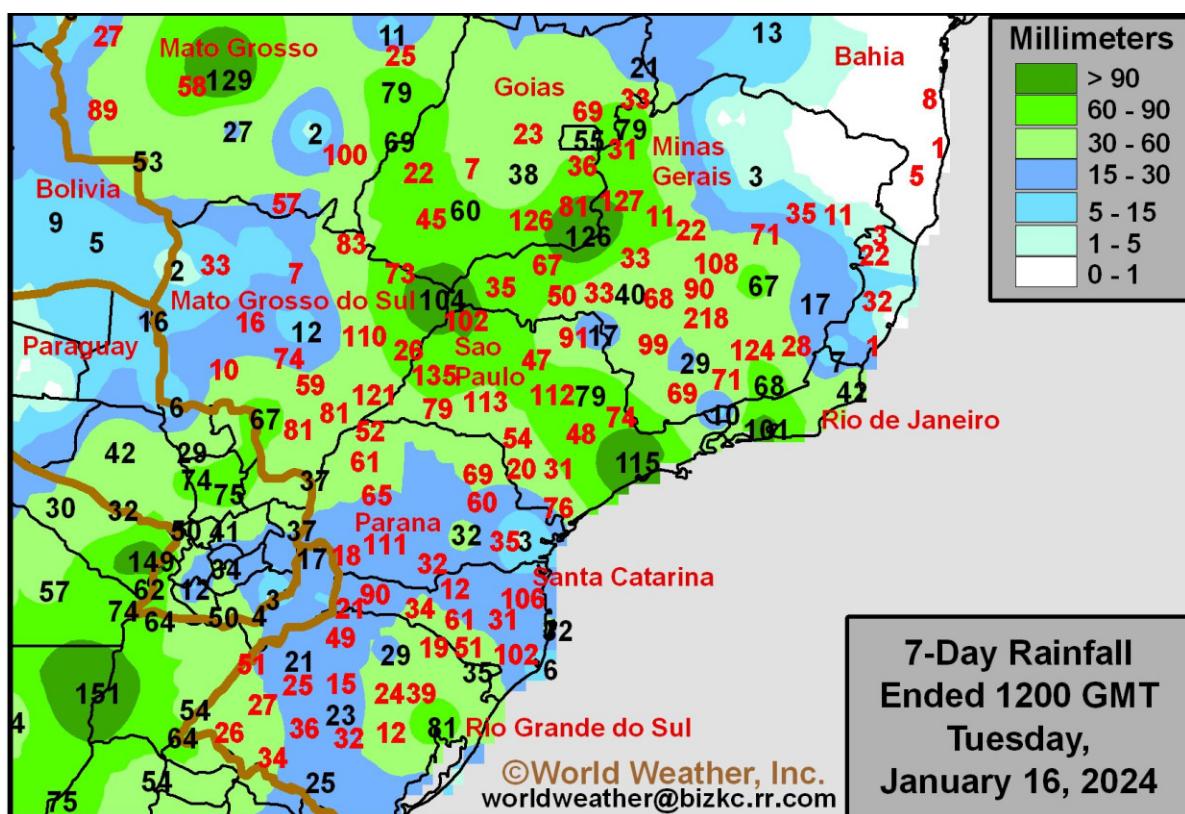


Brazil Crop Areas To See A Good Weather Rest Of January

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, January 16 (World Weather Inc.) – Brazil's soil moisture profile is still rated quite favorably, despite recent drying in southwestern Mato Grosso, portions of Mato Grosso do Sul and Parana. There is potential that these areas will continue to dry out for a few more days, but timely rain will be quick to resume this weekend and last through all of next week. The only other area of dryness is Bahia, northeastern Minas Gerais and northern Espirito Santo and they, too, will get timely rain Sunday through much of next week. That leaves most of the nation's crop development potential to continue good as it has been since mid-December. Some of the good weather has likely added a little yield to a few crops.

