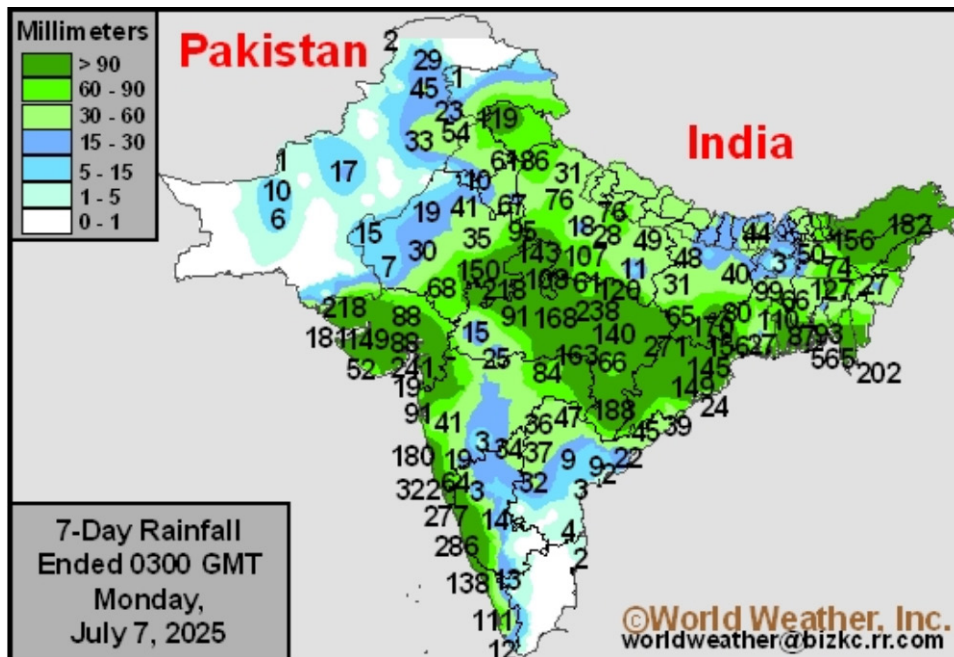


India Planting Ahead Of Usual Due To Monsoonal Rain

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, July 7 (World Weather Inc.) – India's monsoon got off to a good start in June, prompting aggressive planting in some of the main production areas. Several locations outside portions of southern and extreme eastern India received above normal rainfall in recent weeks and there is ample moisture to support favorable establishment and early-season growth. However, **many areas in southern India are too dry for ideal long-term crop conditions and the need for rain remains high**. Monsoonal rain will favor a large section of crop country outside southern India and western Rajasthan this week. Flash flooding will be a growing concern for Madhya Pradesh and neighboring locations as a monsoonal disturbance helps promote periods of heavy rain during the next few days. Production potentials will otherwise remain mostly unchanged.

Rainfall varied significantly across the main production areas in India during the past week. Gujarat, coastal sections of Maharashtra and Karnataka, and southeastern Rajasthan through Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha into Jharkhand, West Bengal, Bangladesh, and the Eastern States received 3.50 to 10.67 inches of rain for the seven-day period ending this morning. Kerala and most other locations in northern and eastern India received 1.22 to 5.43 inches of rain. Telangana, northern Andhra Pradesh, interior Maharashtra, the remaining portions of Rajasthan, a few locations in interior Karnataka received 0.59 to 3.31 inches of moisture. Other locations in southern India received little to no rain.

