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The Canadian Agriculture Weather Prognosticator

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World Weather

- Brazil center south crop areas are too dry and hot for early soybean planting
- Southern Brazil crop and fieldwork is favorably rated
- Argentina needs rain for wheat and barley and for the planting of summer crops
- Australia crops may not produce as well as expected due to drier weather and frost and freezes
- India's monsoon weather was relatively good this year to support favorable production
- Southeastern U.S. crop damage is extensive due to storms Francine and Helene
- U.S. Plains, western Midwest and far western states have dried out and two more weeks of the same is likely
- Europe bracing for big wind and rain events

Harvest Should Finish Out Well

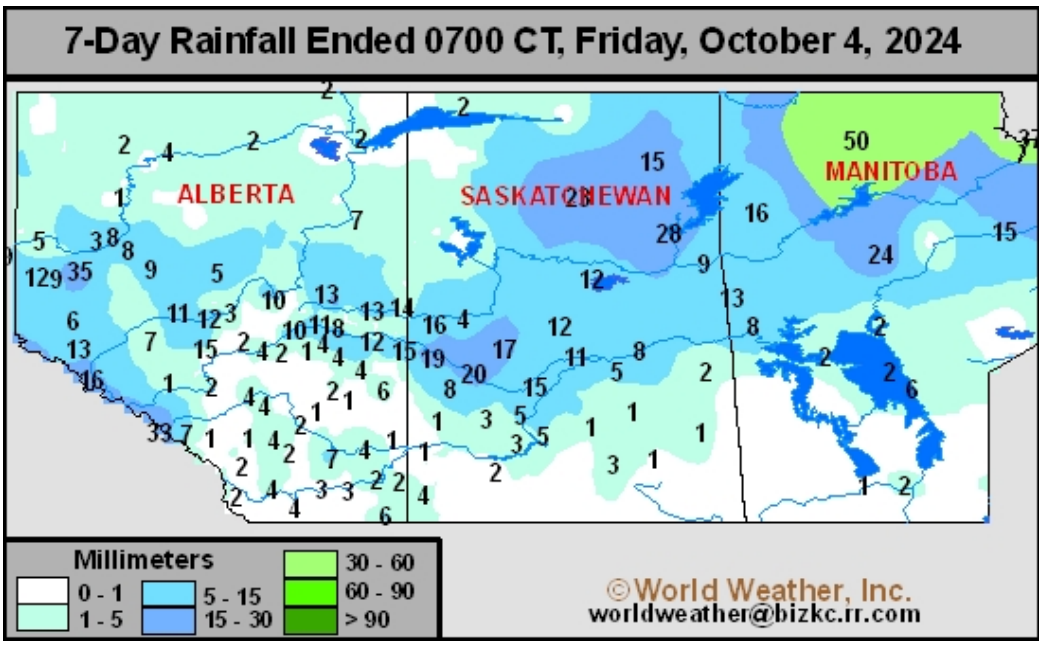
Mid-September rainfall was abundant and significant across eastern and southern Alberta and western and north-central Saskatchewan. There was also an abundance of moisture at that time in southeastern Manitoba. Since that time the precipitation anomalies have progressively become drier and that has supported a great advancement in fieldwork.

Harvesting is nearly complete in Saskatchewan and as of September 30 it was 73% done in Manitoba. Alberta's progress for major crops was claimed to be 85% done on October 1. There are still some pockets that are wet, but recent weather has improved some of the moisture surpluses helping to get fieldwork under way more aggressively.

Rainfall over this most recent week was limited and temperatures were quite warm at times. That provided a very good environment for aggressive field progress and some of the previously wettest areas had opportunity to dry down for a while.

Weather in this coming week to ten days is likely to be favorable for fieldwork as well, although there will be a few areas of delay. The greatest area of field-working delays will be in north-central through northeast and east-central Saskatchewan and northern and central Manitoba over the next few days. That is because of an aggressive low pressure center that will move from Alberta into Manitoba this weekend and its greatest rainfall is expected in those areas.

The weekend rain event will be mixed with some wet snow, but no accumulation of significance is likely. The moisture will set back field operations for a little while, but moisture totals of 5-20 millimeters should not be great enough for a prolonged disruption as long



Another Two Rain Events Coming To The Prairies

as there is no frequent follow-up rain.

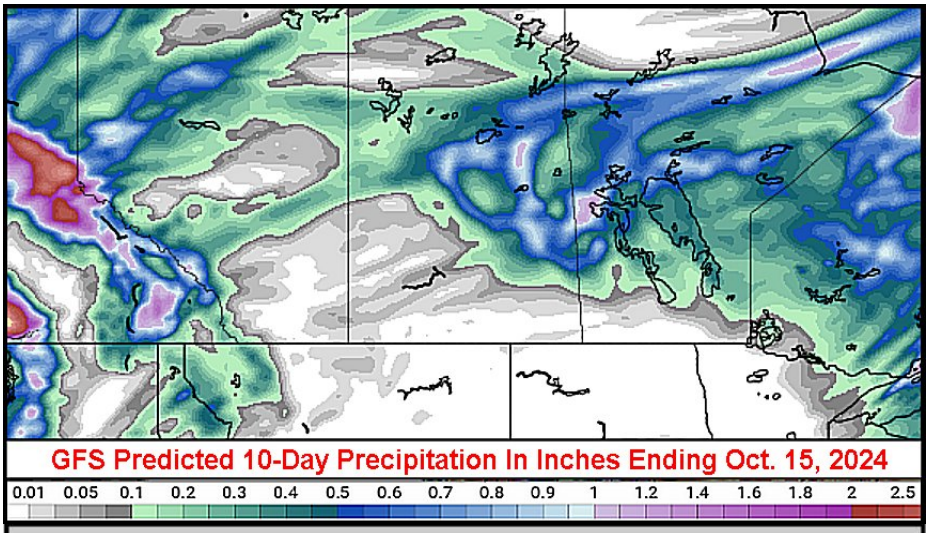
The only other area of significant moisture in the coming ten days will be from the Slave Lake region into Swan Hills and the Grande Prairie to Grande Cache area where 5-20 millimeters is also expected with most of that occurring during mid– to late-week next week. Most other areas in the Prairies should be dry or mostly dry through Oct. 18

