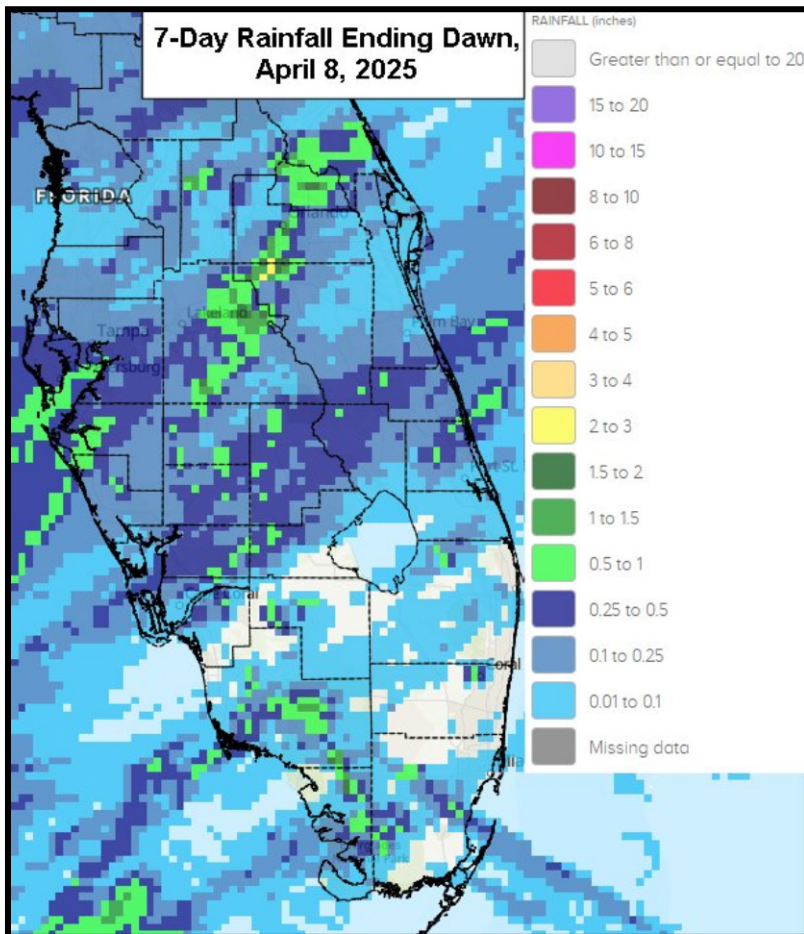


Weekly Citrus Weather

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, April 8 (World Weather Inc.) – Drought or abnormally dry conditions persist in **Florida**'s citrus country. The region will only have a few opportunities for light rain during the coming week that will be unable to significantly improve the moisture profile. Irrigation will continue to be used on a daily basis. **Brazil**'s citrus areas saw a mix of spotty rain and sunshine during the past week. Periods of erratic rainfall will continue in the coming days and will maintain relatively good citrus conditions. **Mexico**'s citrus areas received little to no rain during the past week. Mostly dry weather will persist through early next week and the need for more significant rain will increase.

FLORIDA



The citrus region in Florida saw a mix of spotty rainfall and sunshine during the past week. Moisture totals for the seven-day period ending this morning ranged from trace amounts to 0.50 inch with locally greater amounts. Drought or abnormally dry conditions prevail across much of citrus country despite spotty rainfall in recent weeks.

Irrigation was likely used statewide to maintain a good environment for new growth. The need for rain remains high in order to reverse the dryness and support ideal long-term crop prospects.

Seasonably warm weather was noted across Florida's citrus region during the past week. Daytime highs peaked from the mid-80s to lower 90s

Fahrenheit with pockets occasionally warming to the mid-90s. Nighttime lows were in the mid-60s to lower 70s with pockets occasionally cooling to the lower 60s.

Florida's citrus region will only have a few opportunities for light precipitation this week. A frontal boundary will continue to generate rain today. Other than a few light showers, dry weather will evolve Wednesday and Thursday. Another front will bring light

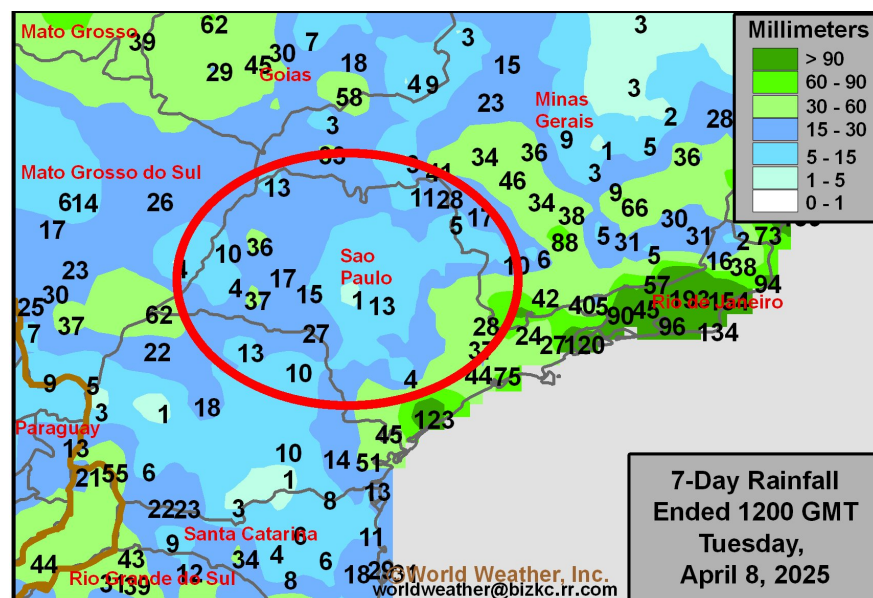
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rain to the region Friday before drier weather returns this weekend and early next week. Moisture totals by next Tuesday morning will range from 0.10 to 0.50 inch and locally greater amounts. Rainfall will be unable to counter evaporation in most locations. Irrigation will be run across the state and will help maintain relatively good citrus development. Drought or abnormally conditions will prevail and the need for abundant rain remains high. Seasonal rainfall, however, does not usually begin until the second half of May.

