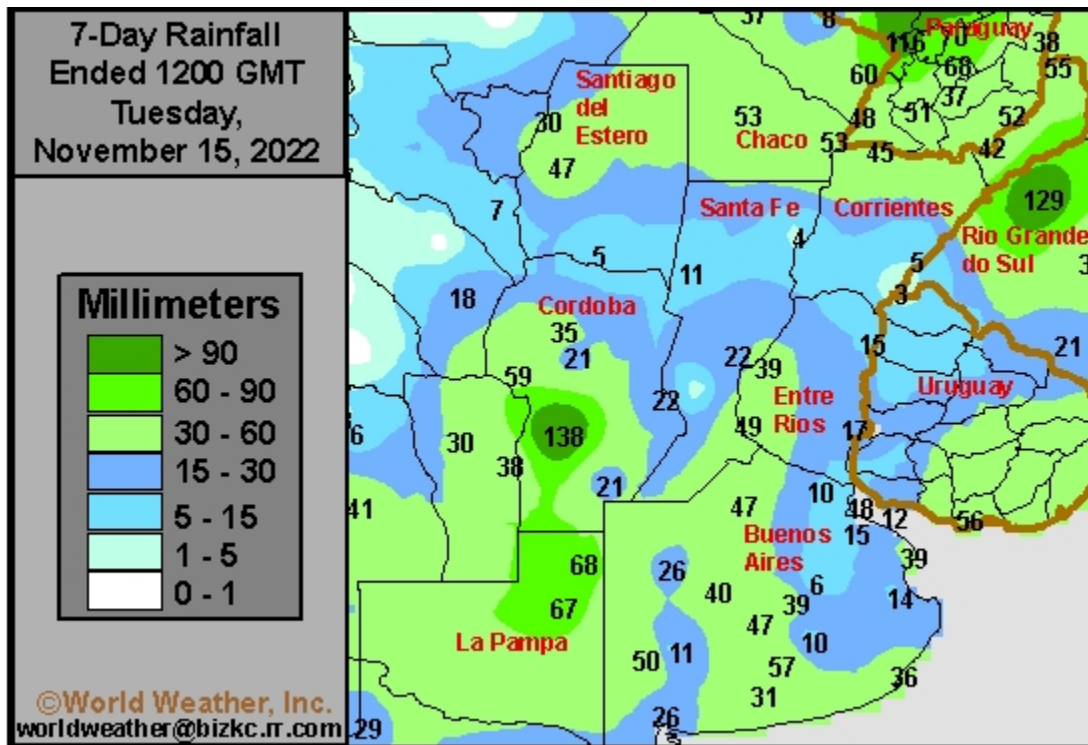


Argentina Planting To Advance More Swiftly After Rain

By Andrew Owen

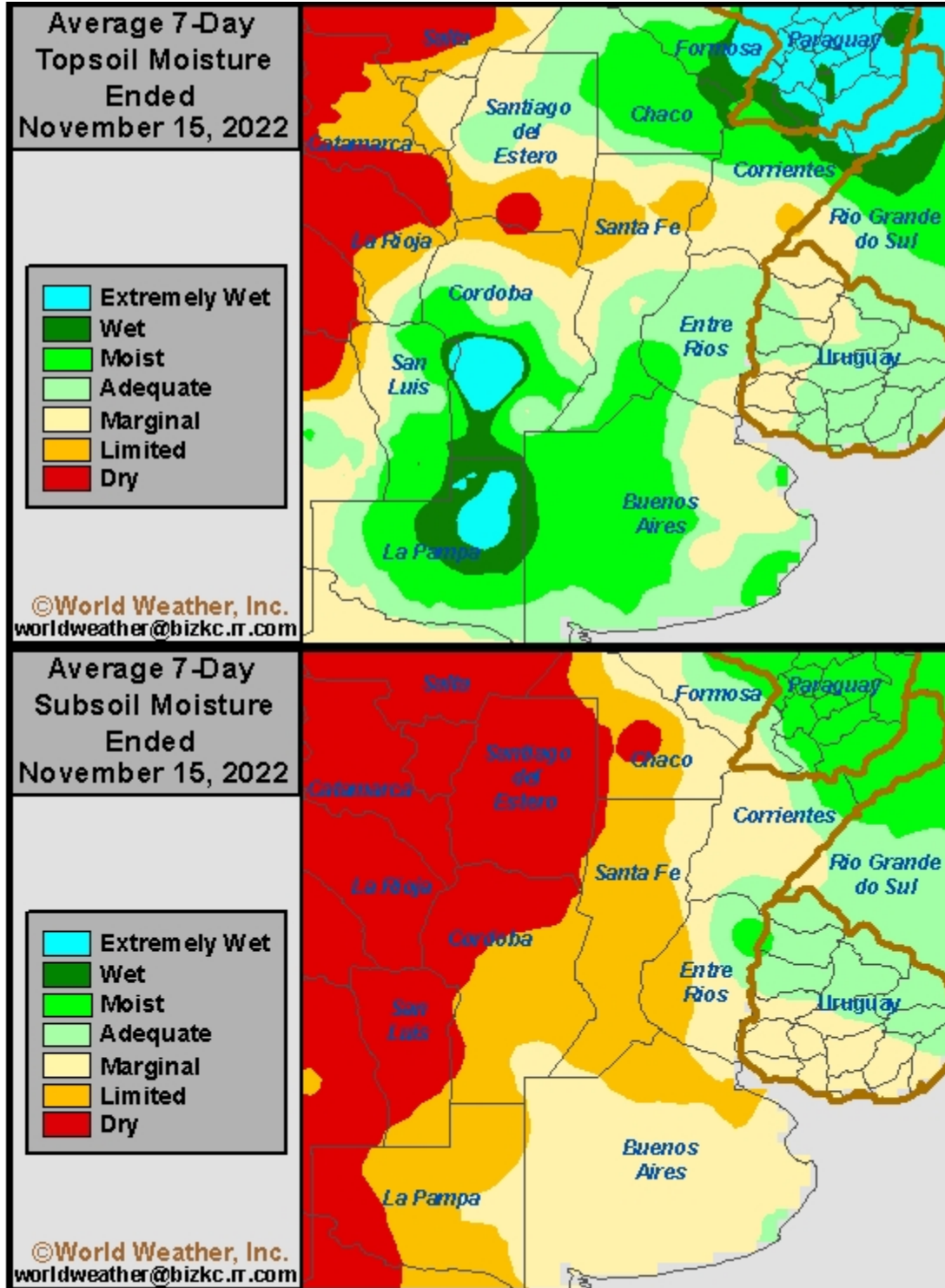
Kansas City, November 15 (World Weather Inc.) – *Much-needed rainfall was noted across some of Argentina’s most important coarse grain and oilseed areas during the past week.* The rain significantly improved topsoil moisture and producers will likely plant a significant amount of crop in coming days to take advantage of the moisture. *Precipitation totals were too light for a lasting impact on soil or crop conditions and much more rain will be needed to end drought.* The main production areas will now see less than usual rainfall for at least the next seven to ten days as a more typical La Nina weather pattern evolves. Totally dry weather is unlikely, but a higher volume of rain must occur to support long term crop needs. Recent rainfall was too late to significantly improve production potentials for most of the winter wheat.

Rainfall varied across the main production areas in Argentina during the past week. La Pampa and Cordoba saw some of the most significant rain with totals ranging from 0.83 to 2.68 inches for the seven-day period ending this morning. One location in west-central Cordoba also reported 5.43 inches of rain. Buenos Aires, Entre Rios, the southern half of Santa Fe, Chaco, Formosa, northern Corrientes, and northern Santiago del Estero reported 0.67 to 2.24 inches of rain with pockets in northeastern Buenos Aires that only received 0.24 to 0.39 inch of moisture. Northern Santa Fe, southern Santiago del Estero, and southern Corrientes otherwise only received up to 0.43 inch of moisture. Temperatures were warm at times with highest readings in the 80s and 90s Fahrenheit. Lowest temperatures were in the 40s and 50s.



