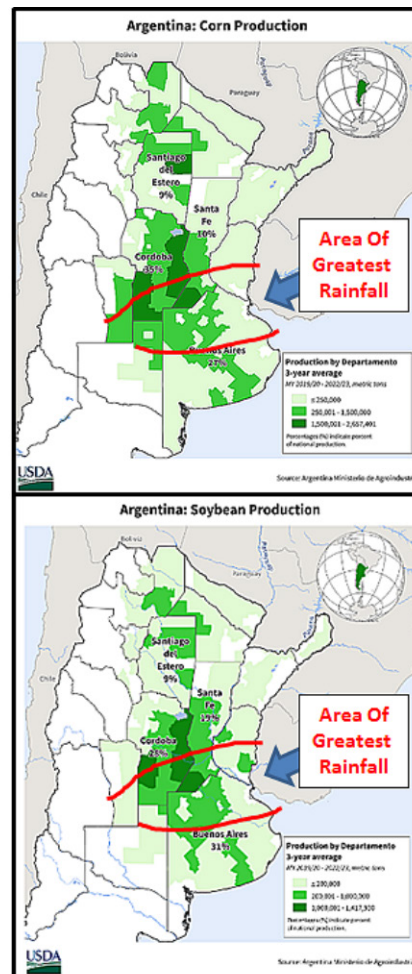
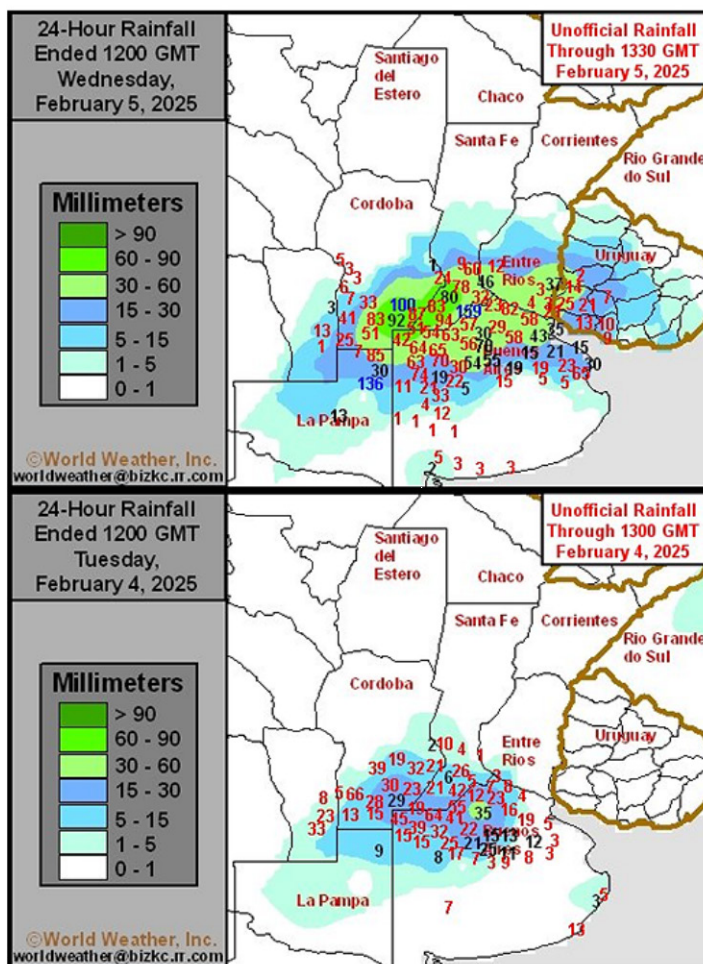


