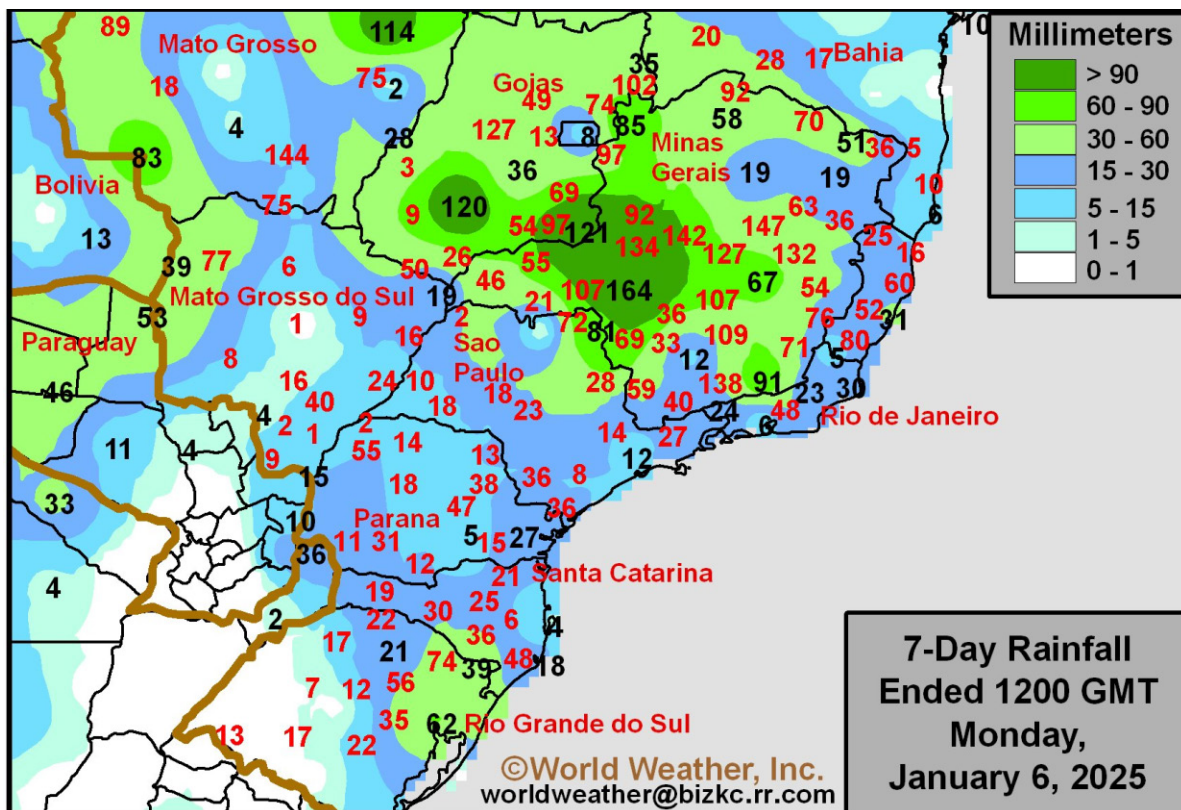


Brazil's Wet Bias May Lead To Safrinha Corn Planting Delays

By Andrew Owen and Drew Lerner

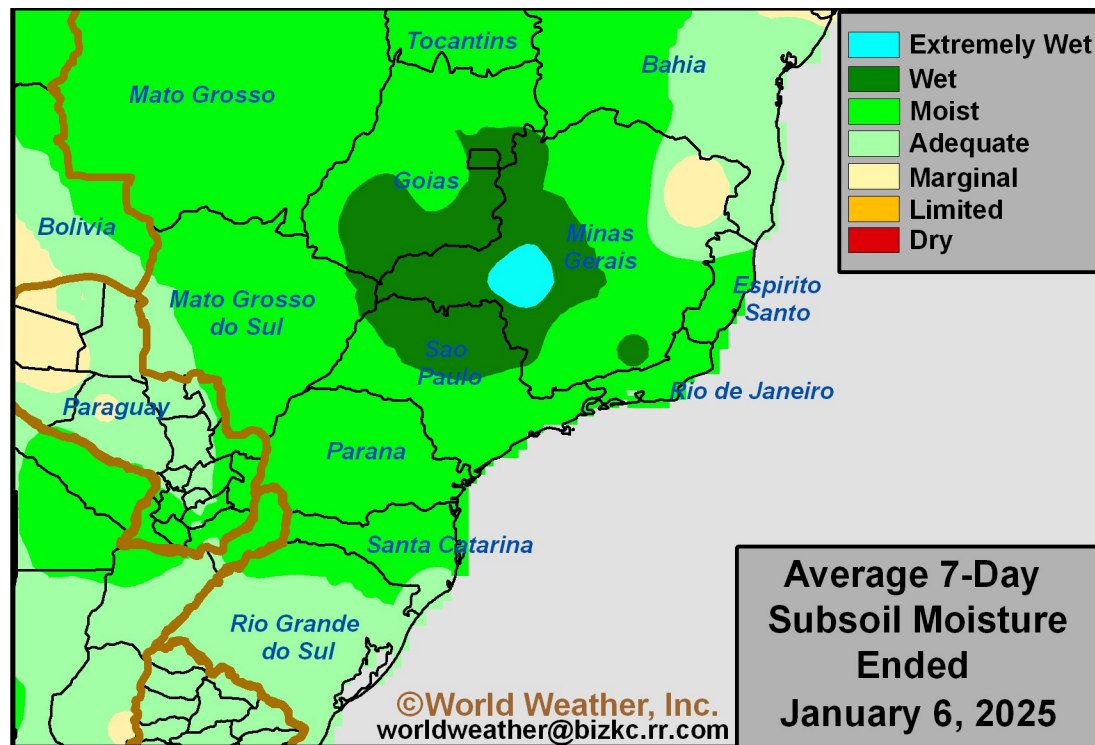
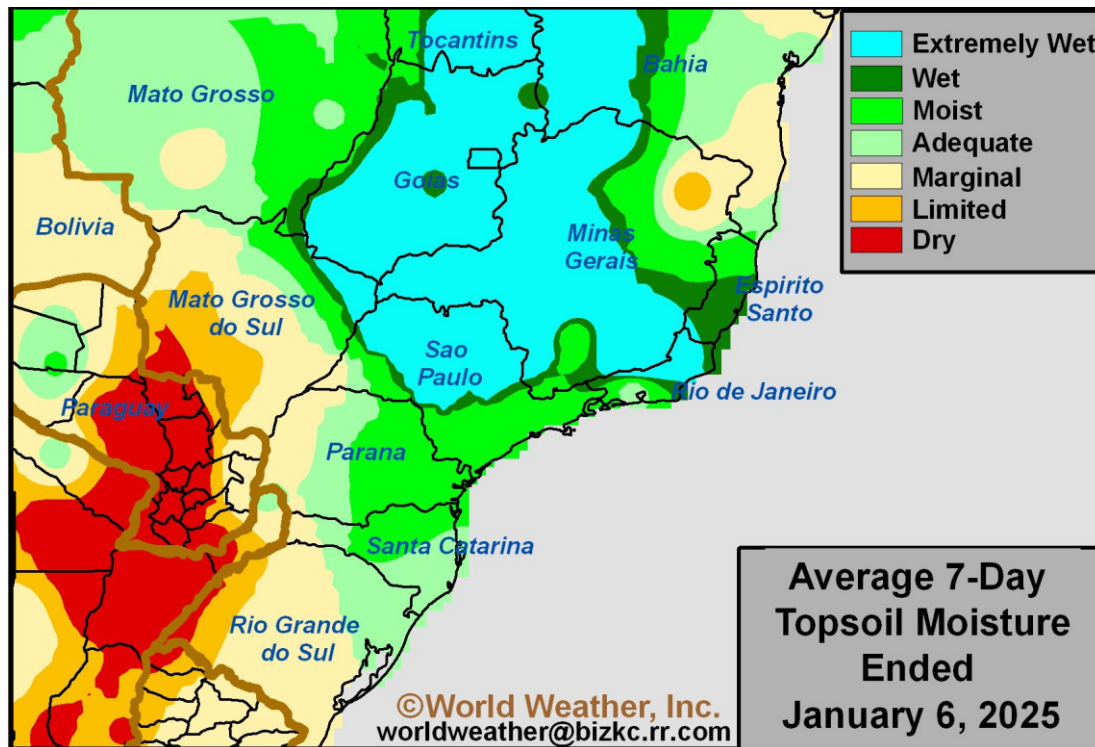
Kansas City, January 6 (World Weather Inc.) – La Nina-like conditions are prevailing across South America inducing a steady rate of drying in far southern Brazil and some neighboring areas in Paraguay, Uruguay and Argentina. In the meantime, rain is falling frequently and sometimes excessively in center west and center south Brazil. The persistence of La Nina like conditions will lead to more drying in Rio Grande do Sul and more wet weather in the center west and center south. [There is potential that a little soybean and corn yield may be lost due to dryness in the south, but there may be bigger concern about too much rain slowing early soybean maturation and harvesting in center west and center south Brazil delaying the planting of Safrinha corn which may lead to some additional corn production losses if seasonal rains do not last longer than usual.](#)