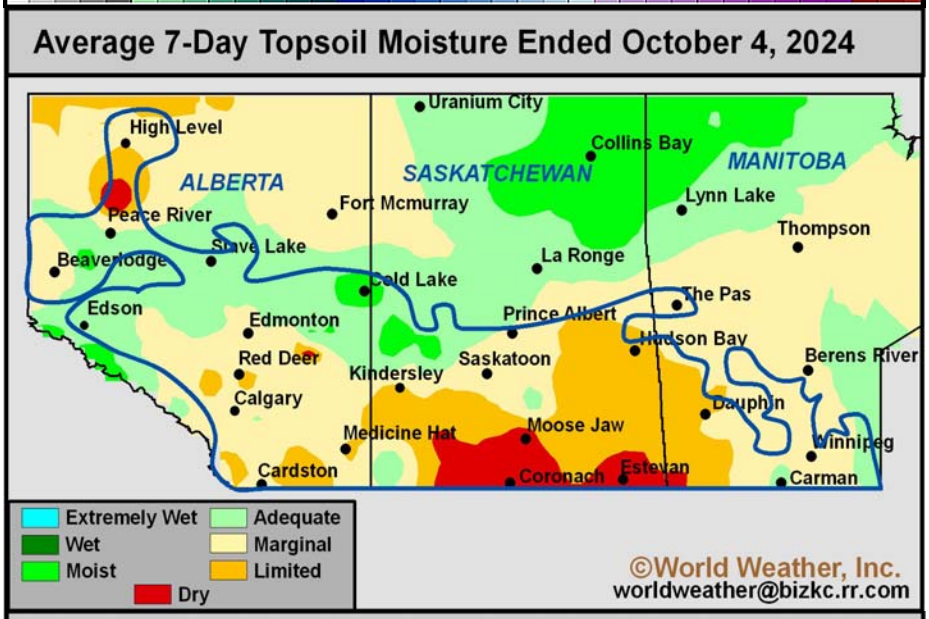
Temperatures during the same 2-week period will be above to well above normal and that will provide a great opportunity for aggressive farming activity with faster than usual drying rates between rain systems.

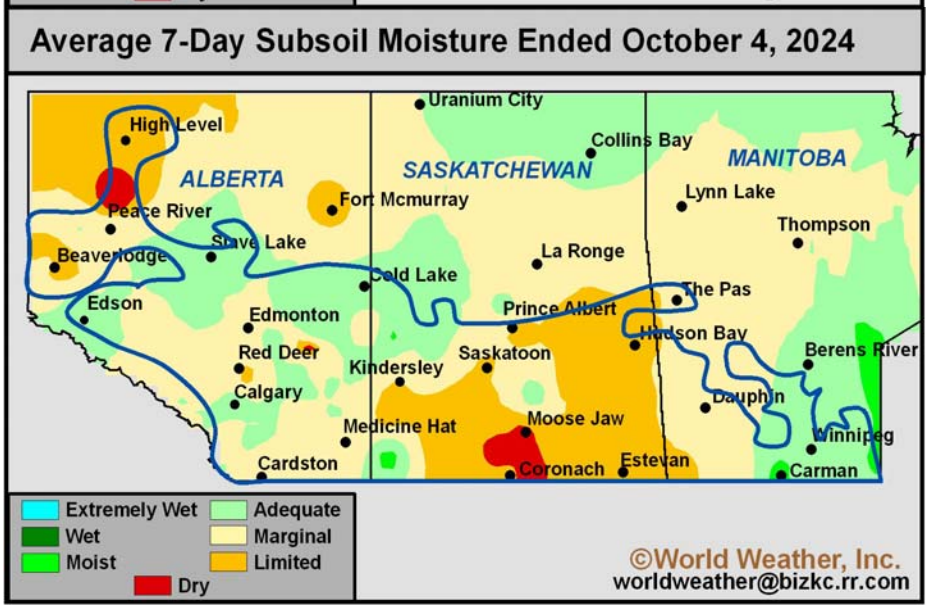
The second half of October is expected to trend a little wetter, but not enough to cause serious field working delays. There will be some cooling during the latter part of the month after the mid-month is quite warm. The cool off will be accompanied by light precipitation, but early indications do not suggest enough cold weather for significant snowfall or a major rain event. The jet stream is unlikely to be far enough to the south yet to bring moisture from the U.S. Pacific Northwest into the Prairies. Those kinds of storm systems should be rare this season, but if there is going to be such a storm it is unlikely that it would evolve prior to November.

Overall, the environment looks quite favorable for the finish of this year's harvest to be successful. There should not be very many areas on hold waiting for the ground to dry out, but if there are places like that they will be in western Alberta and possibly a few fields in northern Manitoba.

The lack of precipitation in October is going to leave a few winter crops with short root systems and a need for timely rain in the spring. Winter precipitation should improve across the Prairies, but a fix for low soil moisture is not very likely. That will obviously leave some concern over spring planting weather.







November May Bring Better Moisture; Not This Month

North America is following a pattern seen last about 72 years ago and confidence in how long this may last is not very high. However, with that said, the pattern seen in recent weeks and that which is predicted for the balance of October looks like something from 1952. Research is ongoing, but confidence in October staying drier and warmer biased is quite high not only for the United States, but the Prairies of Canada as well.

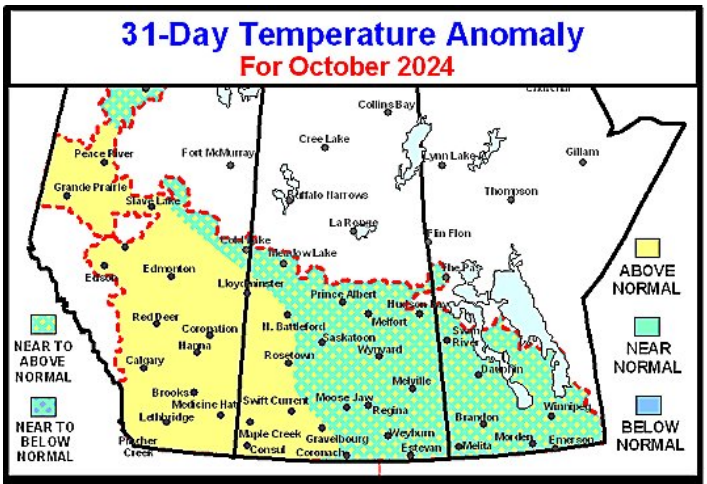
1952 brought unusual dryness to North America in September and it lasted through October. A warmer than usual October will prevail as most of the Northern Hemisphere shows only a few pockets of meager cool air. The atmosphere will need time to cool off, but North America will be stuck in its warm weather mode for the balance of this month and the precipitation events will continue limited.