Temperatures will trend closer to normal during the coming week for citrus country. Highs will peak from the mid-70s to lower 80s most often with pockets only warming to the lower 70s. Nighttime lows will be in the 50s and lower 60s with pockets in the north occasionally cooling to the upper 40s.

BRAZIL

The main citrus areas in Sao Paulo and southwestern Minas Gerais saw a mix of rain and sunshine during the past week. Moisture totals for the seven-day period ending this



morning ranged from 0.39 to 1.46 inches in most locations.

Temperatures were near or slightly above normal with highest readings in the 90s. Lowest temperatures were in the 60s.

Citrus development conditions remained relatively good in Sao Paulo and southwestern Minas Gerais due to the additional rain during

the past week. These areas have had enough moisture in recent weeks to support new growth despite several locations trending drier than usual.

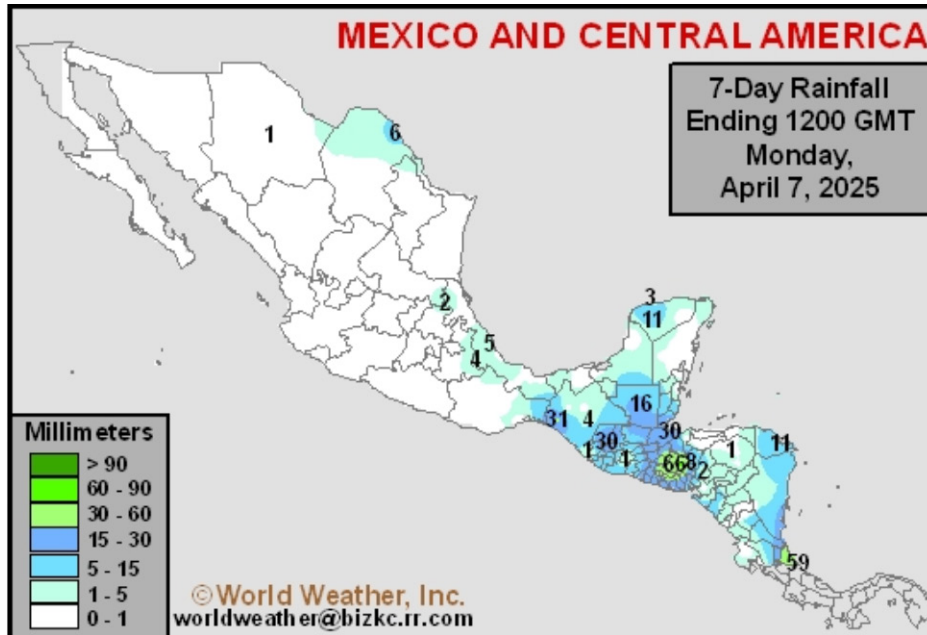
Sao Paulo and southwestern Minas Gerais will continue to see a mix of erratic rainfall and sunshine during the coming week. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms will initially evolve through Thursday. Other than a few light showers, drier weather will evolve Friday into early next week. Moisture totals by next Tuesday morning will range from 0.25 to 1.00 inches with local amounts of 1.50 inches or slightly more. Temperatures will be near normal with daytime highs reaching the 80s and lower 90s most often. Low temperatures will be in the 60s and 70s.

Rainfall combined with adequate soil moisture will continue to support relatively good citrus development in the coming week. More significant rain would be welcome later this month to support ideal late-season development.

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MEXICO

A few pockets in Veracruz received up to 0.20 inch of rain for the seven-day period ending April 7. However, a large section of citrus country in east-central, northeastern, and western Mexico were dry. Temperatures were often warmer than usual during the past week with highest readings ranging from 90 to 105 degrees. Lowest temperatures were in the 50s and 60s.



The need for more widespread and significant rain is increasing for much of Mexico. Abnormally dry pockets are popping up in portions of crop country due to the lack of rain and warm weather in recent weeks. Continued dryness may start to impact development,

most notably in rain-fed locations.

Precipitation will be limited for much of Mexico during the coming week. A few light showers will be possible at times in Oaxaca and southern Veracruz, though resulting rainfall will be lost to evaporation. Temperatures will be near to above normal with daytime highs reaching the 80s and 90s in most locations. Low temperatures will be in the 60s and 70s with pockets in northeastern and east-central Mexico cooling to the 50s.

Aggressive drying is slated for much of Mexico's citrus region during the coming week. Irrigated trees may have some moisture to support flowering, and new growth. Rain-fed areas will otherwise become or remain too dry for ideal citrus conditions. The need for significant rain will increase later this month.

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