Minas Gerais, Goias, and Mato Grosso received some of the most significant rain in Brazil during the past week. Moisture totals for the seven-day period ending this morning ranged from 1.00 to 4.00 inches and local amounts up to 6.50 inches, though pockets only received up to 0.75 inch of moisture. Sao Paulo, Parana, Mato Grosso do Sul, Santa Catarina, the eastern half of Rio Grande do Sul, and southern Bahia received 0.24 to 2.00 inches of rain with local amounts of 3.00 inches in northern Mato Grosso do Sul and northeastern Rio Grande do Sul. A few locations in western Rio Grande do Sul received up to 0.67 inch of rain.



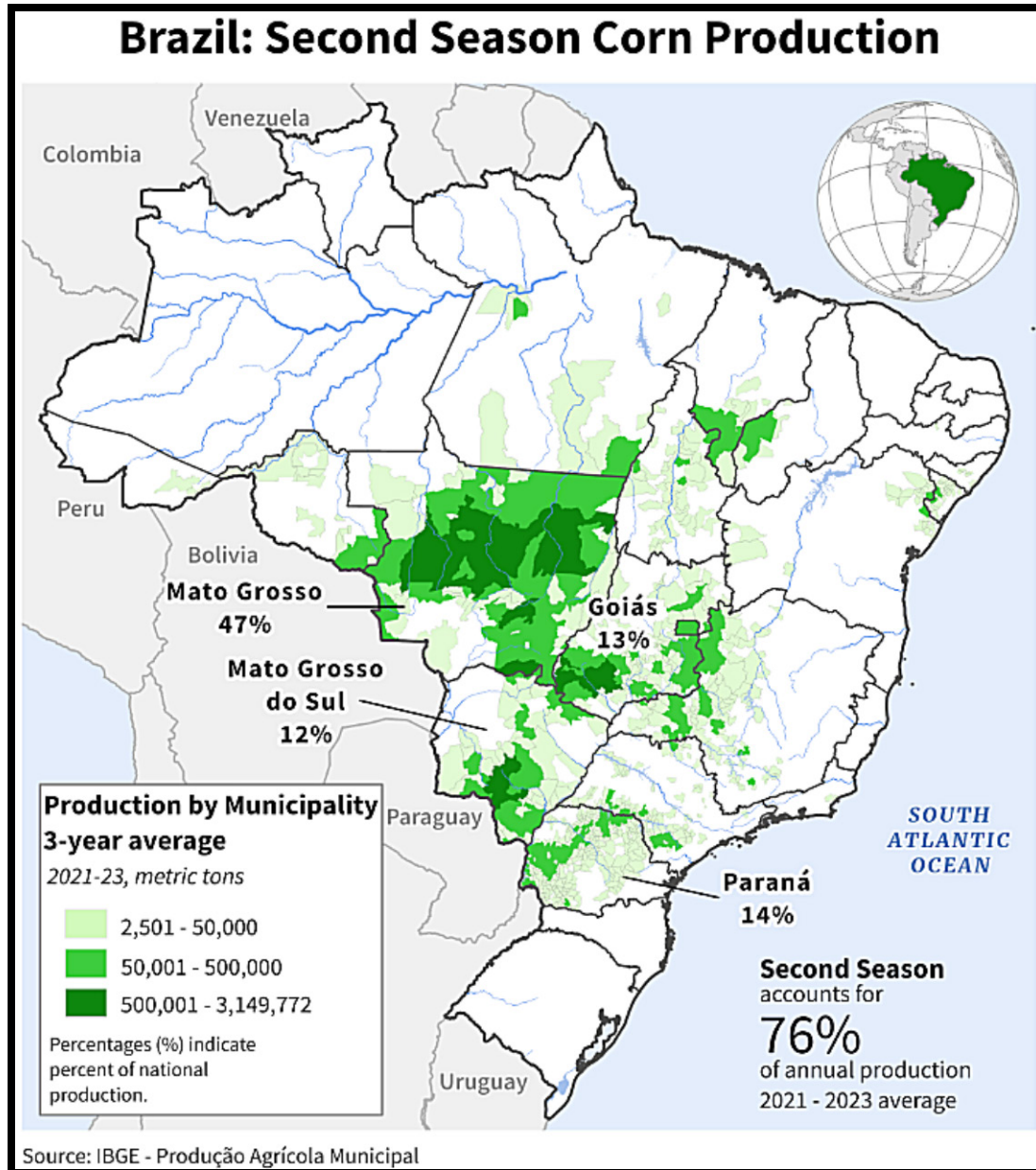
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Temperatures were near normal with highest readings generally in the 80s and lower 90s Fahrenheit. Lowest temperatures were in the 50s and 60s with portions of center-west Brazil only cooling to the 70s.



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Minas Gerais, Goiás, and neighboring locations remain excessively wet from the continued rainfall during the past week. Localized flooding was suspected in the wettest locations. Soil moisture is rated adequate to excessive in most other production areas, though portions of Mato Grosso do Sul and western Rio Grande do Sul have a shortage of moisture in the topsoil due to a lack of significant rain during the past week.