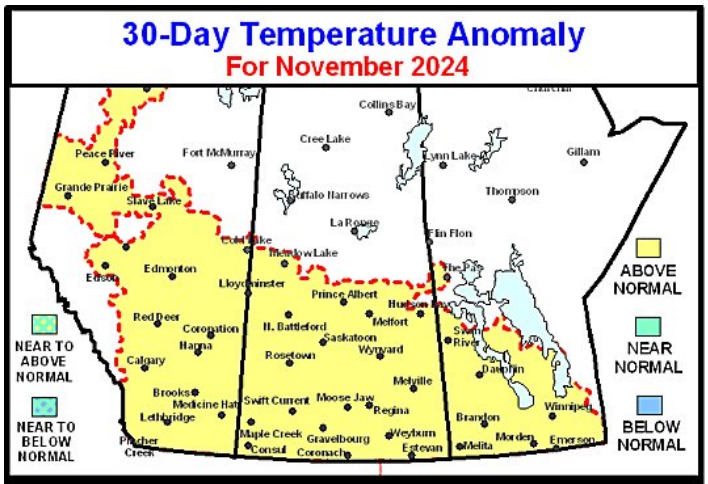
A ridge of high pressure will be present during much of October and in November that will prevent much cooling from impacting Canada's Prairies. A few short term bouts of cooling are expected and they will likely favor eastern parts of the region more than the west which is why the most anomalous warmth is advertised in the western Prairies.

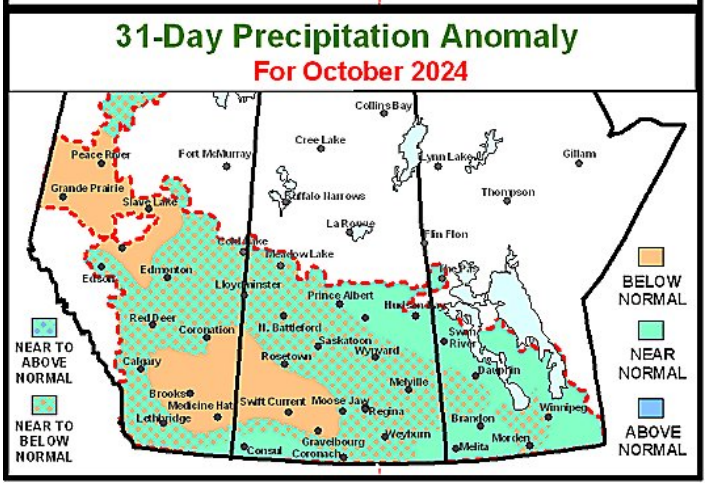
November's temperatures will also be warmer than usual and the departure from normal may be relatively substantial. This may delay the onset of significant snow cover and could keep frost out of the ground for a longer than usual period of time. Unfortunately it will also prevent much moisture from falling and dryness deep into the ground is not likely to get relieved during the autumn season.

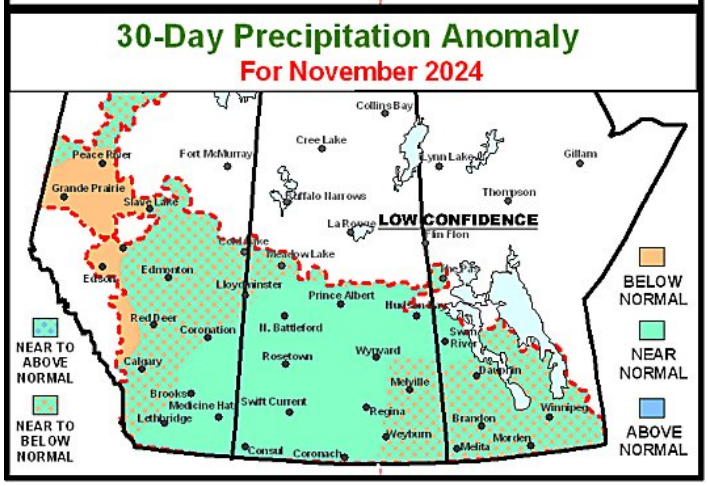
November's precipitation bias should improve during mid– to late month. A couple of storm systems should move into the Prairies from the southwest originating from the U.S. northern Rocky Mountain states and northwestern Plains. That could bring a couple of opportunities for needed moisture to fall in central parts of the Prairies. By that time any and all precipitation would be welcome.

Looking further ahead into December, the anticipated weather pattern will continue to derive a normal to below normal precipitation bias. Storminess should be increased along the U.S. Pacific Coast with a couple of those storms possibly moving to the Prairies, though in a weakened condition. Most likely the California and Oregon storms will fall apart in the Great Basin and Rocky Mountains region limiting the amount of moisture that falls in the Prairies.

