

U.S. Crop Moisture For January 31, 2025: February Outlook

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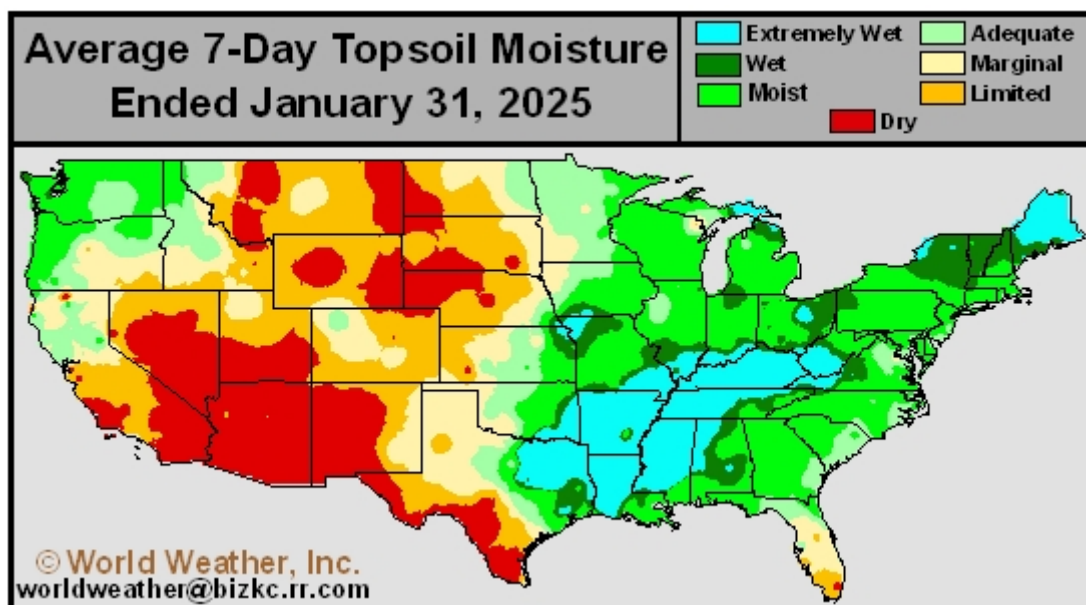
Kansas City, January 31 (World Weather Inc.) – The first month of 2025 is already over.....Amazing! *At the end of the month soil moisture was rated well in the Midwest while conditions may be a little too wet in parts of the lower Ohio River Valley, Tennessee River Valley and Delta into northeastern Texas.* This latter region of wet biased conditions just received 2.00 to 5.00 inches of rain in the past couple of days and more weather systems like this are expected later in coming days and weeks. In the meantime, *soil moisture remains limited in the northwestern, west, central and southwestern Plains as well as the upper Midwest. Changes in these drier biased areas are unlikely to occur anytime soon, despite some light precipitation.*

Northern Plains

In the Northern Plains, soil moisture remains rated short to very short, despite some bouts of snow this month. The precipitation amounts were greater than usual in some areas (especially in the west), but with temperatures so cold there was no way for any boost in soil moisture to occur until the snow melts. Neighboring areas of the far eastern Dakotas and Minnesota also have short to very short soil moisture and concern about this region is moderately high as well due to the lack of potential change in the next couple of weeks and possibly through the balance of winter.

Patchy near to below normal precipitation has occurred this month in the Dakotas, while Minnesota has largely seen 25-50% of normal precipitation. Some areas were mostly dry in southern Minnesota and into the northern portions of the Midwest.

In the next 10 days, a few waves of snow will bring between 0.20 to 0.50 inch of liquid equivalent precipitation to much of Montana, North Dakota, northern South Dakota, and Minnesota. Southern portions of South Dakota and Minnesota will see lesser precipitation between trace amounts and 0.20, which will amplify the need for more precipitation in the coming week.

