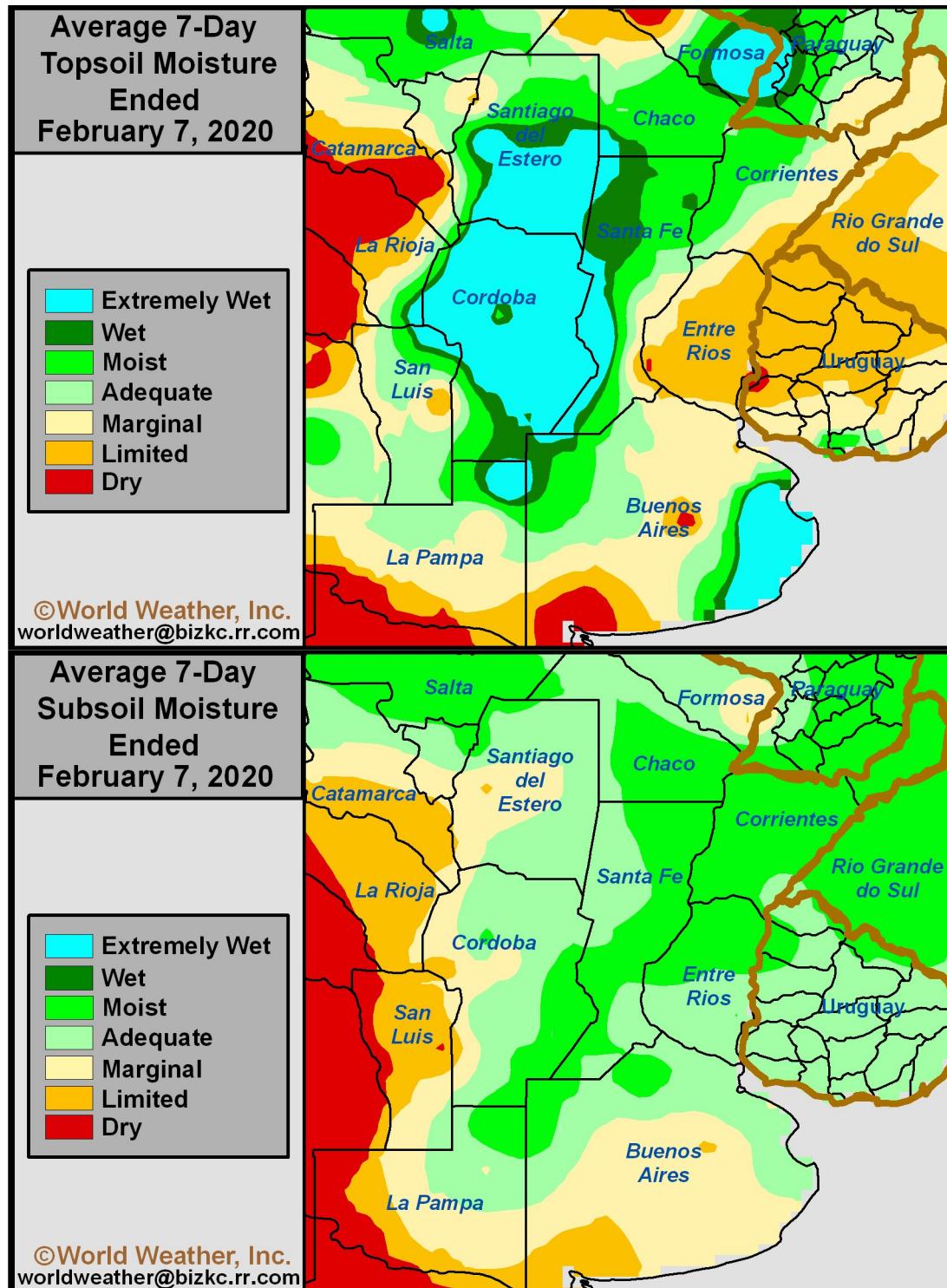
Late season corn, sorghum, soybeans and peanuts all benefited from the moisture in a significant manner and drier weather that occurs in this coming week will not likely have much of a negative impact except in a few of the lingering drier areas in the south. Entre Rios should be getting rain at the time of this writing.

Topsoil moisture is now rated quite favorably in Cordoba which is at the heart of Argentina's summer crop production region. It produces nearly all of the peanuts and a huge portion of the nation's soybeans and corn. Not all crop areas have reported abundant rain recently, but subsoil moisture was still rated favorably during most of this past week carrying crops through the drier period without much threat to production.

Argentina's weather may not be quite as wet in this coming week as it was during the past week, but more rain is expected in nearly all of the nation. The only region that is expected to stay dry will be in the northeast which is not a very significant region for summer grain or oilseed production. The region does produce some citrus and cotton both of which may become a little stressed over time.