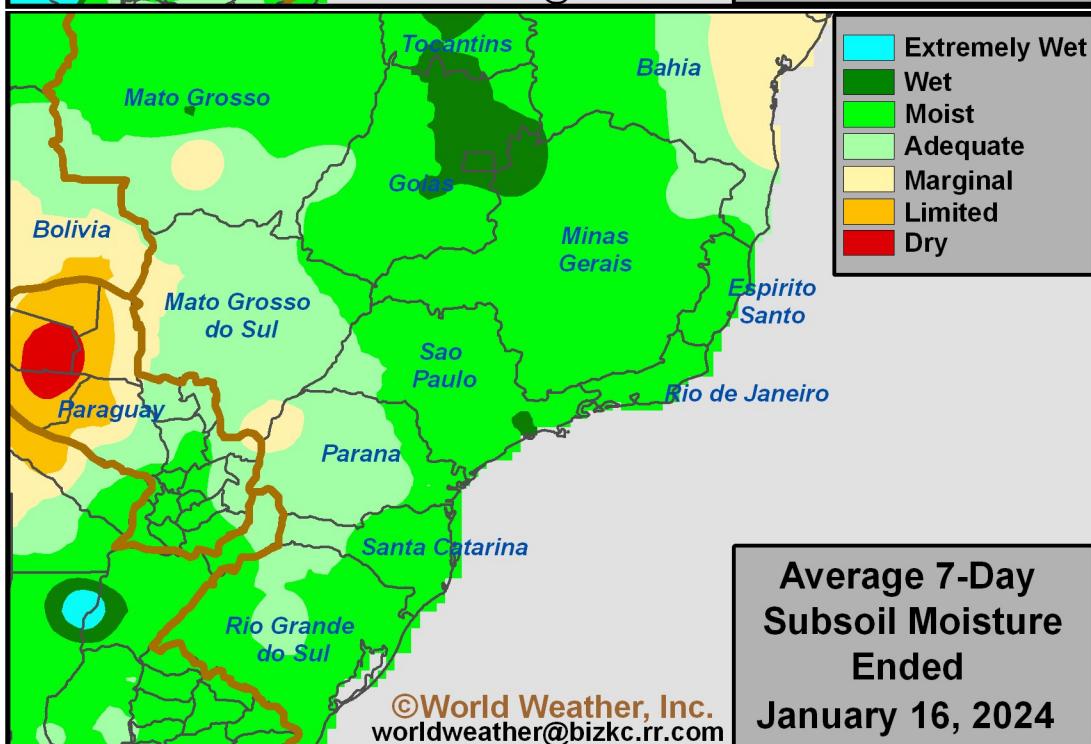
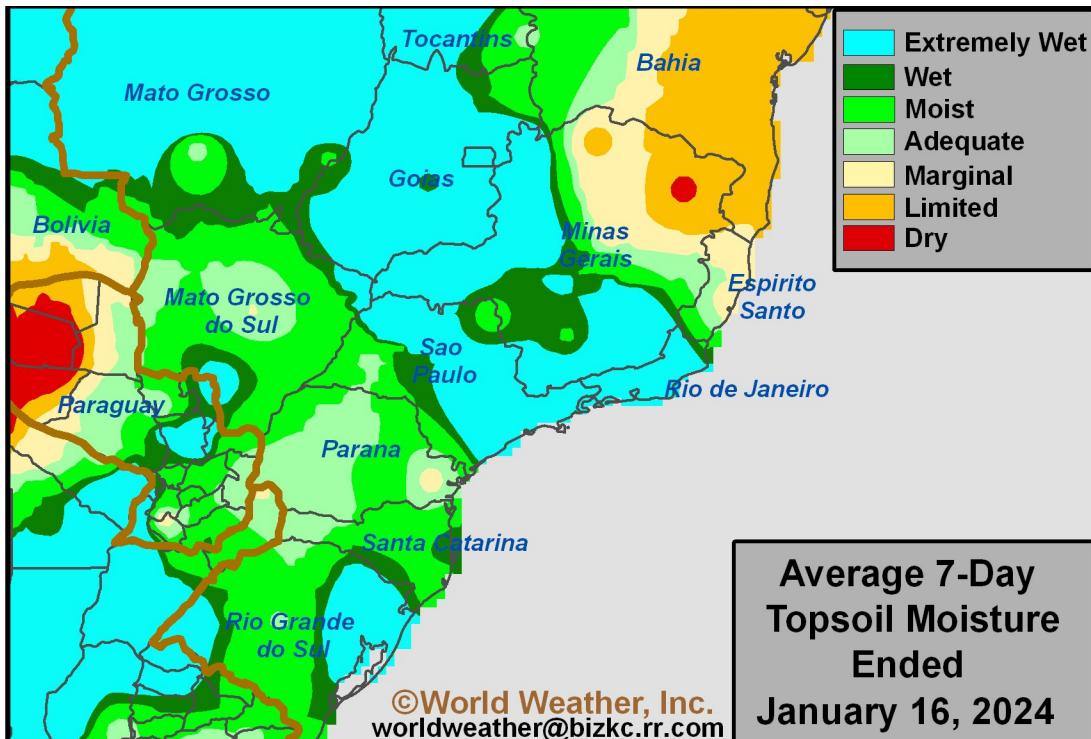
Bahia into northeastern and north-central Minas Gerais were drier biased during the past week. A few locations in Bahia received up to 0.51 inch of rain for the seven-day period ending this morning, though most locations received little to no rain. The remaining production areas in Brazil received rain on a frequent basis during the past week. Moisture totals for the seven-day period ending this morning ranged from 0.95 to 5.08 inches with several pockets in Rio Grande do Sul, Mato Grosso do Sul, Goias, and Minas Gerais only receiving 0.28 to 0.95 inch of moisture.