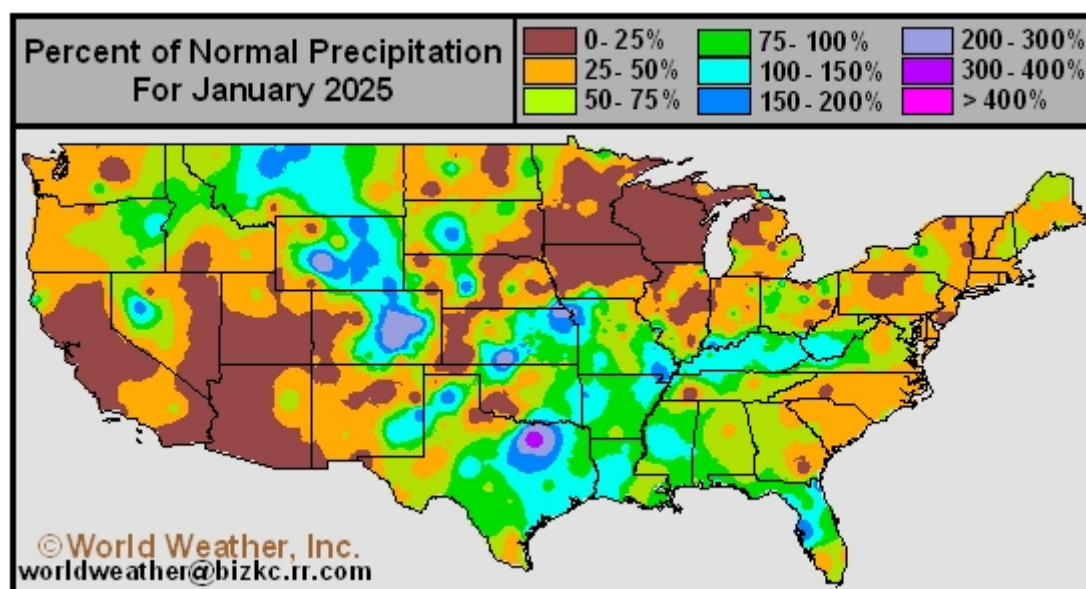


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Midwest

The least amount of precipitation in the Midwest occurred in the northern portions of the crop region, with southern Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and northeastern Illinois receiving between 5% and 25% of normal precipitation. Despite generally below normal precipitation this month, cold temperatures a few precipitation events earlier this month have kept soil conditions relatively moist across the Midwest. Cold conditions have “locked” moisture into the soil for much of the month. Near to cooler-biased temperatures in the northern Midwest are expected to remain through at least mid-February, which may prolong the mostly favorable soil conditions, there is need for greater precipitation in the upper Midwest and in the western Corn Belt prior to spring.

Two forecast precipitation events may bring anywhere between 0.50 and 1.50 inches of moisture to portions of eastern Iowa and southern Wisconsin. Southern Minnesota and the rest of Iowa will see trace amounts to 0.20 inch, which will increase the need for more precipitation events to maintain soil conditions later in February. As for the rest of Midwest, greater precipitation between 1.00 and 3.00 inches is expected, with locally heavier totals upwards of 4.00 inches possible; particularly in eastern Pennsylvania.



Hard-Red Winter Wheat

Generally precipitation was below normal across the central and southwestern Plains with the greatest anomalies in Oklahoma and northern Texas. Precipitation was near to above normal in the heart of Kansas and in some eastern Colorado locations. Soil moisture is mostly marginally adequate to slightly short in the east and short to very short in the west with a few short patches of more adequate conditions in central Kansas.

Minimal precipitation expected in the next 10 days, with central Kansas and Nebraska potentially seeing trace amounts to 0.15 inch. This lack of precipitation will increase the need for more moisture in the coming days to weeks to improve soil conditions especially as temperatures rise above normal.