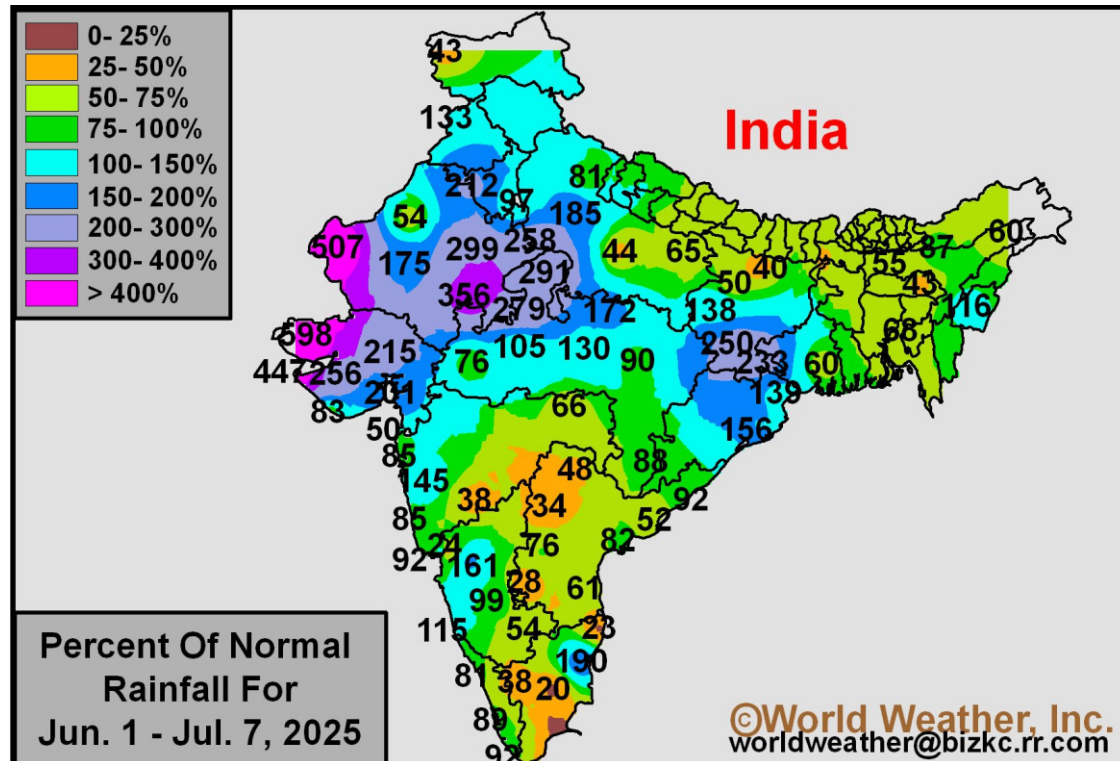


Precipitation has varied across India since the beginning of the monsoon season. From June 1 – July 7, much of Gujarat, Rajasthan, northwestern Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Jharkhand, and Odisha received above normal rainfall. These areas received 139% to 356% of normal rainfall with pockets in western Gujarat and Rajasthan receiving nearly six times'

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normal precipitation. In the meantime, a large section of Tamil Nadu, eastern Karnataka, southern Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, southern and eastern Maharashtra, Bangladesh, the Eastern States, Bihar, and southeastern Uttar Pradesh were drier than normal. The remaining production areas saw precipitation trend near or slightly above normal.

Soil moisture remains short or critically short in much of Tamil Nadu, southern Andhra Pradesh, interior Karnataka, and western Rajasthan. Other locations have adequate to excessive moisture. Flash flooding was possible in areas that received the greatest amount of rain in recent days. However, crop and structural damage was suspected of being minimal.