Temperatures were near to slightly above normal with highest readings in the upper 80s and 90s Fahrenheit. Lowest temperatures were in the 60s and 70s with pockets in southern Brazil cooling to the upper 50s.

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Topsoil moisture was rated short to very short from northern Minas Gerais into much of central and eastern Bahia. Most other areas had adequate to surplus soil moisture. Dryland crops in Bahia and northern Minas Gerais likely experience a little moisture stress during the past week, but very little potential yield change occurred because of timely rain earlier this month and in late December.



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Planting of the soybeans was nearly complete in Brazil. As of January 13, 98.9% of the crop was in the ground. The earliest planted soybeans are already getting ready for harvest with 1.7% of the crop already out of the ground. First-season corn planting was 87.7% complete with some of the early-planted corn already being harvested as well. Rice planting was 94.0% complete while 71.8% of the dry beans were planted. Cotton planting was 36.9% complete with most of that occurring in Bahia. Safrinha corn and cotton planting will begin soon, but only after early season crops are harvested.

Most of the dryness in Bahia has been confined to central and eastern parts of the state and most of the cotton, corn and soybeans are produced in the west. That should further reduce concern over recent drying, although the drier trend will last through Saturday before timely rain resumes.

Recently planted crops in the drier areas will need moisture soon because of their short root systems. Sugarcane and short rooted crops in the region will need rain soon and next week will be soon enough to minimize the impact of dryness. Coffee conditions in the region will remain mostly good, although not ideal.

Soil moisture elsewhere in Brazil is either rated favorably or will become favorable in the coming week to ten days which will support additional summer crop development. Early-planted crops that are maturing and being harvested might benefit from some drier biased conditions. The lighter rain in southwestern Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul and Parana recently was perfect for that purpose.