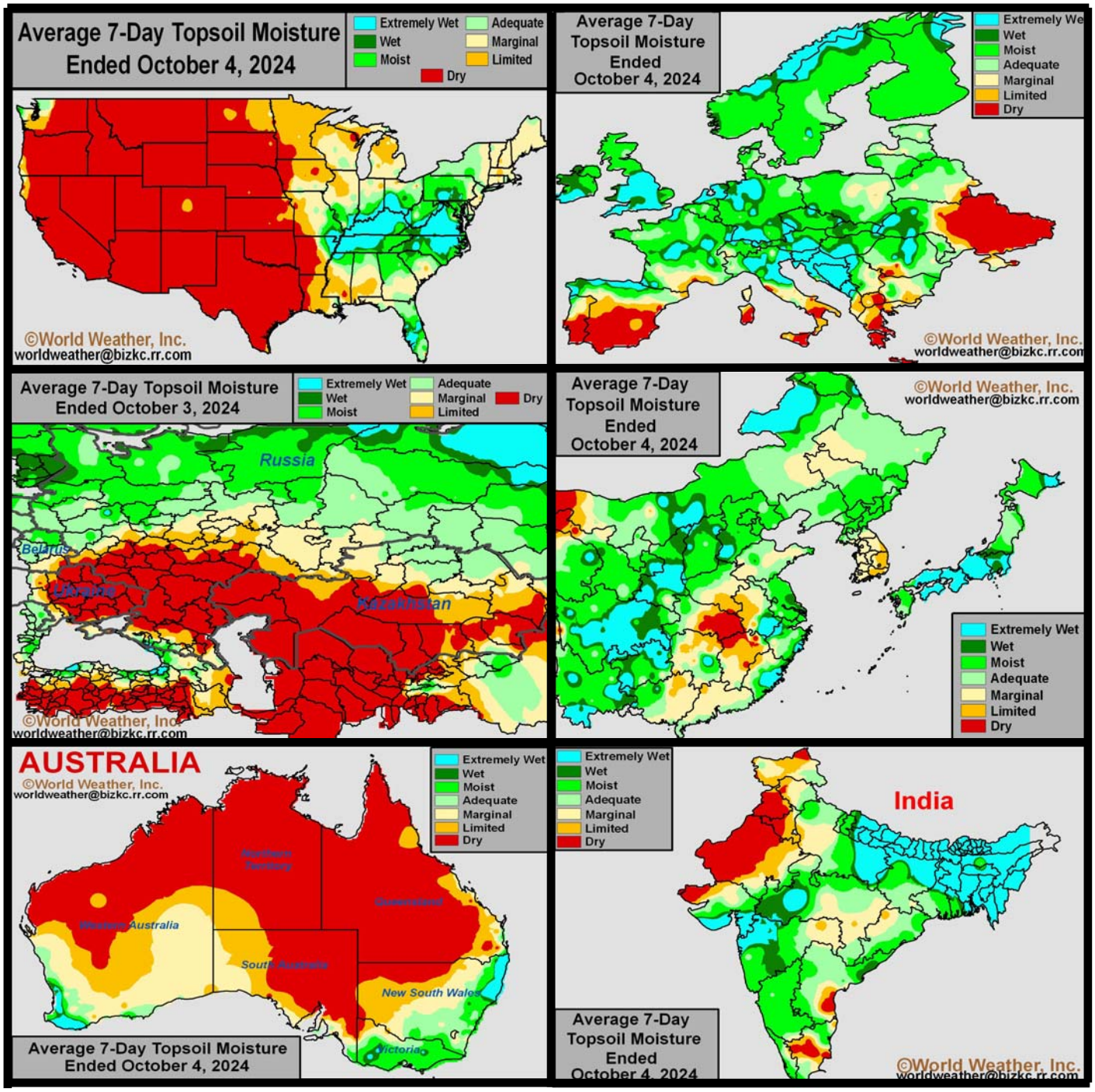






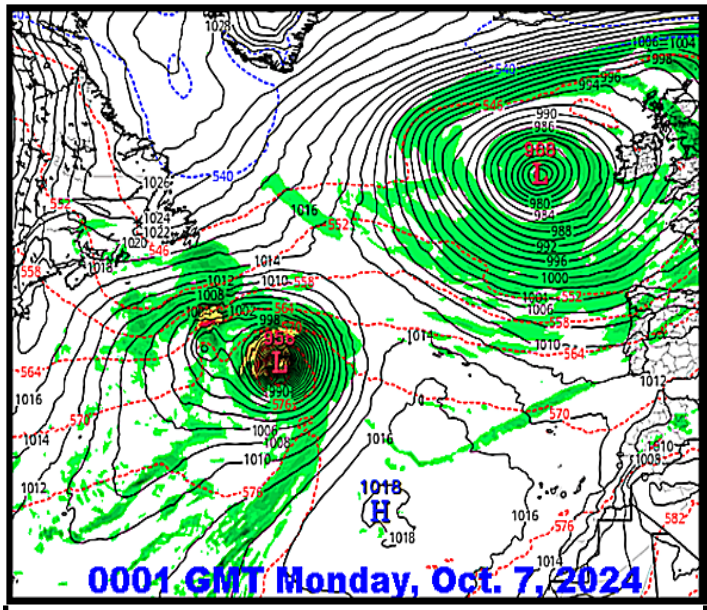


Selected Weather Images From Around The World

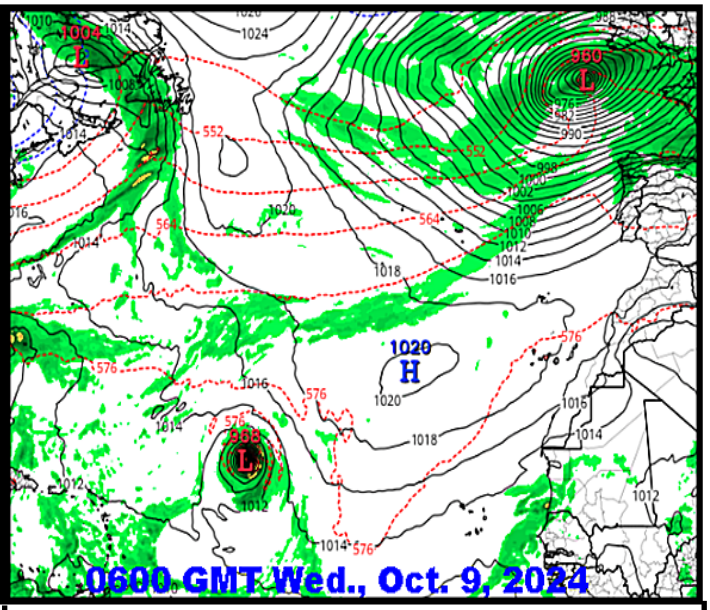


Hurricanes Francine and Helene brought torrential rain, flooding and some damaging wind to the southeastern United States over the past couple of weeks leaving the remainder of the U.S. in a notable drying trend with well below normal rainfall and warm temperatures. Dryness is also prevailing in southern Russia and Ukraine; including some very important winter crop areas that need moisture soon to get crops adequately established before winter dormancy. China's Yangtze River Basin is also quite dry and it produces rapeseed and wheat with much of that planting coming in November leaving time for improved weather. The remainder of China will see good wheat planting and summer crop harvest weather. India's monsoon has performed mostly very well this year and the harvest season is expected to be favorable . Australia has trended drier in Western and South Australia while Queensland remains dry. Frost and freezes along with some of the dryness may have cut into wheat, barley and canola production slightly.