Prolonged warmer than normal temperatures next week will induce high temperatures in the middle 60s through the 70s with a few 80s in the Texas and Oklahoma

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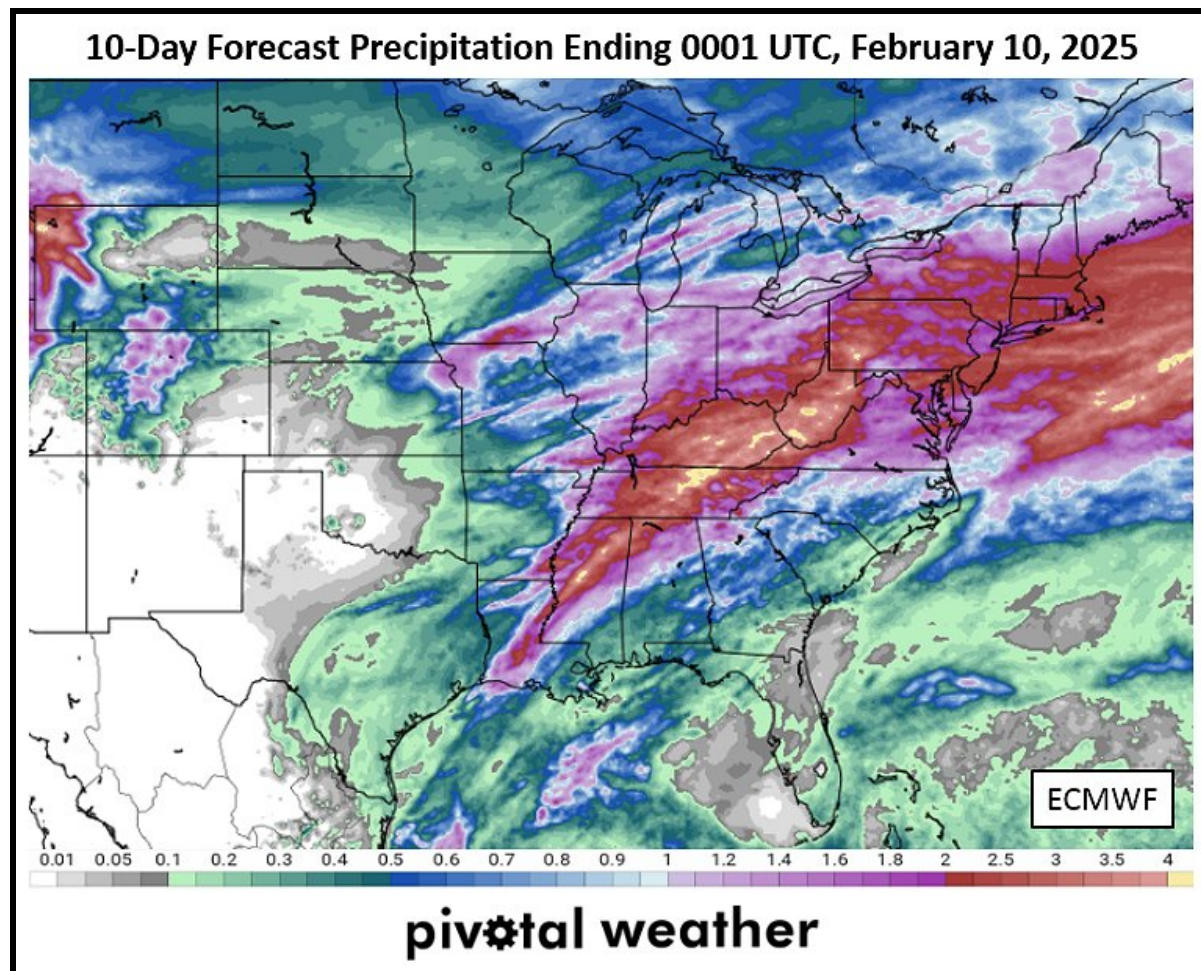
panhandles will likely reduce crop hardiness and accelerate drying. More seasonable to cooler than normal temperatures will be needed.

Some cooling is expected during the second week of February and there is still some potential for a colder bias to return in March.