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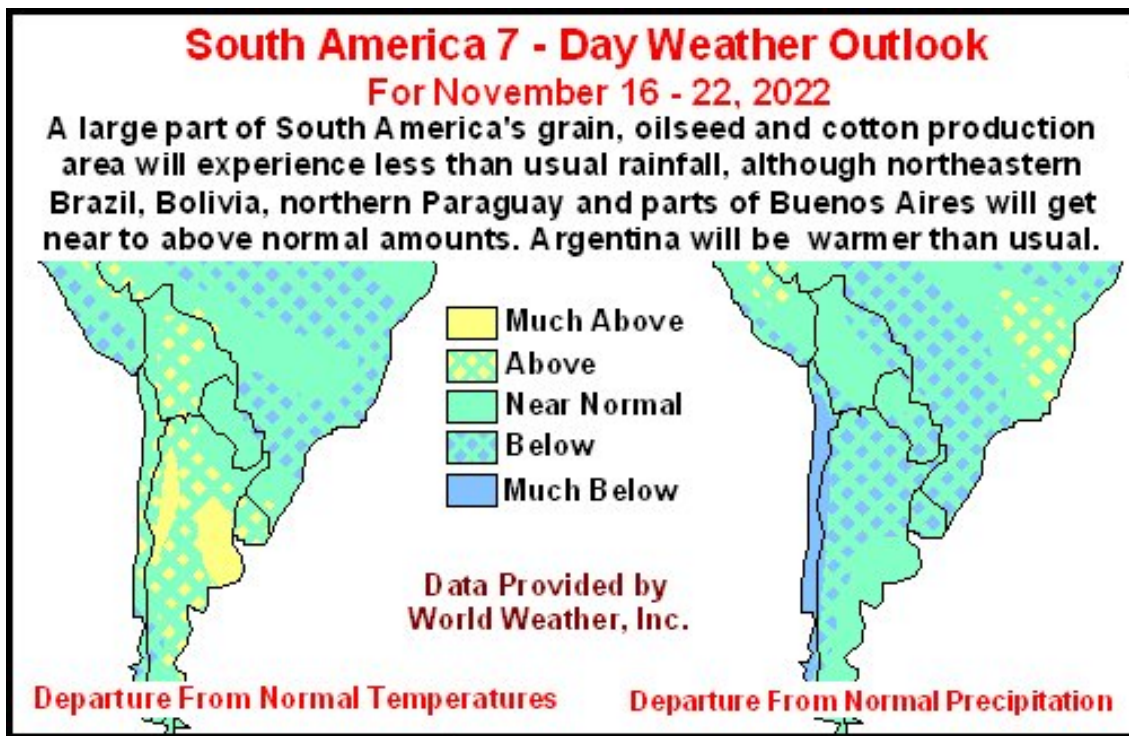
Recent rainfall helped lift topsoil moisture to adequate levels in much of Argentina outside southern Santiago del Estero, northern Santa Fe, southern Corrientes, and immediate neighboring areas. However, subsoil moisture remains short to very short and the improvement will be quite short lived without frequent follow up or at least one general soaking rain event. Neither is expected anytime soon.



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Planting remains behind or well behind normal for much of Argentina this season. The drought limited early planting before recent rainfall helped expedite some fieldwork. Recent assessments suggest approximately 24% of the soybeans were in the ground as of November 14, compared to 80% for this time last year. There is still a need for more rainfall in the coming weeks to support good long-term crop development conditions. While many areas have enough moisture to support establishment and early-season growth, there is not enough moisture for most crops long-term.

Recent rainfall was also too late to significantly improve winter wheat production potentials for most of the nation. This year's crop was hit hard by drought with production expected to trend well below normal. Dryness caused many crops to wither and die or mature early, leading to significant production losses. Harvesting will likely expand in the coming weeks as more crops mature.



