

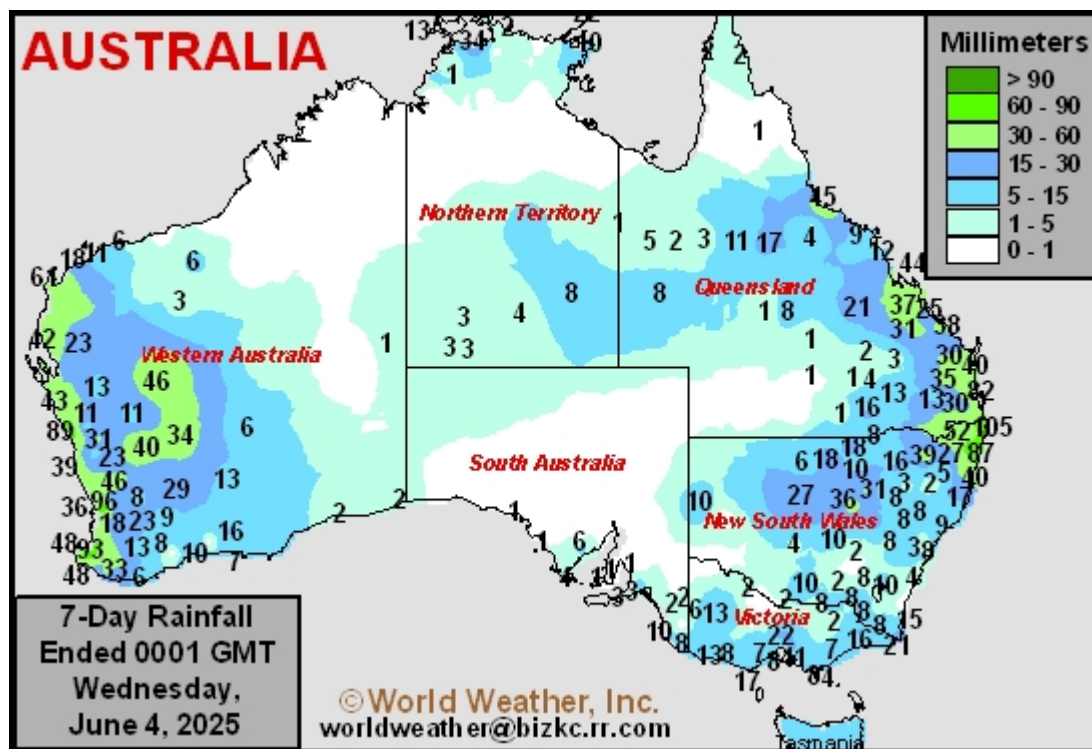
Southern Australia Rainfall To Ease Dryness; More Needed

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, June 4 (World Weather Inc.) – *Much-needed rain was noted in portions Australia during the past week. While the rain was welcome, there is still a pressing need for much more precipitation in the main winter grain and oilseed production areas. Drier-than-normal weather was noted in a large section of crop country during the past month and many areas are still facing significant moisture deficits.*

Precipitation will vary through the middle of next week with timely rain slated for Victoria, South Australia, and southern sections of New South Wales and Western Australia. Queensland and northern New South Wales will otherwise receive little to no rain and will dry down. The precipitation will improve short-term development conditions, though additional rain will still be needed later this month for ideal crop prospects.

Western Australia and portions of Victoria, New South Wales, and southeastern Queensland saw periods of rain during the past week. Moisture totals for the seven-day period ending this morning ranged from 0.32 to 1.57 inches, though several pockets in Victoria and southern and western New South Wales were dry or did not receive enough rain to counter evaporation. A few locations in South Australia received up to 0.39 inch of moisture. Other locations in Queensland received little to no rain.