Argentina Two-Day Rain Event Brings Relief; More Needed

By Drew Lerner

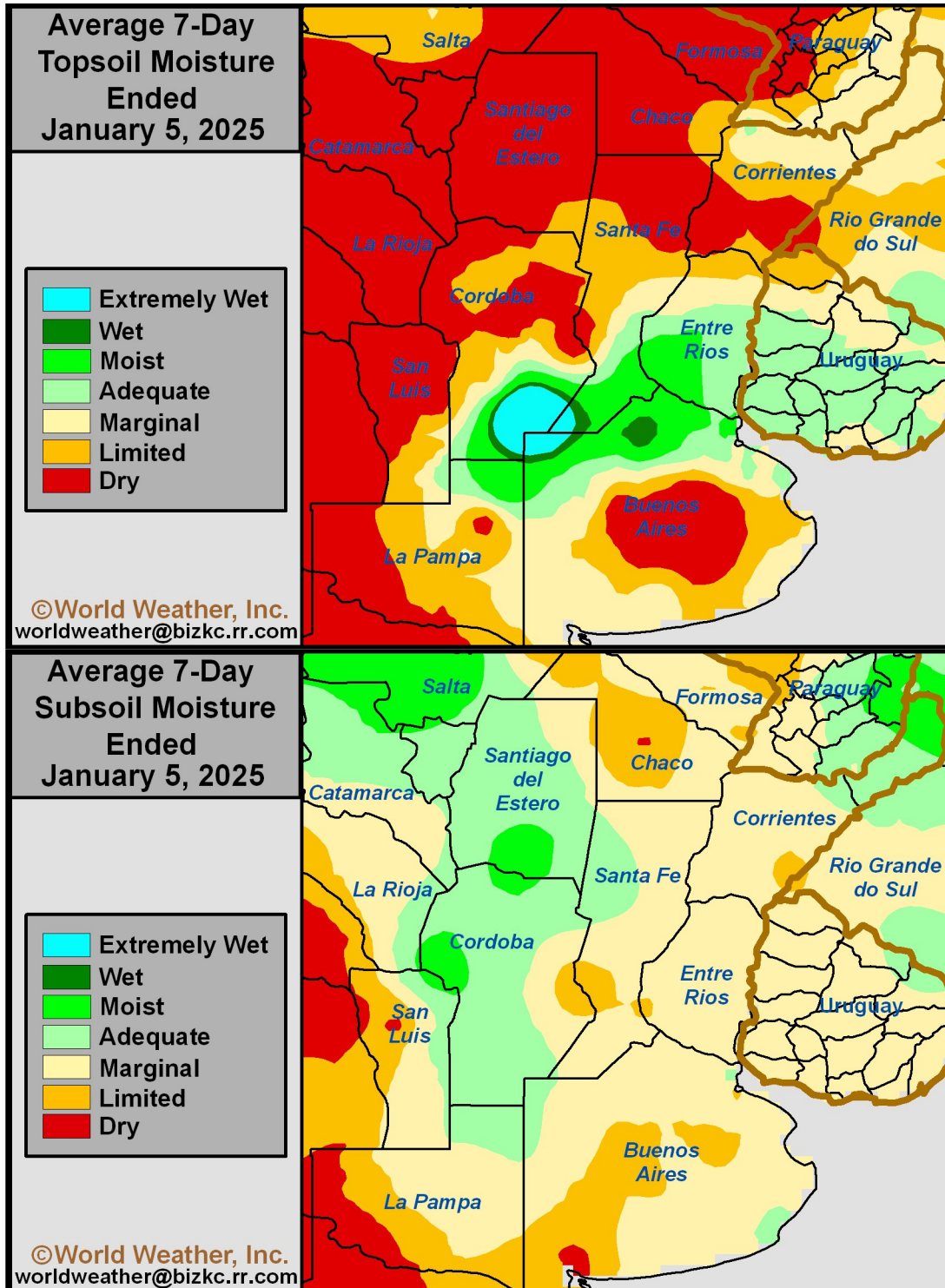
Kansas City, February 5 (World Weather Inc.) – Rain fell substantially overnight in portions of interior southern Argentina after a similar rain event occurred Monday night into Tuesday morning. The two waves of rain were the most significant seen since the first days in December; although, there were some other shorter bouts of rain that impacted portions of the same region Dec. 5, Dec. 17, Dec. 23-24, January 18-19 and January 24-26. Each of these rain events was surrounded by periods of dryness and warm weather, but there may have been enough timeliness in the precipitation to limit yield losses. Other areas in Cordoba have done relatively well with timely rain as well while the remainder of Argentina has had more dry and warm weather than beneficial moisture recently raising concern over production. There is no doubt that moisture and some occasional heat stress has threatened Argentina's summer crops, but it is debatable how serious the situation is. More rain is needed, though, since the growing season is only half over.



Rainfall over night last night ranged from 1.00 to 3.00 inches from southern Corodba and northeastern La Pampa to southern Entre Rios and northern Buenos Aires. Local rain totals reached up to 4.00 inches in southeastern Cordoba and more than 5.00 inches in

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northeastern La Pampa while one location along the Santa Fe/Buenos Aires border reported 6.25 inches. The rain was quite impressive on its own, but the significance of the rain event becomes all the greater when we add the 0.40 to 1.65 inches of rain that fell in much of the same region the previous night (Monday night into Tuesday). The two-day rain totals were the greatest since the first days in December for these areas.



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However, there were other bouts of rain that impacted portions of the same region at various times in December and January. The frequency of significant rain, though dropped off in late December and early through mid-January allowing the soil to dry out more significantly than it had previously. Since that time it has been more of a constant battle getting enough rain to sustain crops and an alternating pattern of being too dry and then a little wetter has been occurring since that time. *This rain event will help the northern parts of Buenos Aires and neighboring crop areas to the north coast a little better through the coming week of dry and warmer biased weather; however, hotter temperatures will deplete the moisture relatively quickly raising the need for more rain.*

Much of Cordoba has also seen some good alternating patterns of rain and sunshine this summer and crops in that province are likely in mostly good shape. That shrinks the area of serious moisture and heat stress down a bit. *There has certainly been enough stress in parts of Argentina to reduce its overall production, but the losses are unlikely to be nearly as great as those seen in the early 2020s. With that said, though, it is important to note that the growing season is only half over and there is still plenty of crop that could suffer greatly from ongoing heat and dryness.*

MORE HEAT, DRYNESS COMING

The relief that has occurred recently was certainly welcome, but it will not take long for heat and dryness to deplete the recent moisture. In the meantime, *central and northern Argentina along with southern Buenos Aires will continue to deal with very dry field conditions. The odds are high that crop moisture stress in the coming week will further pressure potential yields lower in those areas and a close watch on the next rain event is warranted since early indications suggest some of the rain coming during mid-week next week may be a little too light to seriously restore soil moisture and fully reverse the potential damage done to seriously stressed crops by this time next week.*

The bottom line is certainly good for those areas in Cordoba that have seen periodic rain so far this summer and good for some of the areas receiving the greatest rainfall earlier this week, but the nation as a whole still has need for more moisture and the coming week of hot and dry weather will soon make that quite apparent.

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