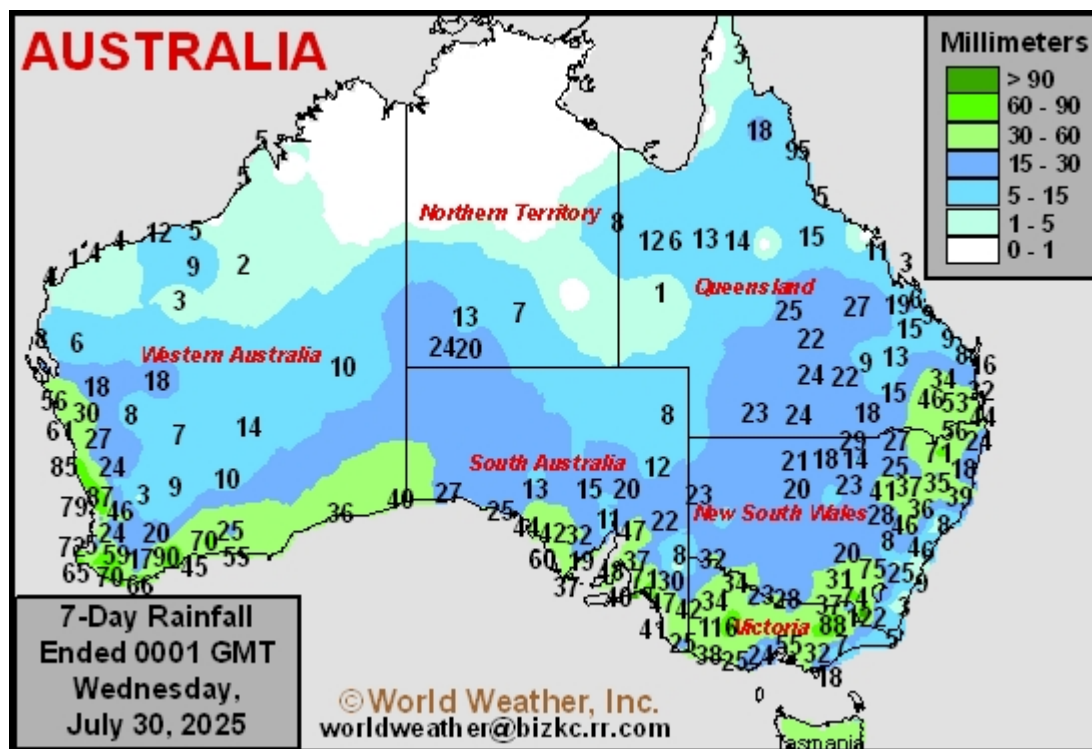


Eastern Australia Rainfall Welcome; More Needed

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, July 30 (World Weather Inc.) – Queensland, interior portions of South Australia and New South Wales saw welcome relief from dry conditions during the past week. Periods of rain helped improve short-term conditions for the winter wheat, barley and canola; although, more rain was needed. Western Australia, southeastern South Australia, and Victoria saw several waves of rain during the past week that helped maintain favorable long-term production potentials. Periods of rain will continue for Western Australia through the middle of next week. Wheat, barley, and canola conditions will remain favorable. Other production areas will either receive light rain or will be mostly dry through the middle of next week. Queensland and portions of New South Wales will again dry down and the need for timely rain will increase later in August.

The main winter grain and oilseed areas in Australia received rain during the past week. Western Australia, South Australia, and Victoria received anywhere from 0.67 to 2.76 inches of rain with local amounts up to 4.57 inches for the seven-day period ending this morning. Queensland and New South Wales received 0.51 to 1.26 inches of moisture.

