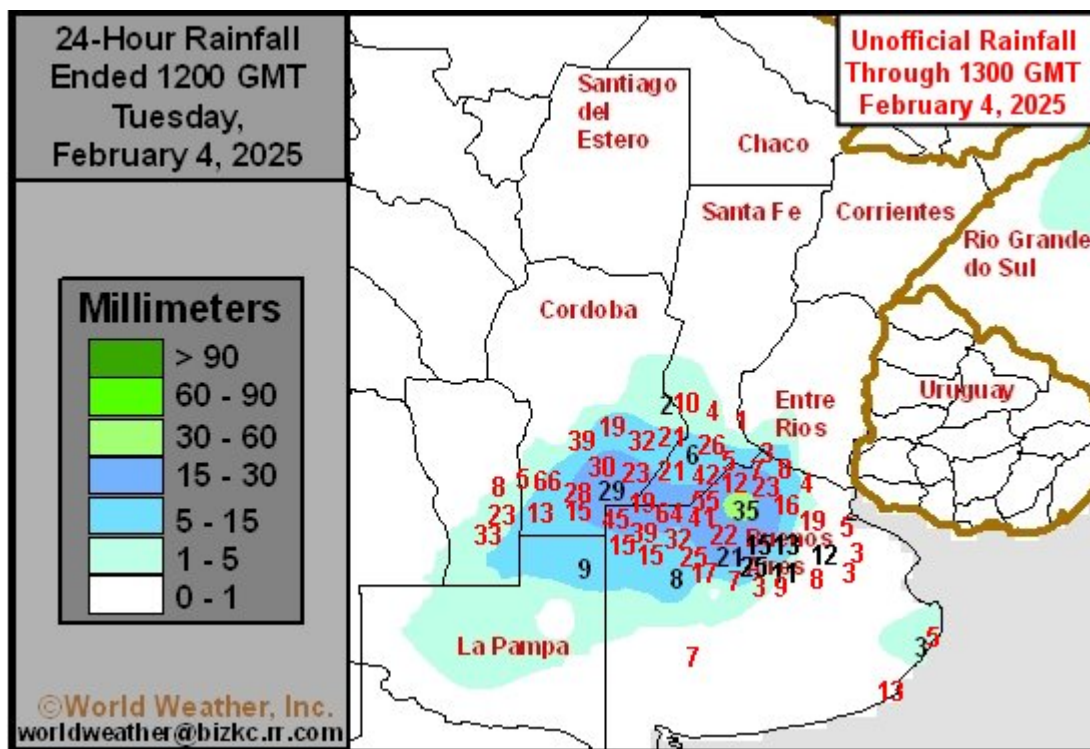


Argentina's Risk of Severe Storms, Heavy Rain Rises Tonight

By Drew Lerner

Kansas City, February 4 (World Weather Inc.) – Argentina's atmosphere will destabilize this afternoon and there is plenty of moisture available for an explosion of strong to severe thunderstorms over southern Cordoba, southern Santa Fe and northern Buenos Aires as well as some areas in southern Entre Rios. These strong to severe thunderstorms will produce some very heavy rain, hail and damaging wind possibly resulting in some localized crop damage. The rainfall, though, may be great enough when combined with that which fell last night to seriously improve the moisture profile in a small part of this region. Other areas in Argentina to the north are bracing for a notable period of hot and dry weather that may also impact Rio Grande do Sul immediate neighboring areas.