Mississippi Delta

Several waves of precipitation this month have kept soil conditions generally moist across the Mississippi Delta, with topsoil conditions saturated due to a rain event currently taking place. Following the current rain event, generally dry conditions will be expected across much of the Delta in the next 10-days, though wetter biased conditions are being suggested by models later in February. Some warmer temperatures will also occur during this drier biased period and that may help to reduce moisture surpluses in the region.

If wetter biased conditions return later this month (as expected) there may be a risk of localized flooding.

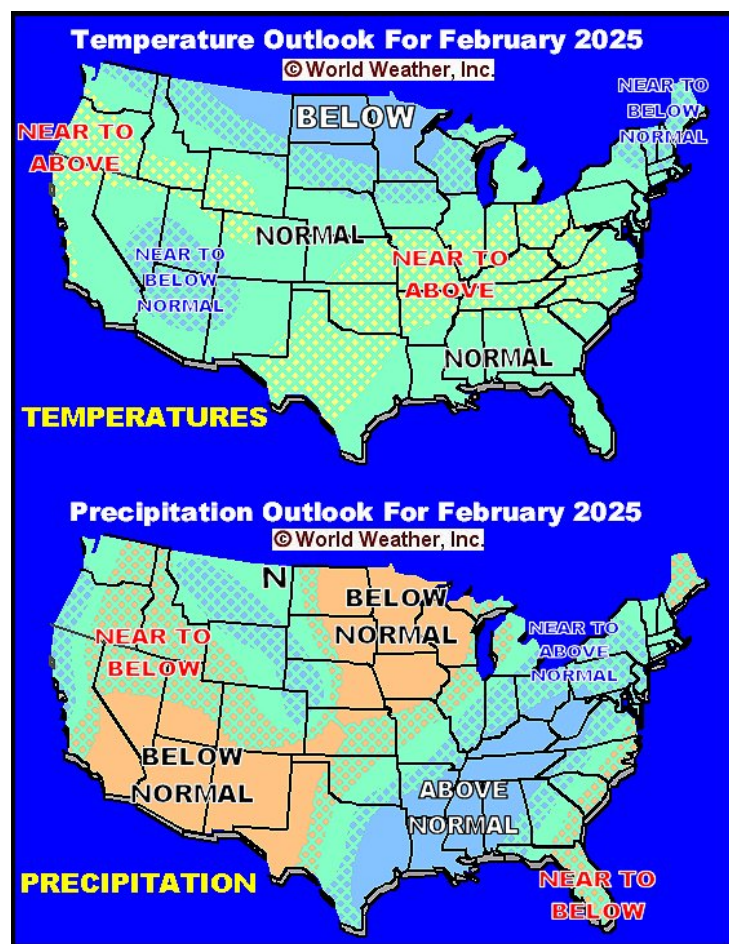


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Southeast

Generally moist soil conditions are present in most of the Southeast, though the Florida peninsula and coastal areas of the Carolinas are seeing marginal to limited moisture, with a patch of short moisture in the southernmost portions of Florida. Near to slightly below normal rainfall has occurred this month in much of the crop region, with the Carolinas, eastern Georgia, and the southern Florida peninsula seeing between 50% and 25% of normal precipitation. In the next 10-days, between 0.20 and 0.80 inch of precipitation will occur across much of the crop region, which a bulk of the rainfall occurring within the next 24 hours. Southeastern Georgia and the Florida peninsula will see trace amounts to 0.20 inch of rain, which will increase the need for more moisture to improve soil conditions.

BOTTOM LINE



Weather anomalies in the most recent 30- and 60-day periods are being closely monitored because of the potential for these trends to persist during the second half of winter. That may bring the nation into the spring planting season with a greater need for rain in the upper Midwest, the central and southwestern Plains most of the southwestern desert region and southern California all of which have already been reporting below normal precipitation in recent weeks.

February temperatures will be near to above normal in the southern half of the Plains the lower Midwest, Tennessee River Basin and parts of the interior western U.S. while below normal in the northern Plains and upper Midwest and in a small part of the southwestern states.

There is evidence that below normal precipitation may impact portions of the U.S. crop areas during the coming growing season and that warrants an even greater watch on the distribution of rain in coming weeks.

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