WEATHER OUTLOOK

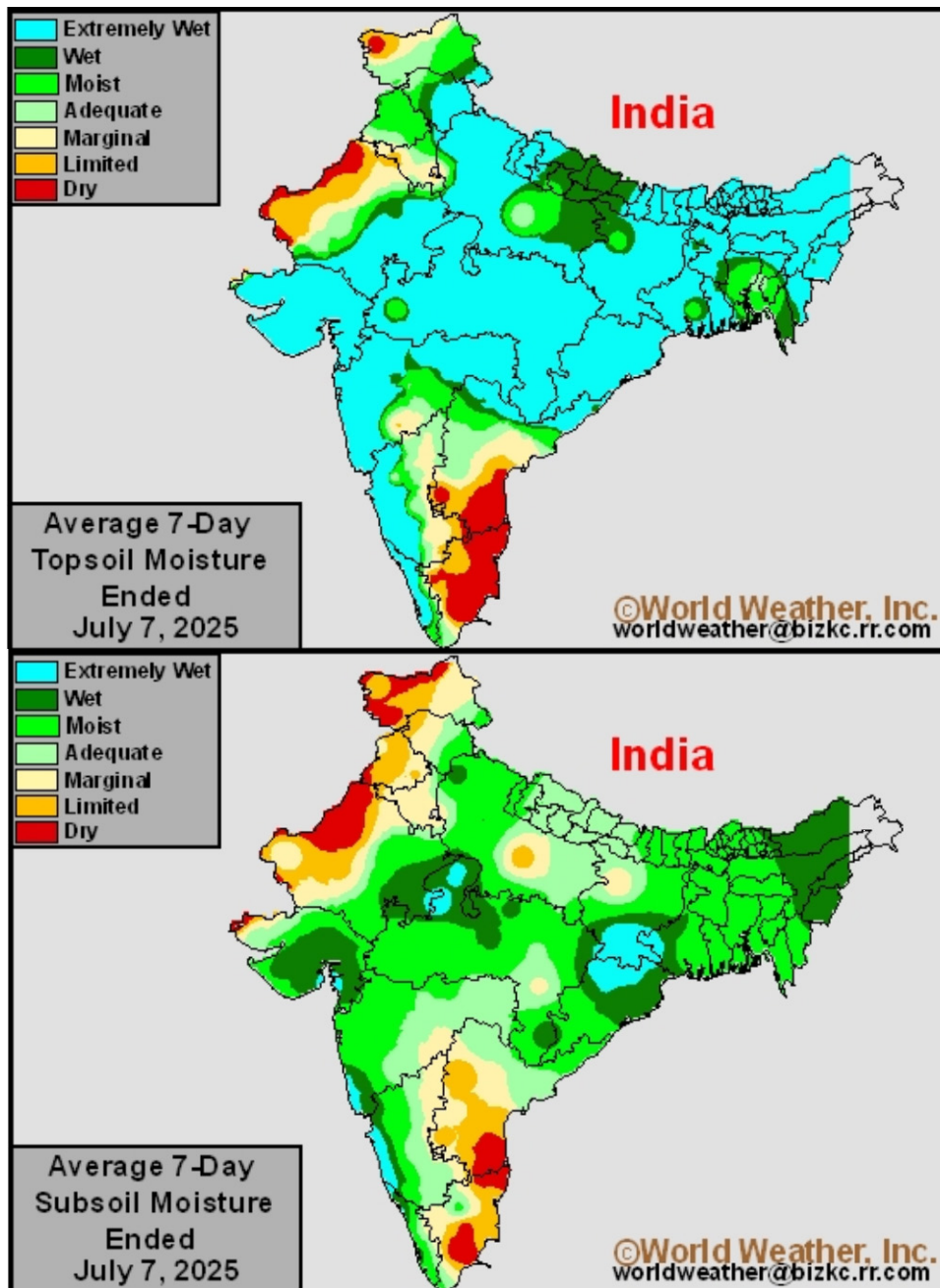
Waves of monsoonal rain in June and earlier this month supported relatively favorable planting conditions for much of India. With wetter than usual conditions noted in portions of central, western, and northern India, many producers have planted a greater than usual amount of crop for this time of year. Planting will prevail in the coming weeks and the need for timely rain will persist.

Southern India missed out on significant early-season monsoonal rain. Several areas in Tamil Nadu, southern Andhra Pradesh, interior Karnataka, and immediate neighboring areas are too dry for ideal long-term development conditions. Unless a good shot of rain occurs in the near future, production may be a little lower than usual for the early-planted crops produced in the region. Western Rajasthan and Bihar are also a little dry and would benefit from increased rainfall.

A relatively normal distribution of monsoonal rain is slated for India this week. Precipitation will be scattered across eastern, central, and northern India on a frequent basis

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through Thursday as a monsoonal disturbance advances over the country. Light rain will also be scattered across portions of western and southern India during the next few days. Scattered showers will prevail for a large section of the country Friday and this weekend.



Madhya Pradesh, eastern Maharashtra, southern Uttar Pradesh, northern Chhattisgarh, Bangladesh, the Eastern States, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and coastal sections of Maharashtra and Karnataka will receive 2.00 to 6.00 inches of rain with local amounts of 10.00 inches or more by next Monday morning. Pockets in eastern Madhya Pradesh could receive more than 15.00 inches of moisture. Other locations will receive 0.75 to 4.00 inches with locally greater amounts. However, Tamil Nadu, southern Andhra

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Pradesh, interior Karnataka, southern fringes of Telangana and Maharashtra, western Rajasthan, and pockets in Bihar will miss out on much of the rain or not receive enough to impact long-term soil conditions.

Waves of monsoonal rain will persist for much of India July 15-21. Rainfall will be greatest in eastern, central, and northern India. Southern India and portions of western India will otherwise only receive light amounts of rain.

Localized flooding will be a concern in Madhya Pradesh and neighboring locations during the next several days due to periods of heavy rain. Minor crop and structural damage will be possible, though overall production losses should be minimal. Planting and general fieldwork may advance slowly during the next several days as well in the wettest locations. Long-term production potentials will otherwise remain favorable for much of India outside the driest areas in the south and extreme western Rajasthan.

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