Europe Braces For Hurricane Remnants To Induce Damage



Remnants of Hurricane Isaac Merged With A Mid-Latitude Storm To Create A large Wind And Rain Storm That Will Threaten Europe Early Next Week



Hurricane Kirk Will Arrive in Northwestern Europe During Mid-Week Next Week To Bring More Excessive Wind And Rain

Remnant energy from Hurricanes Isaac and Kirk will be impacting northwestern Europe next week resulting in periods of strong wind, flooding rain and very rough seas. Damage to personal property and infrastructure is expected. That will include the potential for many fallen trees and power outages with some potential for road and port closures.

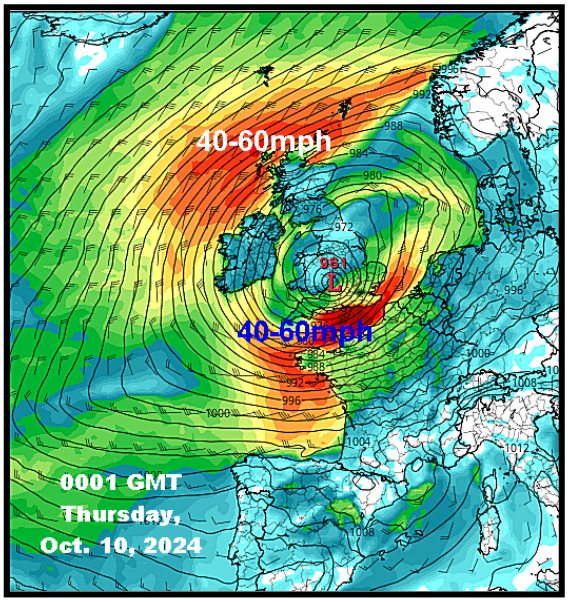
Hurricane Isaac moved into the northeastern Atlantic Ocean earlier this week and lost all of its tropical characteristics just before merging with another mid-latitude storm system. The combined energy from the two systems will result in a big threat of at least two and possible three days of windy and wet weather in the North Sea countries of northwestern Europe. Wind speeds could vary from 30 to 50 mph with much higher gusts out over open water. The system will also produce some wind-driven rainfall that might not amount to more than 1.00 to 2.00 inches, but the combined impact of rain and wind will have some impact on the region.

Hurricane Kirk is a powerful storm over open water in the central Atlantic Ocean today. It was far from any landmass, but by mid-week next week it will have turned toward Europe and should arrive in the North Sea region Wednesday. It will then move toward Scandinavia. Similar to the first storm system that impacts Europe early next week this one will also produce 40-60 mph sustained wind speeds and some bouts of heavy rain.

World Weather, Inc. anticipates enough wind from both storm systems to cause widespread power outages. Trees and tree limbs are expected to fall over many areas from northwestern France into the U.K, and parts of Scandinavia. Concern for these areas will be high next week and all interested parties should closely monitor the progress of both weather events.

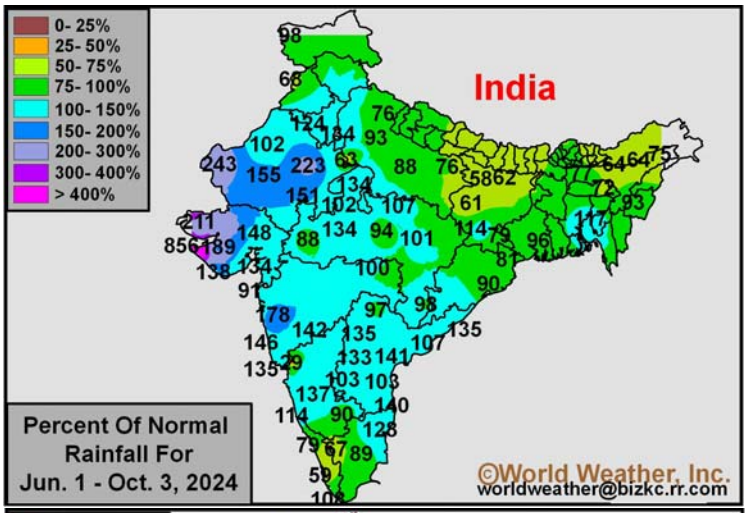
Extremely high ocean waves and strong wind speeds over the northeastern Atlantic Ocean are sure to delay or stall shipping to and from northwestern Europe during the week and many ports are likely to close. Land and air transportation may also be disrupted by the stormy conditions.

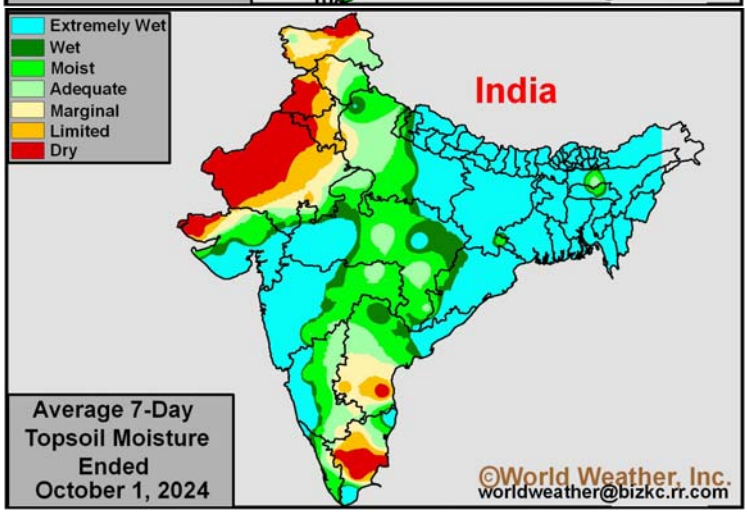
Harvest weather is already poor in parts of western Europe from recent rain and these two large storm systems will not help the situation at all. Drier and calmer weather should evolve in the following weekend, but until then the weather may be rough across western parts of the continent.