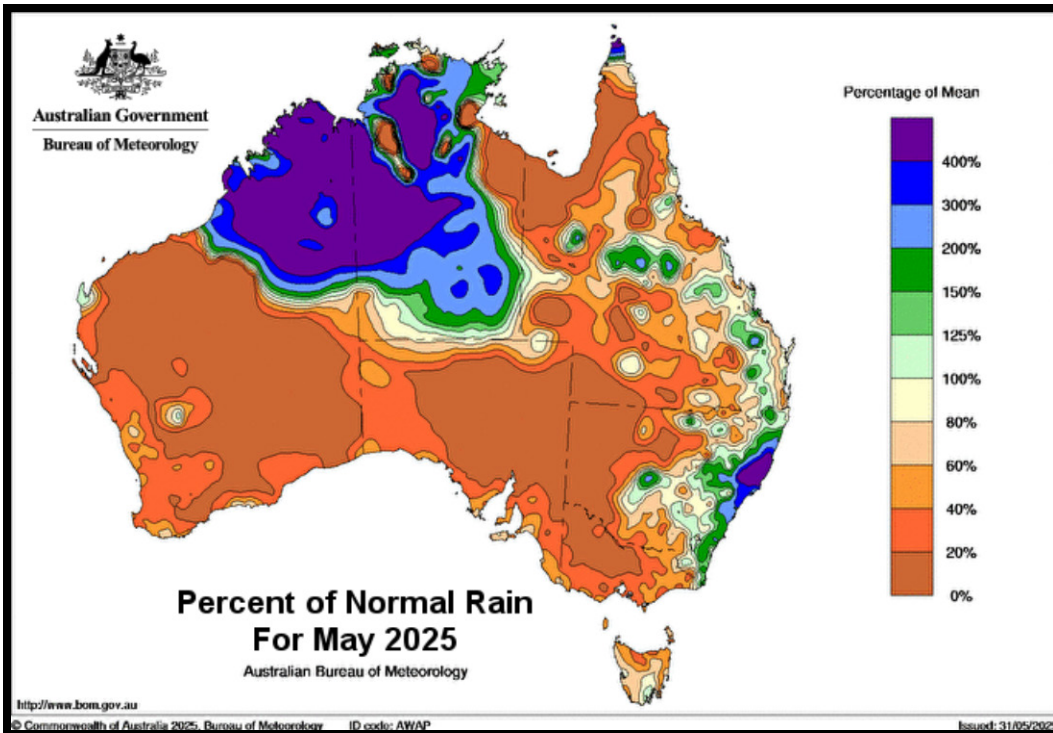
Victoria and South Australia were much drier than usual in May with rainfall 25-75% of normal. New South Wales southern Queensland and Western Australia received near to below normal rainfall during this time as well.

Portions of Victoria, New South Wales, southern Queensland, and western fringes of Western Australia received enough rain in recent days to bolster topsoil moisture to

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adequate or marginally adequate levels. However, several of these locations still have a shortage of moisture further down in the ground. South Australia and central Queensland remain dry or critically dry.

The rain was welcome this past week in the main winter wheat, barley and canola production areas. Germination and establishment conditions improved marginally in areas that were previously suffering from moisture deficits. However, the ground remains too dry to support favorable long-term production potentials.



