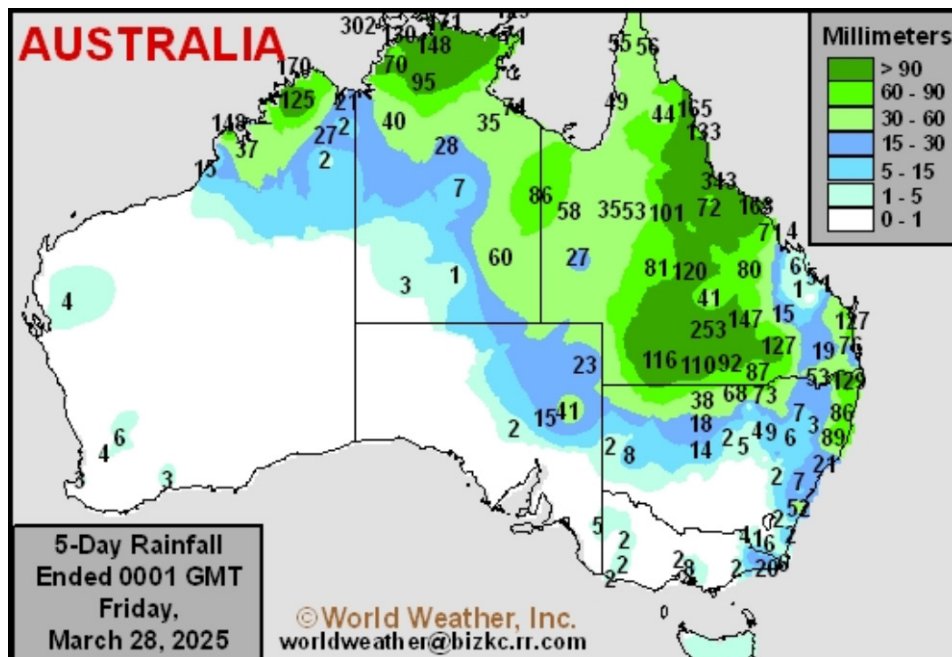


Eastern Australia Expecting More Precipitation After Heavy Rain

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, March 28 (World Weather Inc.) – [Torrential rain promoted flooding in several locations of Queensland this week. The rain came at a time when many coarse grains, oilseeds, and cotton were maturing or being harvested. Damage to some of the unharvested crops was likely, as were significant quality declines. Open boll cotton may experience some of the most severe quality impacts.](#) Northern fringes of New South Wales also experienced periods of significant rain, though crop impacts were suspected of being minimal. [Additional rain is slated for eastern Australia today and again toward the middle of next week. The precipitation will likely keep the ground saturated in Queensland and continue to delay harvesting and general fieldwork.](#)

Queensland reported heavy rain in recent days as a strong disturbance slowly advanced into the region. Moisture totals for the five-day period ending this morning ranged from 3.15 to 5.00 inches and local amounts approaching 10.00 inches in central and southern Queensland. Northern fringes of New South Wales also received 0.71 to 2.87 inches of rain. Other locations in New South Wales and much of Victoria received little to no rain.



Severe flooding was noted in portions of Queensland this week as the waves of rain rapidly increased soil moisture. The precipitation came at a time when a significant amount of the summer coarse grains, oilseeds, cotton, and other crops were maturing or being harvested across Queensland. [The rain may have significantly reduced quality, most notably for open-boll cotton and unharvested oilseeds. Some losses were also possible in areas that experienced the most severe flooding, though the extent of the damage was not yet known. Most harvesting of cotton occurs in April, May and June suggesting that some of the crop was not vulnerable to the abundant or excessive rain and that should keep the](#)

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impact from this week's rain low. Impacts in northern New South Wales were likely less severe. However, minor quality reductions were possible in areas that received more significant rain.

The need for dry and warm weather is high going forward for areas inundated with water in Queensland. Producers will likely be unable to harvest for several days or even weeks depending on the amount of rain that fell and whether more rain occurs in the near future or not. Additional rain may further impact harvest rates and crop quality. Crop conditions are more favorable in New South Wales and Victoria.

The disturbance that brought heavy rain to Queensland in recent days will continue to promote significant precipitation in central and eastern New South Wales today. Moisture totals will range from 0.75 to 4.00 inches with locally greater amounts in a large portion of eastern and central New South Wales. Queensland, western New South Wales, and Victoria will also receive 0.10 to 0.75 inch of moisture today. After a brief break from the precipitation this weekend and early Monday, another disturbance will promote rain in Queensland and northern fringes of New South Wales late Monday into Wednesday. Rain totals from this event will range from 0.75 to 3.50 inches and locally greater amounts. Drier weather will return later next week. Drier than normal weather will then evolve April 5 – 11 for eastern Australia, though periods of light rain will still be possible in Queensland and New South Wales.

Additional rain today and again next week will likely keep the ground saturated in Queensland and northern New South Wales. Flash flooding will be possible toward the middle of next week as well. Harvesting and general fieldwork will likely remain delayed through at least the end of next week. Quality may be further reduced due to the additional rain and wet weather diseases will also be a concern. Production potentials may be reduced for Queensland.

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