India Monsoon Ends Well; Good Production Year

Technically, India's monsoon season runs from June through September, but the monsoon flow usually lasts into October and brings significant rain to southern parts of the nation prior to the pattern withdrawing. This year's monsoon brought wild weather to the nation once again with many human deaths, landslides and extremely heavy rain at times that induced flooding that impacted some crop areas. However, looking back at the year and the overall condition of crops it would appear that most have performed well. Harvesting is beginning and seasonal rains are shifting southward to support that process. Southern India will be wettest for a while eventually supporting the planting of winter crops.





India's monsoon left behind above normal rainfall in much of the central and west with the greatest rainfall anomaly occurring in Gujarat and western Rajasthan where rainfall was well above normal. Flooding may have caused a little damage in the northwest. The combination of excessive heat and dryness early in year and flooding during mid-summer there was a little loss in crop production, but the impact on the nation was relatively low. Most USDA estimates for production of rice, corn, sorghum and soybeans have been near or slightly above last year's production. Cotton is a little lower.

The only part of India that consistently reported lighter than usual rainfall was in Jharkhand, Bihar, a few Far Eastern India locations, Kerala and a few immediate neighboring areas. Despite the lighter than usual rainfall, most areas in the nation rarely dealt with dryness and the summer rains were mostly well-timed. Much of the excessive rain and flood events were separated enough by improved weather to limit production losses, but India 's monsoon always leaves behind some damage.

Monsoonal rain has withdrawn from northern parts of the nation and drying in Rajasthan, northwestern Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana and Pakistan at this time of year is normal. Dryness that lingers in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and a few neighboring areas is a little unusual, but relief is coming. Rain will soon fall throughout southern India and that will be timely for the planting of winter crops. In the meantime, drying in the north half of the nation will support summer crop maturation and harvesting as well as the start of some winter crop planting.

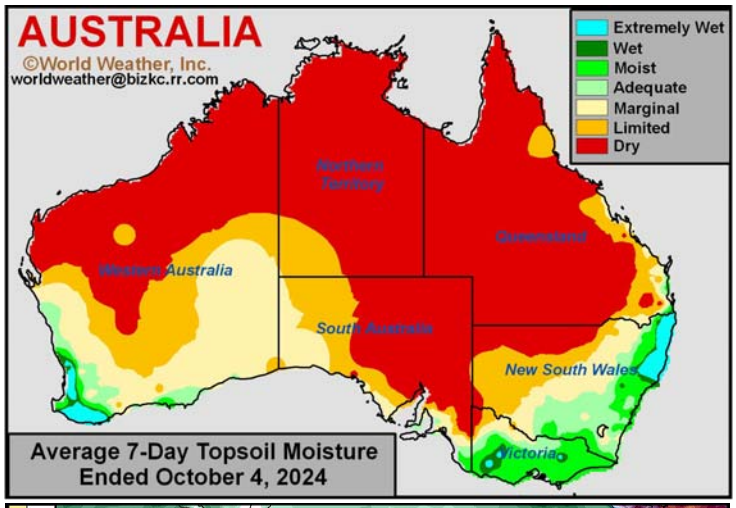
World Weather, Inc. is expecting sugar production from India to be good this year, although early year heat in the Ganges River Basin should have impacted some of the crop possibly leading to a little tonnage reduction. However, much of the heat and dryness occurred prior to the start of the rainy season and weather during the monsoon should have been much more supportive of cane development improving the prospects for 2024 production. Maharashtra has had a good year of weather while areas farther to the south seeing a few periods of lengthy dryness that may have induced a little stress and could have restricted tonnage.

Improving rainfall in southern India during the next two weeks will help induce a better environment for those areas that have been a little drier than usual recently. The late season insurgence of rain will not only maintain good crop development potential from Maharashtra to Bangladesh and southward, but it will improve winter rice, groundnut, corn, and sorghum planting and development conditions while improving late summer cotton, sugarcane groundnut and other crop growth and production potentials.

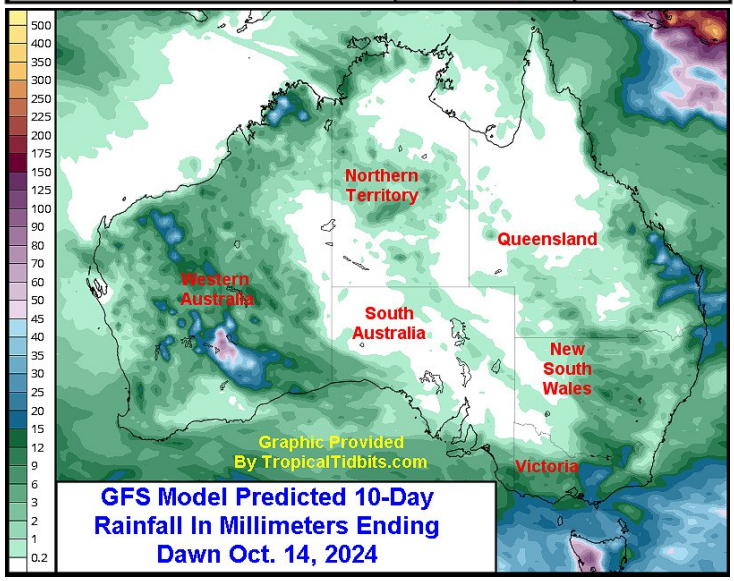
Northern India rainfall will be more restrictive over the next ten days which is normal and should translate into a very good environment for the maturation and harvest of summer crops.

Australia Dryness Impacted Winter Grain, Oilseed Yield

Timely rain was noted in portions of Australia's main winter wheat, barley, and canola areas during the past week. These areas have trended a little dry at times over the growing season and development conditions have been a little less than ideal. Recent dryness combined with frost in September in southeastern Australia led to a reduction in production potentials this season, although it is unclear how much impact that has had. Drier-than-normal weather will return during the coming week, leaving the soil too dry to support ideal growth in several locations.



Victoria and portions of Western Australia and southern and eastern New South Wales have adequate to excessive soil moisture due to periodic rain in recent weeks. South Australia has adequate or marginally adequate amounts of moisture. Queensland and the remaining locations in New South Wales have short or critically short soil moisture.



Australia's main winter wheat, barley, and canola production areas generally received near to below normal rain during the past three months. Victoria, South Australia, central Queensland, and portions of central and southern New South Wales only received 50% to 80% of normal rainfall for the 90-day period ending September 30 with pockets that only received 25% to 50% of normal rainfall. Western Australia and the remaining production areas in New South Wales and Queensland saw precipitation trend closer to normal with pockets that were slightly wetter than normal.