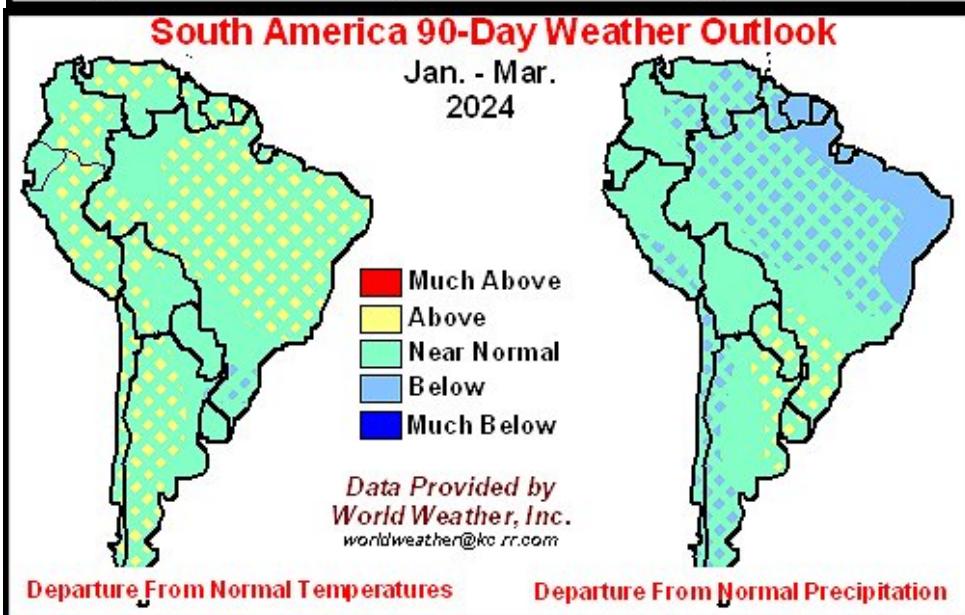
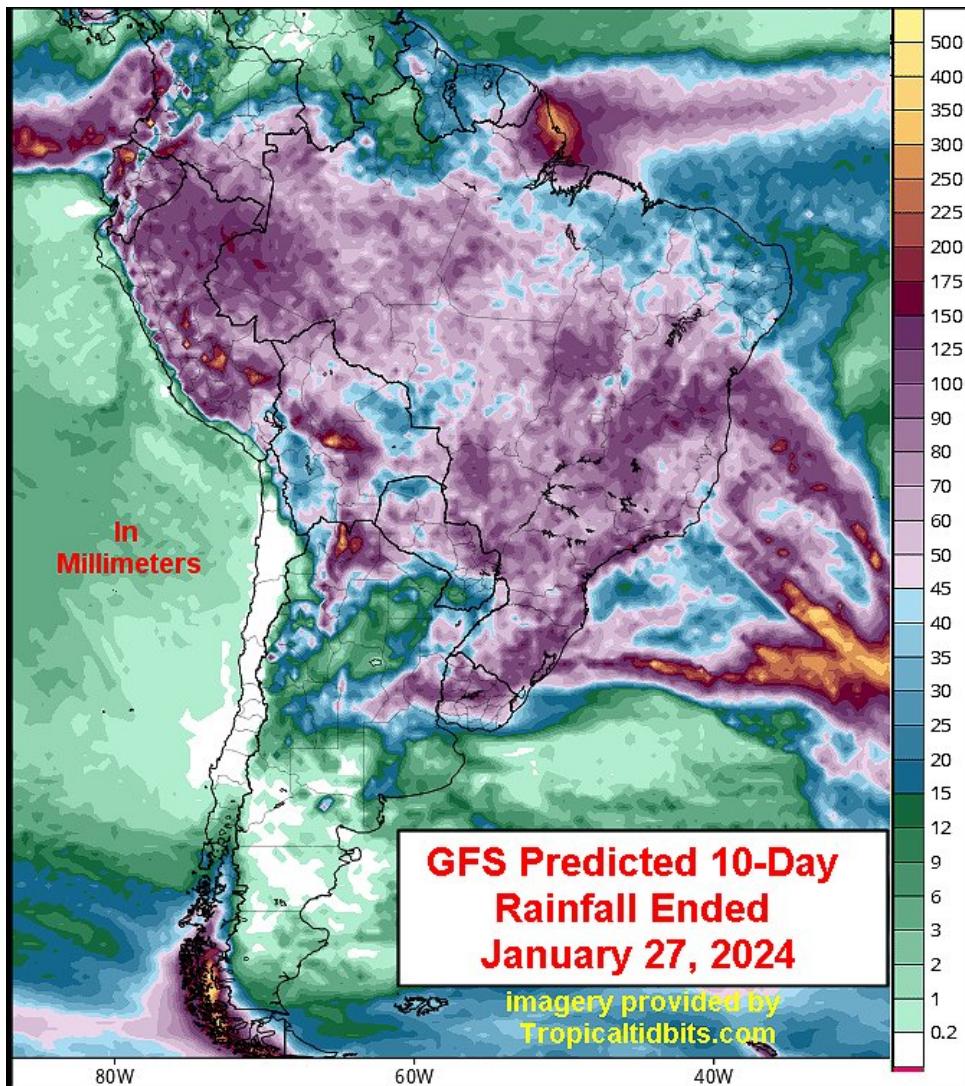
WEATHER OUTLOOK

Brazil's main production areas will see a good mix of rain and sunshine during the coming week to ten days. Scattered showers and thunderstorms will initially evolve on a frequent basis for southern Brazil through Friday. Center-south, center-west, and northeastern Brazil will have a few opportunities for light rain during this time, though much of the region will trend drier than normal. The rain will then shift farther to the north over the weekend and early next week. **Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, and Parana will receive 1.50 to 5.00 inches of rain with local amounts of 7.00 inches or more by next Tuesday morning.** The remaining locations will receive 0.75 to 3.00 inches of rain with local amounts of 4.00 inches or more from Mato Grosso do Sul into southern Minas Gerais. Southern Brazil will likely see drier than normal weather evolve January 24 – 30 while center-south, center-west, and northeastern Brazil again see a good mix of rain and sunshine.

The temperature profile will trend near to slightly above normal across Brazil through next Tuesday. Daytime highs will peak to the 80s and 90s with pockets in the south only warming to the 70s through Friday during periods of more significant rain. Pockets in center-west Brazil will also warm slightly above 100 degrees through Friday. Nighttime lows will be in the 60s and 70s.

With more soybeans coming out of the ground in the coming weeks, planting of Safrinha corn and cotton will likely get underway. Early-season planting potentials are favorable due to the waves of rain and already ample soil moisture. However, the need for timely rain will be high heading into February when a significant amount of the crop is planted.

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