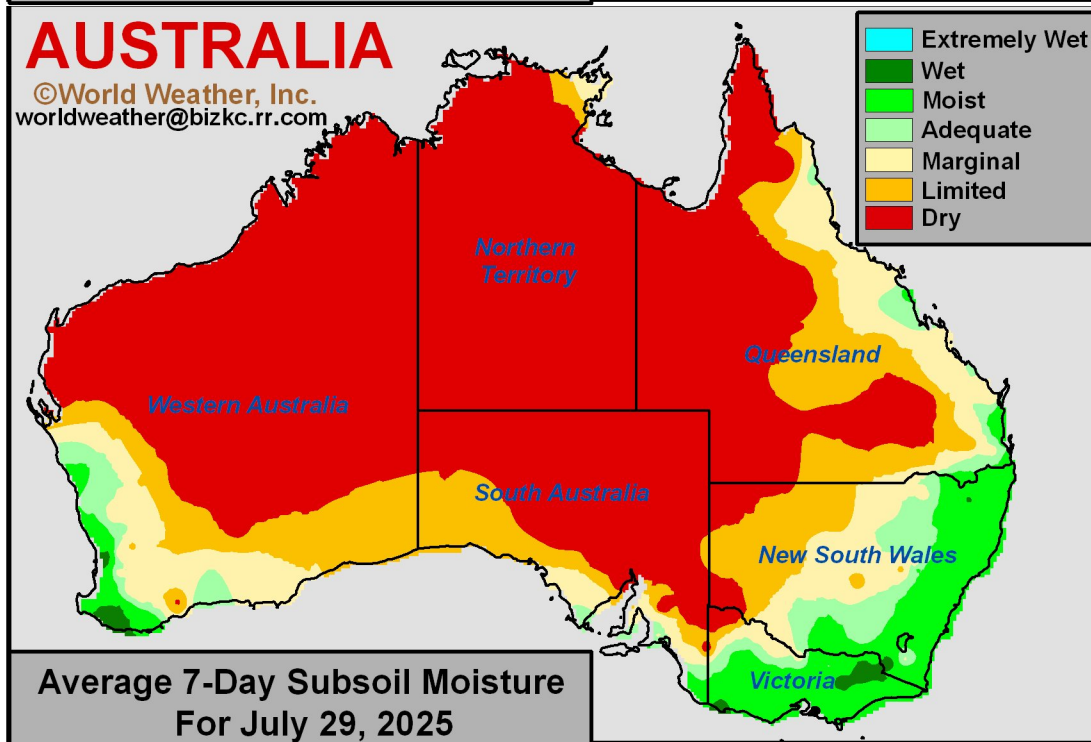
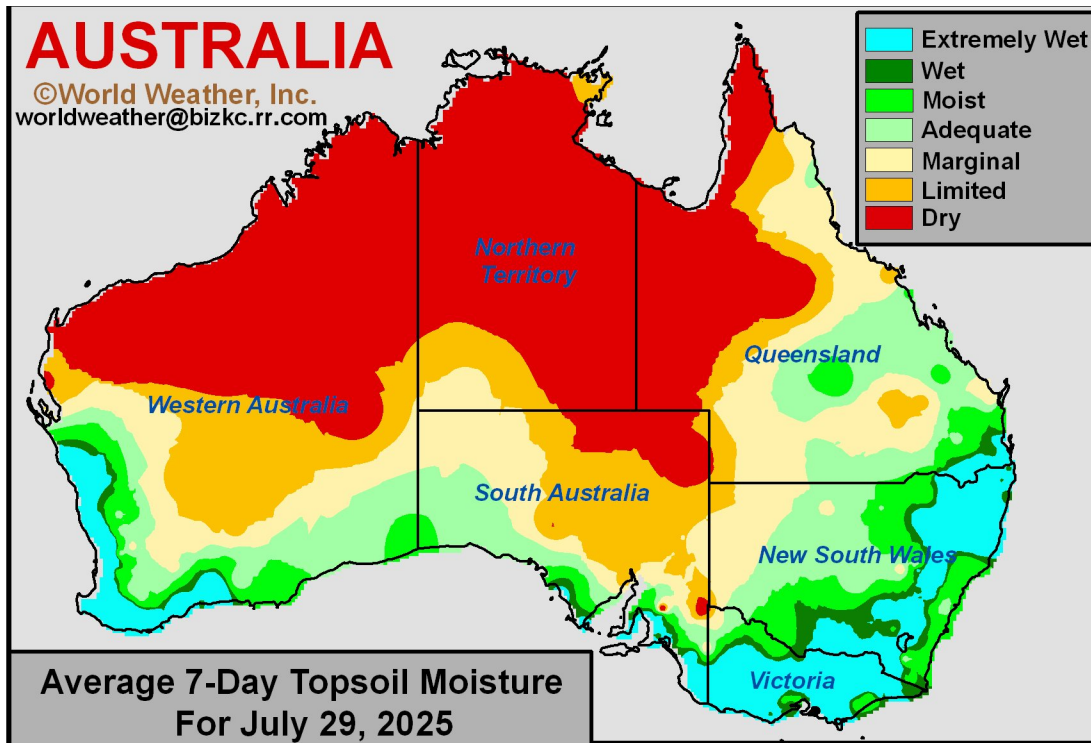


Recent rainfall helped improve topsoil moisture to adequate or marginally adequate levels in much of Queensland and New South Wales. However, Queensland and portions of northern and western New South Wales still have short or critically short subsoil moisture. Western Australia, South Australia, and Victoria have adequate to excessive soil moisture.