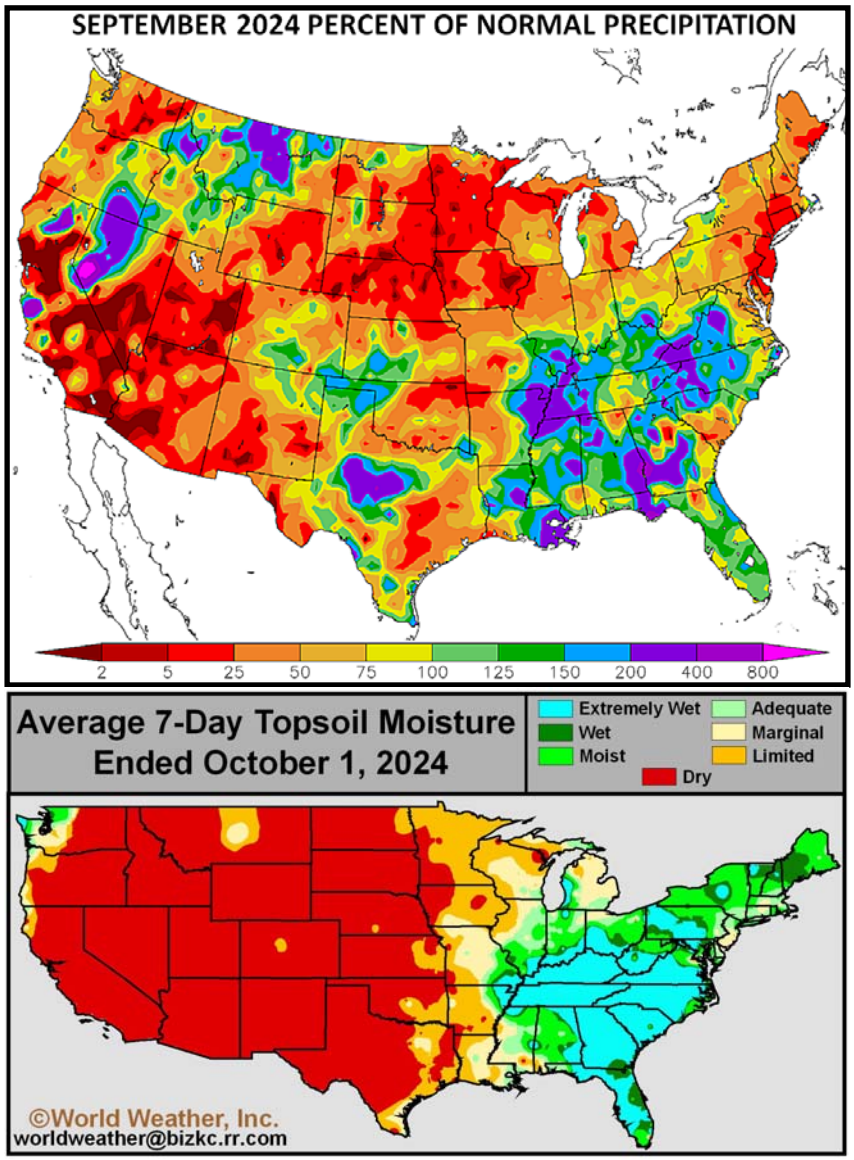
Production potentials for winter wheat, barley, and canola gradually decreased in recent weeks across Australia. Yield cuts occurred in unirrigated fields of Queensland because of hot and dry conditions during reproduction in the first half of September. South Australia has been drier than usual most of the spring season, although reproduction has not yet begun and crops could recover. New South Wales and Victoria have had the best start to spring with timely rainfall and good soil moisture, but frost and freezes developed in late September that may have hurt yield potential for some of the more advanced crops in New South Wales.

Western Australia was doing relatively well with its soil moisture, despite less than usual rainfall – at least until recently when temperatures have periodically turned hotter. Soil moisture is quite limited in eastern parts of Western Australia's wheat, barley and canola production areas while the west remains sufficiently moist to support normal development. Overall production for the nation may trend a little lower than usual, especially if dryness persists through the end of October. There is still hope for some timely rain later this month that might improve some of the potential yield in the driest areas.

Queensland and far northern New South Wales' summer grain, oilseed, and cotton areas are also too dry to support ideal planting and establishment conditions, but it is still early enough in the planting season that conditions would improve if significant rain were to develop in the next few weeks. Producers have likely started planting in areas that received timely rain in New South Wales and Victoria.

U.S. Plains Wheat, Livestock Face A Very Dry Month

Beneficial rain fell across a part of the central U.S. Plains during mid-September bolstering soil moisture for improved early season wheat planting and establishment conditions. Grazing grass conditions also improved; however, temperatures were quite warm in late September and precipitation diminished leading to rapid drying. Today's moisture profile is quite poor and there is no potential for significant rain through the next two weeks. Rainfall in the second half of the month will likely be below normal as well unless tropical moisture flows into the region.