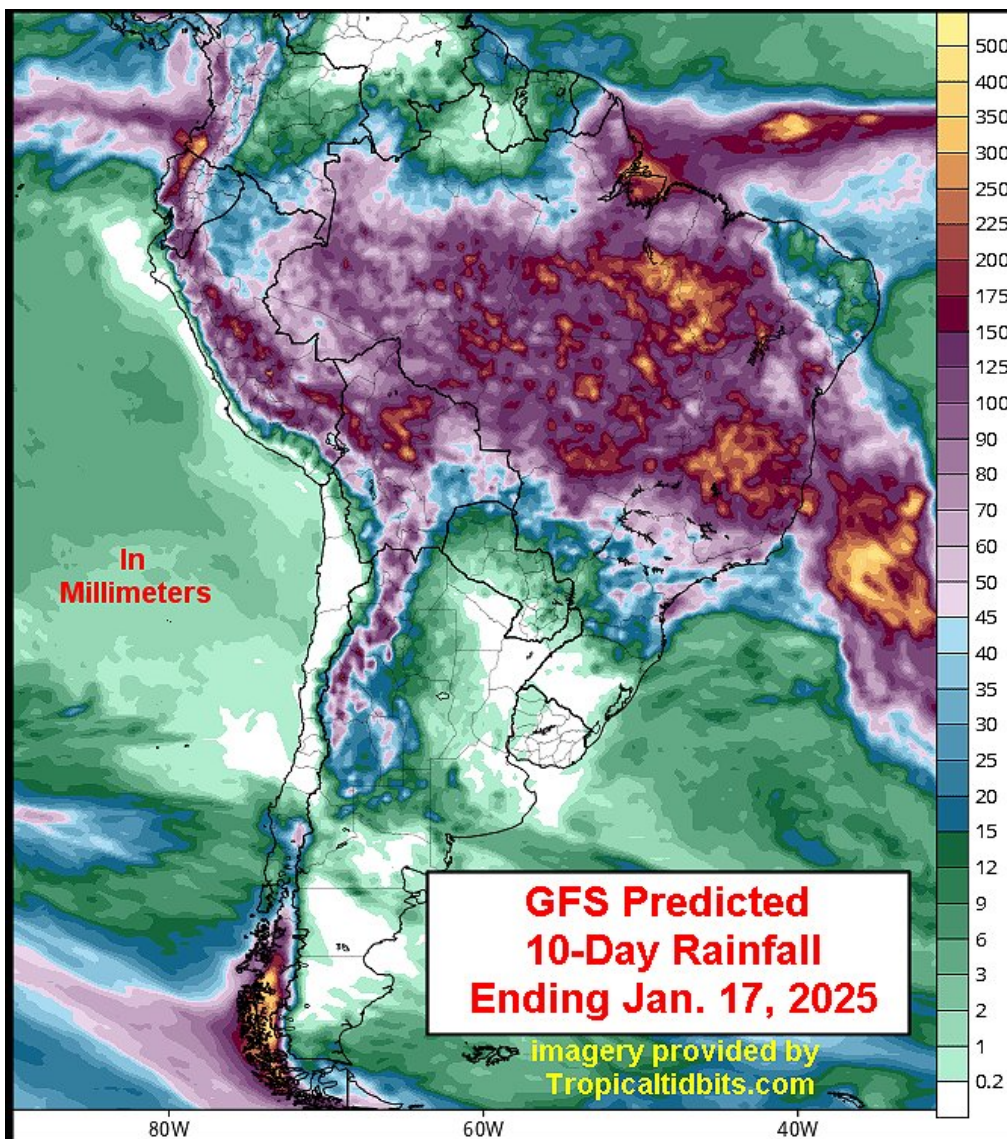
The wettest conditions recently have been in Minas Gerais, Goiás and Tocantins. Minas Gerais does not produce a huge volume of Safrinha corn, but 13% of the crop comes from Goiás. If these same areas remain wet through the balance of January there would likely be some delay to soybean harvesting and then to Safrinha corn planting; however, the area is relatively small compared to Mato Grosso were nearly half of the Safrinha corn and much of the cotton is produced. Delays in planting these crops would occur if too much rain

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falls in January and February because of La Nina-like conditions. That might cut into Safrinha crop yields if the rainy season ends normally or earlier than usual.

The most recent distribution of rainy weather has largely missed Mato Grosso and if that remains the case the concern about Safrinha crops reproducing in the dry season would be minimized. However, if Minas Gerais gets rainy as it often does in La Nina like environments the level of concern over soybean harvesting and Safrinha corn planting may increase greatly.

In the meantime, planting of full season soybeans and first-season corn is winding down for much of Brazil. The main production areas have ample moisture to support aggressive growth; though, there is a growing need for rain in the driest areas of Mato Grosso do Sul and western Rio Grande do Sul. Yield potentials remain above normal due to an increase in planted acreage for the soybeans. Early-season harvesting has already begun in a few fields with an expansion in the coming weeks as more crops mature. The wettest areas in Minas Gerais and Goias would benefit from drier weather to support better maturation and early-season harvesting.