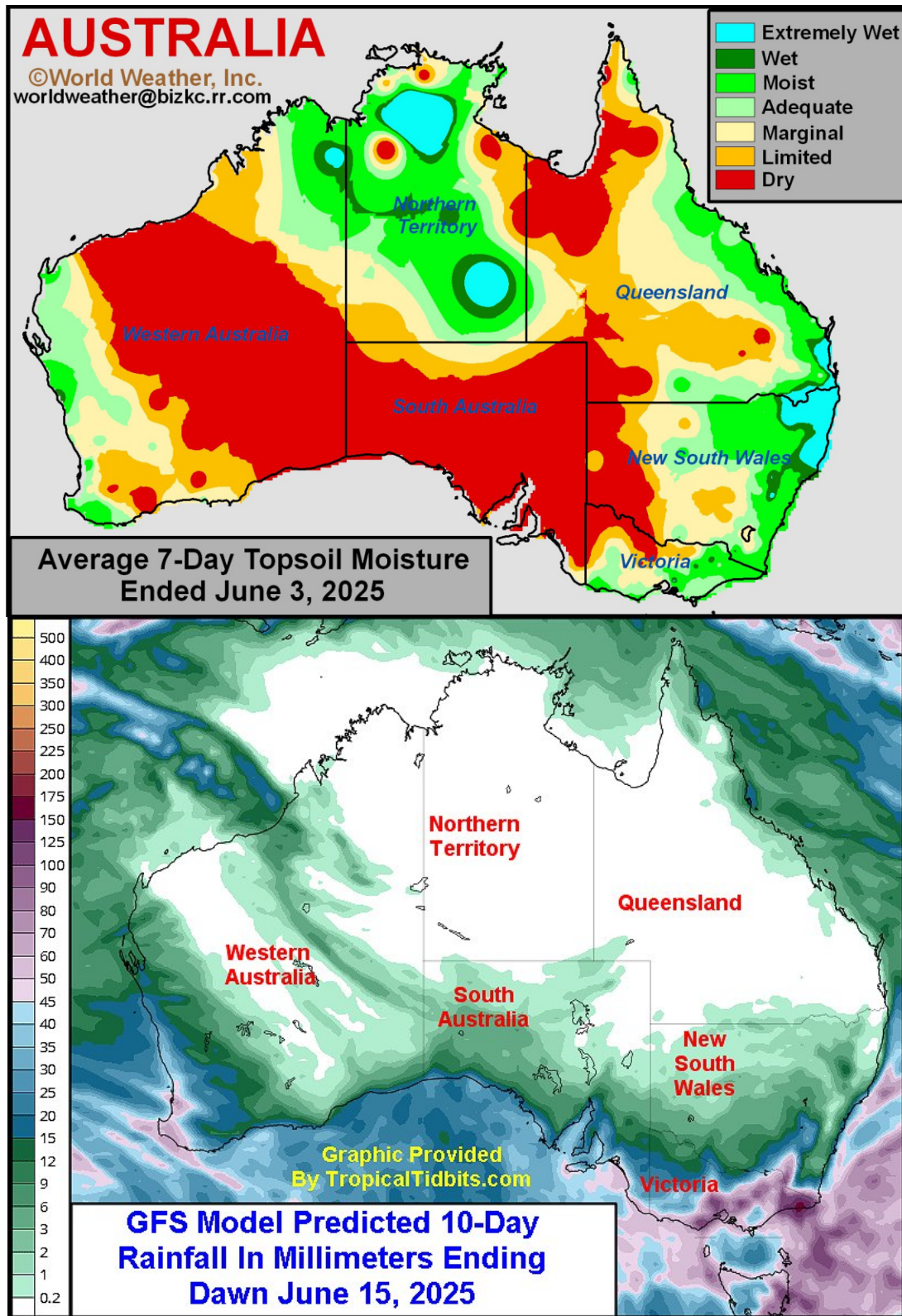
Normal planting of winter grain and oilseeds continues through June with some wheat and barley potentially planted in early July. While there is still time for better rainfall to improve production potentials, the driest locations in South Australia, Western Australia, New South Wales, and Queensland need abundant rain to completely fix the moisture deficits.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

Precipitation will vary across the main production areas in Australia through the middle of next week. A frontal boundary will initially generate rain in Western Australia today. The main band of rain will shift into South Australia overnight into Thursday and eventually Victoria and southern New South Wales late Thursday and Friday. Scattered showers will persist in Victoria, southern New South Wales, and South Australia late Friday into Monday. Another disturbance will also bring erratic rainfall to Western Australia late Monday and Tuesday. Moisture totals by next Wednesday morning will range from 0.50 to 3.00 inches in Victoria. South Australia and southern fringes of Western Australia will receive 0.50 to 2.00 inches of rain. Southern New South Wales and other locations in Western Australia will receive 0.10 to 0.75 inch of rain and locally greater amounts. Queensland and northern New South Wales will otherwise receive little to no rain. Drier-

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than-usual weather is then slated for eastern Australia and South Australia June 12-18. Western Australia will again have a few opportunities for rain during this time.



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Victoria and South Australia will receive enough rain to bolster soil moisture through the middle of next week. The environment will gradually improve for establishment and early-season development for the winter grain and oilseeds, though additional rain will be needed to support better long-term production potentials. Western Australia and southern New South Wales will receive enough rain to limit drying. However, the ground will remain too dry for ideal winter crop prospects. Queensland and northern New South Wales will otherwise dry down in the coming weeks and the need for timely rain will be high later this month.

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