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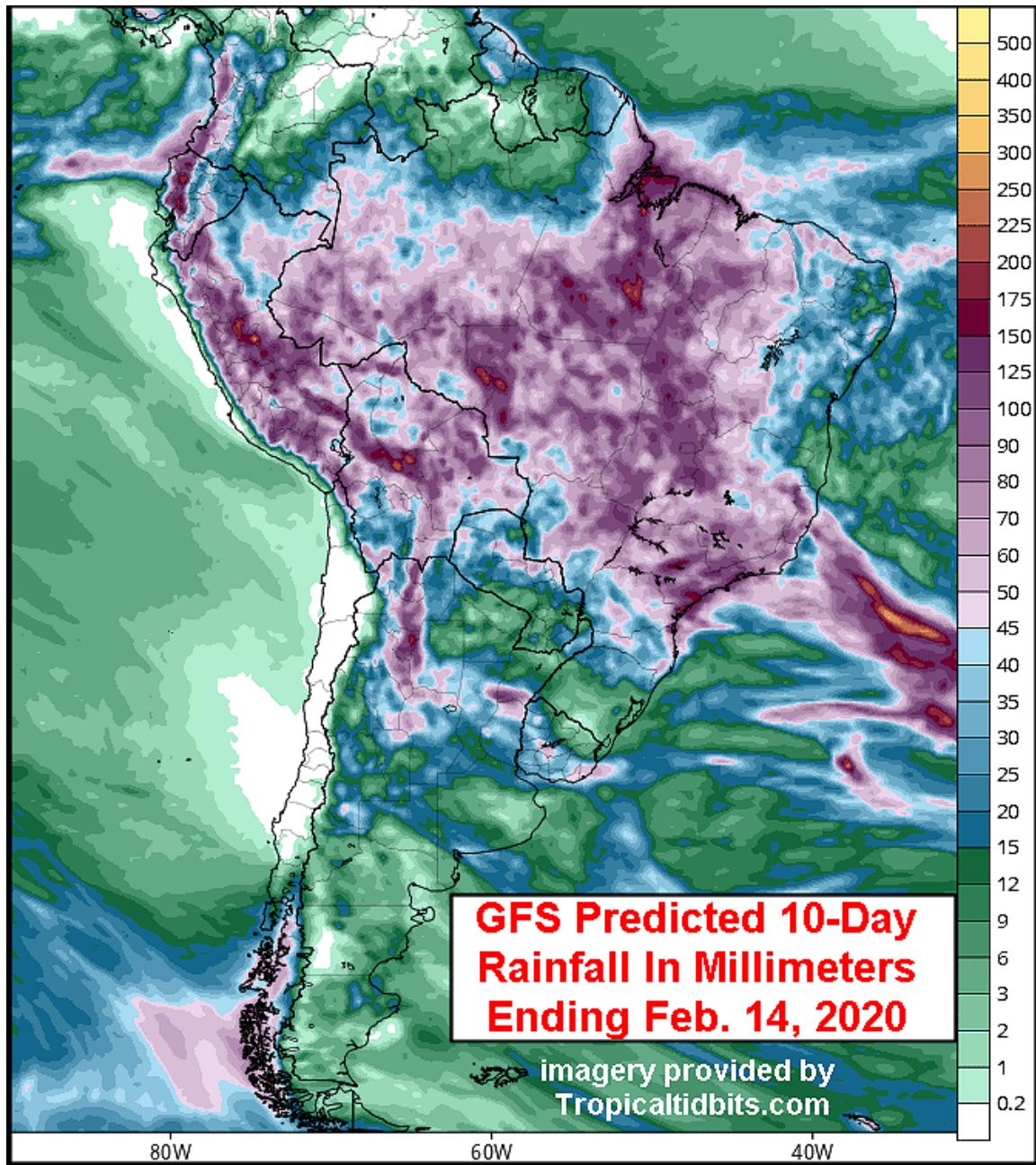
Most of the northeastern part of Argentina still has favorable subsoil moisture and the outlook remains good for crops even though there will not be much rain in the next seven days. Crop stress may evolve in the following week if the dry bias prevails as it may.



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The longer range outlook for Argentina is also favorable. Most summer crops are expected to finish out the growing season in a favorable manner. There will be some periods of dry weather and brief periods of rain, but soil moisture is likely good enough to carry the majority of crops through the drier biased periods without much threat to production.

Recent officials predicting the size of Argentina crops have been increasing the crop. Early season corn and sunseed production was cut because of limited spring time rainfall. Most of the late crops have benefited from the recent rain and should yield quite favorably.



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