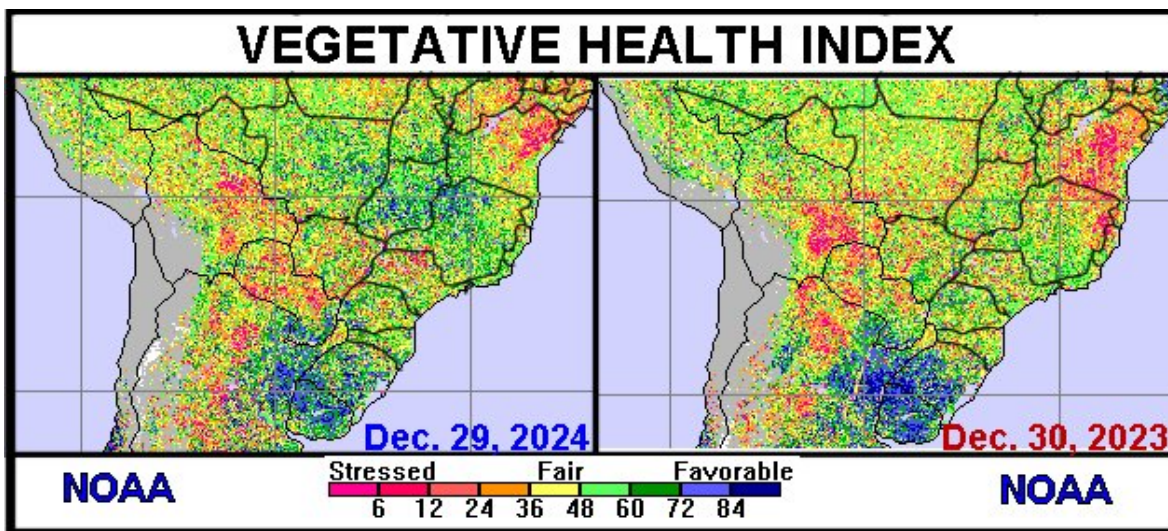


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WEATHER OUTLOOK

A La Nina-like weather pattern will continue for Brazil this week. Drier than normal weather is slated for southern Brazil and southern fringes of Sao Paulo and Mato Grosso do Sul. Periods of rain will still occur with totals ranging from 0.25 to 2.00 inches and locally greater amounts from Santa Catarina, Parana, and northern Rio Grande do Sul into southern fringes of Mato Grosso do Sul and Sao Paulo. Southern Rio Grande do Sul will receive little to no rain. The remaining production areas will otherwise receive rain on a near daily basis. Rainfall by next Monday morning will range from 1.50 to 5.00 inches with local amounts of 8.00 inches or more in Minas Gerais and southern Bahia. A similar weather pattern is expected January 14 – 20.

Temperatures will be near to slightly below normal in Brazil this week in part due to waves of rain and cloudiness. Daytime highs will peak to the 80s and lower 90s with portions of Mato Grosso do Sul often warming to the upper 90s or even slightly above 100 degrees. Pockets in Minas Gerais, Bahia, and neighboring locations will also only warm to the 70s during periods of more significant rain. Low temperatures will be in the 60s and 70s with portions of southern Brazil often cooling to the 50s. Temperatures will be near normal January 14 – 20.