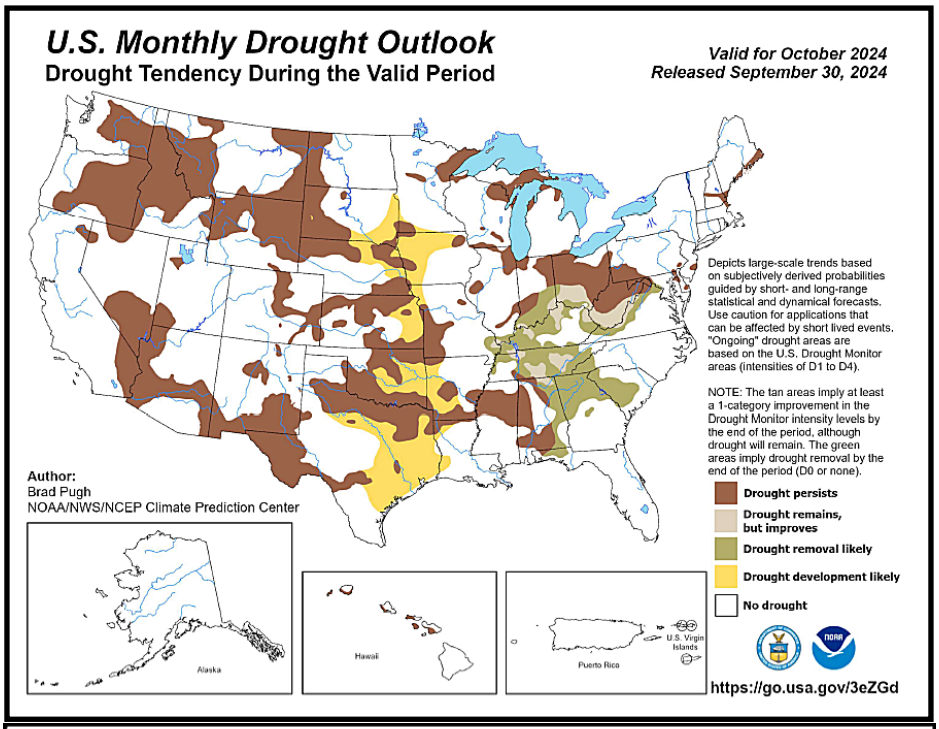
Much of the dryness that occurred in central North America was directly related to the active tropical weather in the Delta and southeastern United States. Hurricanes Francine and Helene were responsible for trapping Gulf of Mexico moisture in the Delta and southeastern states. The storms allowed high pressure to build up to the west and north of the storms which also limited the potential for moisture flux to the north.

The problem is expected to worsen during the coming ten days and possibly for two weeks because of another tropical disturbance or two that will drift into the Gulf of Mexico this weekend and early next week. The two disturbances expected may eventually merge into a single low pressure center that may or may not become a tropical cyclone. However, placing a moderately large low pressure system into the central Gulf of Mexico (as expected next week) will further prevent northward moving moisture from the Gulf of Mexico from reaching the U.S. Plains, Delta or Midwest. The area of disturbed weather in the Gulf of Mexico is expected to last for at least ten days and possibly for two weeks. That will leave soil moisture at critically low levels across many areas in the Great Plains and will allow declining soil moisture in the western Midwest. The Delta and eastern Midwest will dry down, too, though soil moisture in those areas is still rated favorable to excessive following recent rain.

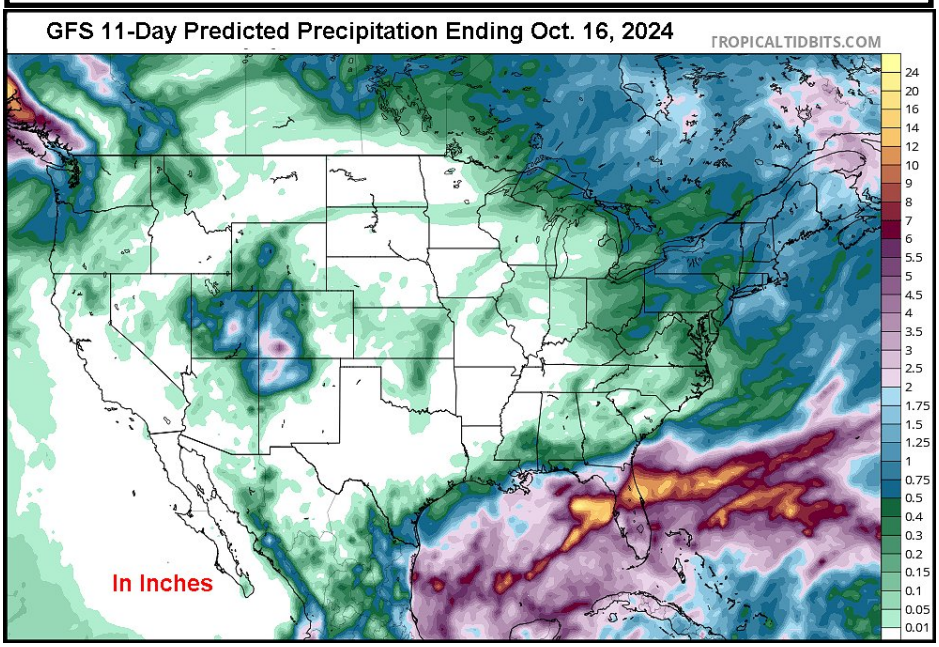
The moisture profile in the Plains looks terrible. Much of the abundant rain reported in the central Plains during mid-September has been evaporated out of the region by well above normal temperatures. The combination of heat and dryness are expected to continue for another two weeks taking us to mid-October. The environment will be drier at that time than it is today and that will begin to raise concern for livestock grazing and wheat planting, emergence and establishment. Significant rain will have to fall soon to ensure the best possible environment for livestock grazing going into winter and for winter crops in unirrigated fields to establish well. Harvesting of summer crops, in the meantime, will continue to advance quite favorably.

U.S. Plains Face A Very Dry Month (from page 8)

Confidence is high that precipitation in the next two weeks will be unusually light across a big part of the nation. This in combination with temperatures that will be above to well above normal in the central and western portions of the United States will allow drought to expand. The U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has suggested some expansion of drought is expected in the central U.S., but World Weather, Inc. believes drought may expand a little more significantly than what is shown below.



World Weather, Inc. believes precipitation in late October will improve in the Pacific Northwest and in a part of the eastern Midwest. The only way precipitation will increase in the southern Plains will come from a tropical moisture feed that might pass into the region from western Mexico. There is potential for late season tropical cyclones to reach into northern and central Mexico with some of that moisture to stream into the central or southwestern Plains. Some analog years suggest this is possible in late October or early November, but confidence is very low and it is not advisable to place big bets on dryness relief based on this tropical potential alone. Without the tropical moisture insurgence, World Weather, Inc. expects precipitation in the western Midwest, Great Plains and southwestern United States to continue below or well below normal while temperatures stay warmer biased. Eastern portions of the U.S. may see some cooling and a little late month precipitation.



November is not likely to be nearly as dry as this month, although moisture deficits may be significant at the beginning of the month and some producers and market traders may be concerned about the poor establishment of winter crops in the region. Temperatures should be far enough above normal in late October and November to give crops a chance to benefit from any boost in soil moisture that takes place. That should help crops establish at least relatively well, but a close watch on that process will be warranted until winter dormancy sets in.