Winter wheat, barley, and canola prospects remain favorable in a large section of Western Australia, South Australia, and Victoria despite some fields being a little too dry during the planting season. Rainfall over the winter has helped improve long-term

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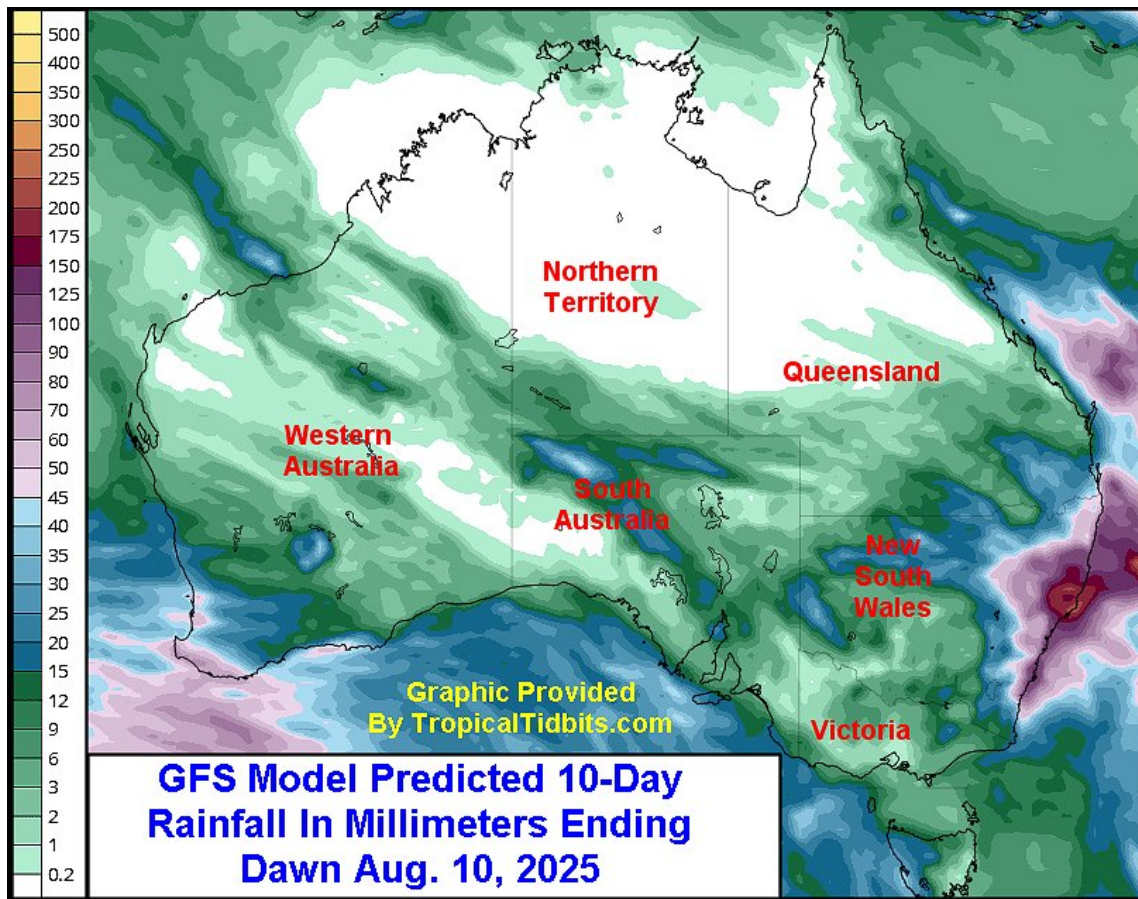
production potentials for these locations. Recent precipitation was also welcome for New South Wales and Queensland. However, these areas need additional rain to completely fix the moisture deficits and improve long-term production potentials.



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WEATHER OUTLOOK

Precipitation will vary across the main production areas in Australia through the middle of next week. An upper-level disturbance will bring spotty rain to portions of eastern Australia when tracking across the region through Friday. A frontal boundary will also bring rain to Western Australia Friday and this weekend with some light rain also reaching South Australia and Victoria Sunday and Monday. Spotty precipitation will also occur in portions of Western Australia Monday and Tuesday.



Western Australia and portions of northern New South Wales and southern fringes of Queensland will receive 0.25 to 1.00 inch of rain by next Wednesday morning. The southwest corner of Western Australia will also receive 2.00 inches or more of moisture. South Australia, Victoria, and other areas in New South Wales and Queensland will either be dry or not receive enough rain to impact long-term soil conditions. The main production areas will again have a few opportunities for erratic rainfall August 7 – 13.

Winter grain and oilseed potentials will be favorable, although poor establishment earlier this autumn and winter may have a small negative impact on production, but much of that will be determined by early spring weather. Periods of rain and mild temperatures over a few weeks this spring would provide the best recovery potential whereas if temperatures suddenly turn very warm and conditions dry out the poorly established crops will not have time to improve enough to bring back the best yield

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potentials. World Weather, Inc. anticipates a relatively good mix of weather this spring to support production in a favorable manner.

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