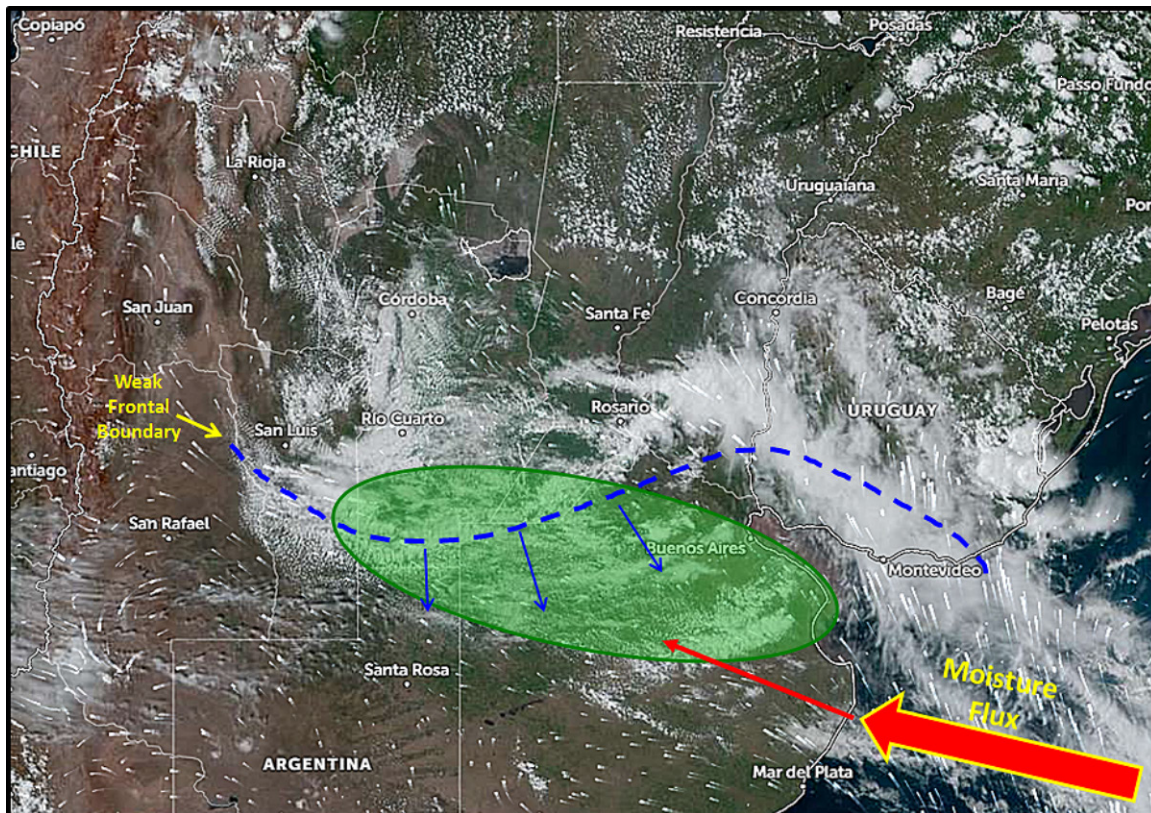
Feedback moisture from the thunderstorms that evolved overnight and early this morning is expected this afternoon due to very warm temperatures and sunshine. That will provide one source of moisture. Another source of moisture for thunderstorm activity will be from the Atlantic Ocean where surface winds will be pumping more moisture into the region during the afternoon.

A contrast in airmass temperatures south and north of the old frontal boundary that passed through southern Argentina overnight will be the final ingredient to producing strong to severe thunderstorms this late afternoon and especially tonight into Wednesday morning. Some of the thunderstorms will produce large hail, damaging wind and some local flooding. Rainfall could range from 2.00 to 4.00 inches and possibly a little more from a few of the strongest thunderstorms, although those will be quite localized. Most of the rain will vary from 0.50 to 1.50 inches with a few totals over 2.00 inches.

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Damage to crops from hail and damaging wind will be possible, although no widespread outbreak of severe thunderstorms is expected. The additional rainfall tonight after thunderstorms evolved last night should further improve a very important crop region in Argentina.

Areas to the north, however, will not be seeing any serious rainfall for much of the next seven days and the same is true for Rio Grande do Sul Brazil. These areas will not only be dry, but very warm to hot as well with daily highs in the 90s to 104 degrees Fahrenheit. Hotter temperatures are likely in northern Argentina.



Ingredients for severe thunderstorms and locally heavy rain for Tuesday night/Wednesday

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