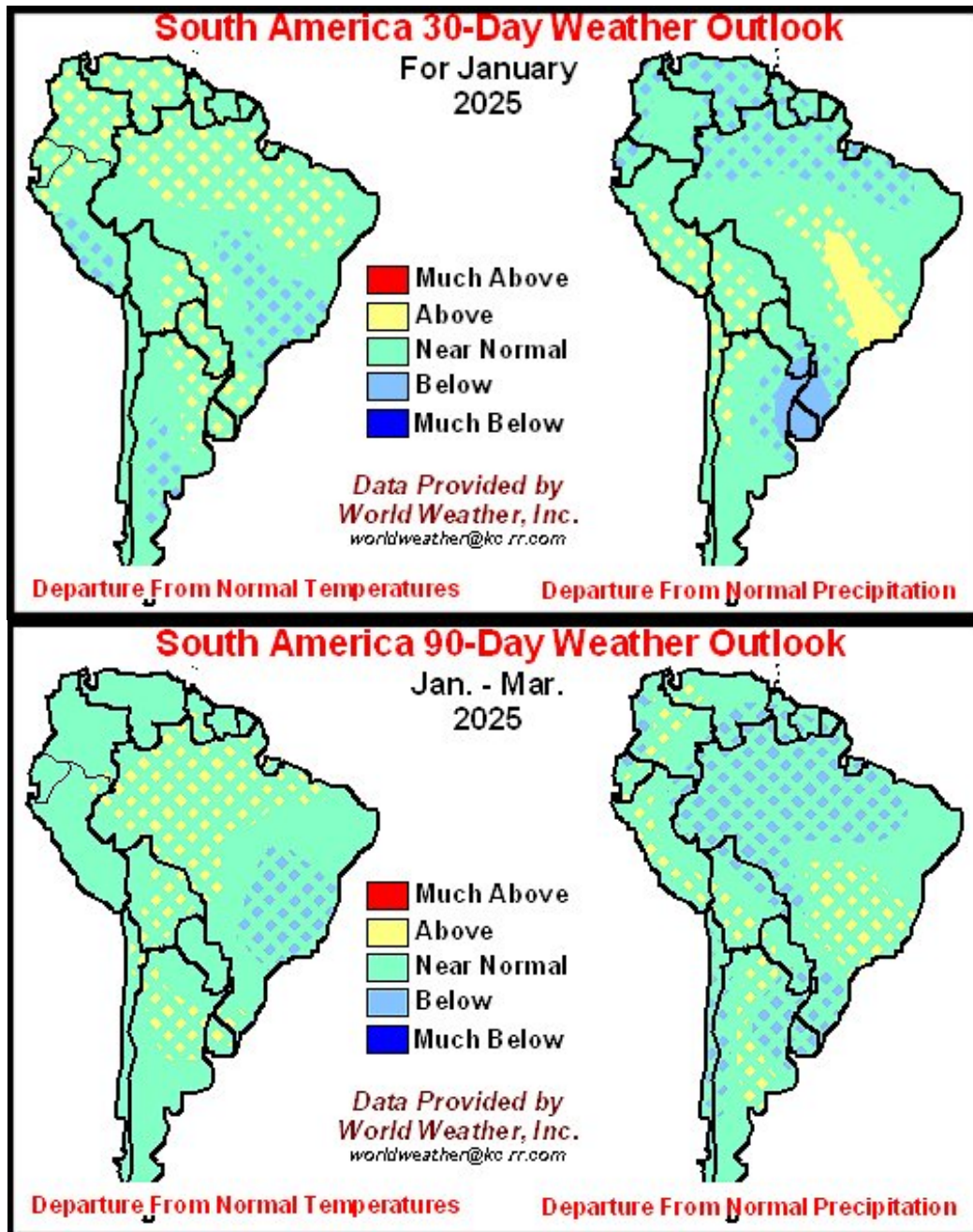
Net drying will continue for portions of southern Brazil and southern fringes of Mato Grosso do Sul and Sao Paulo. These areas will still have some moisture to support new growth, though timely rain will be needed later this month to maintain a good outlook for the crops. Other locations will have ample moisture to support new growth. Localized flooding will remain a concern in Minas Gerais, though crop damage is still expected to be minimal. Yield potentials will remain mostly unchanged.

The wet bias is expected to prevail during the balance of January from Tocantins and eastern most Mato Grosso to Minas Gerais and Sao Paulo similar to that which has already been occurring. Temperatures will be near to below normal as well mainly because of the wet bias and limited sunshine.

The 90-day outlook is still wetter biased which could raise the level of concern over a possible rainy harvest season for early season soybeans. That could impact delays to

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Safrinha corn and cotton, although the potential for significant delays are still a little low, despite the wetter bias. In the meantime, some drier bias is also expected to continue in southern Brazil.



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