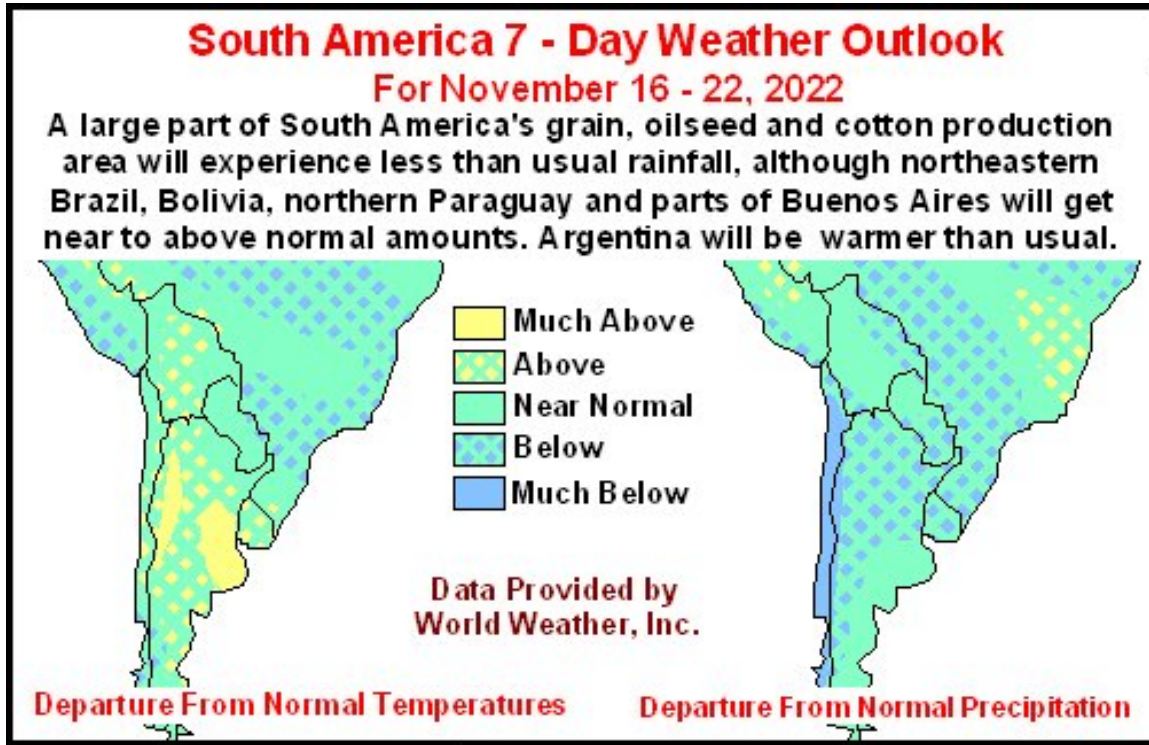
WEATHER OUTLOOK

A weak high-pressure ridge will initially promote dry or mostly dry weather for northern and central Argentina today into the end of the workweek. Scattered showers will otherwise evolve at times in Buenos Aires, La Pampa, and neighboring areas Wednesday into Friday. A strong upper-level disturbance will then bring rain to much of Argentina over the weekend with a few lingering showers Monday. Buenos Aires and La Pampa will generally receive 0.50 to 2.00 inches of rain with locally greater amounts by next Tuesday morning. The remaining production areas will receive 0.10 to 0.75 inch of rain with local amounts of 1.50 inches or more in portions in Cordoba and Santiago del Estero. The main production areas may again see a mix of spotty rainfall and sunshine November 23 – 29.

Temperatures through Saturday will initially be warm for much of Argentina with highs in the 80s and 90s. Pockets in northern and central Argentina may occasionally warm

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above 100 degrees as well. Highs will then drop to the 70s and 80s later this weekend and early next week with portions of northern Argentina still warming to the 90s. Low temperatures will be in the 60s and 70s with portions of southern Argentina cooling to the 50s at times.



Rainfall in La Pampa and Buenos Aires may be enough to keep topsoil moisture rated adequately through early next week. Net drying will likely evolve in the remaining production areas despite some spotty rainfall. Planting will advance with few disruptions during the next few days. However, establishment and early-season development conditions may slowly deteriorate. Net drying will likely continue into late this month if the second week weather outlook remains as dry as it is today. Overall crop development conditions will slowly deteriorate barring a significant change to the forecast. Concern over production potentials will increase as the ground again firms.

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