

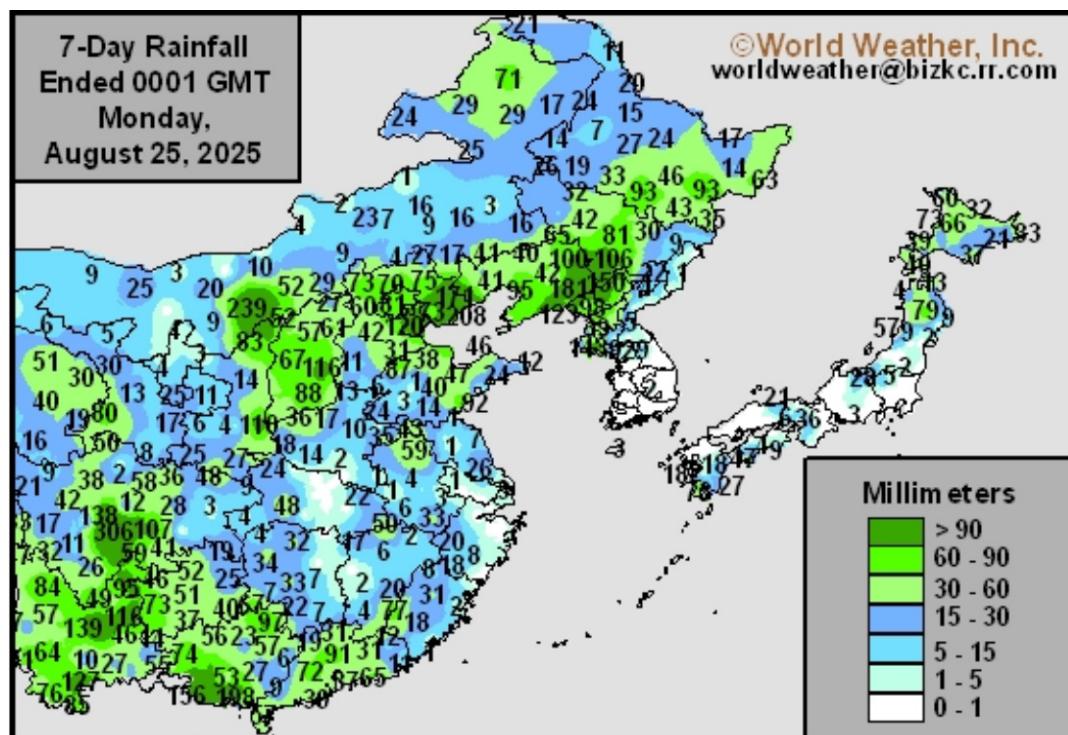
SE China Drying To Be Eased Long Before Crops Suffer

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, August 25 (World Weather Inc.) – Several pockets in southeastern China and the central Yangtze Basin dried down during the past week due to a lack of rain and periods of warmer-than-normal weather. These areas still had enough subsoil moisture to support growth and development, although rain is needed to reduce stress.

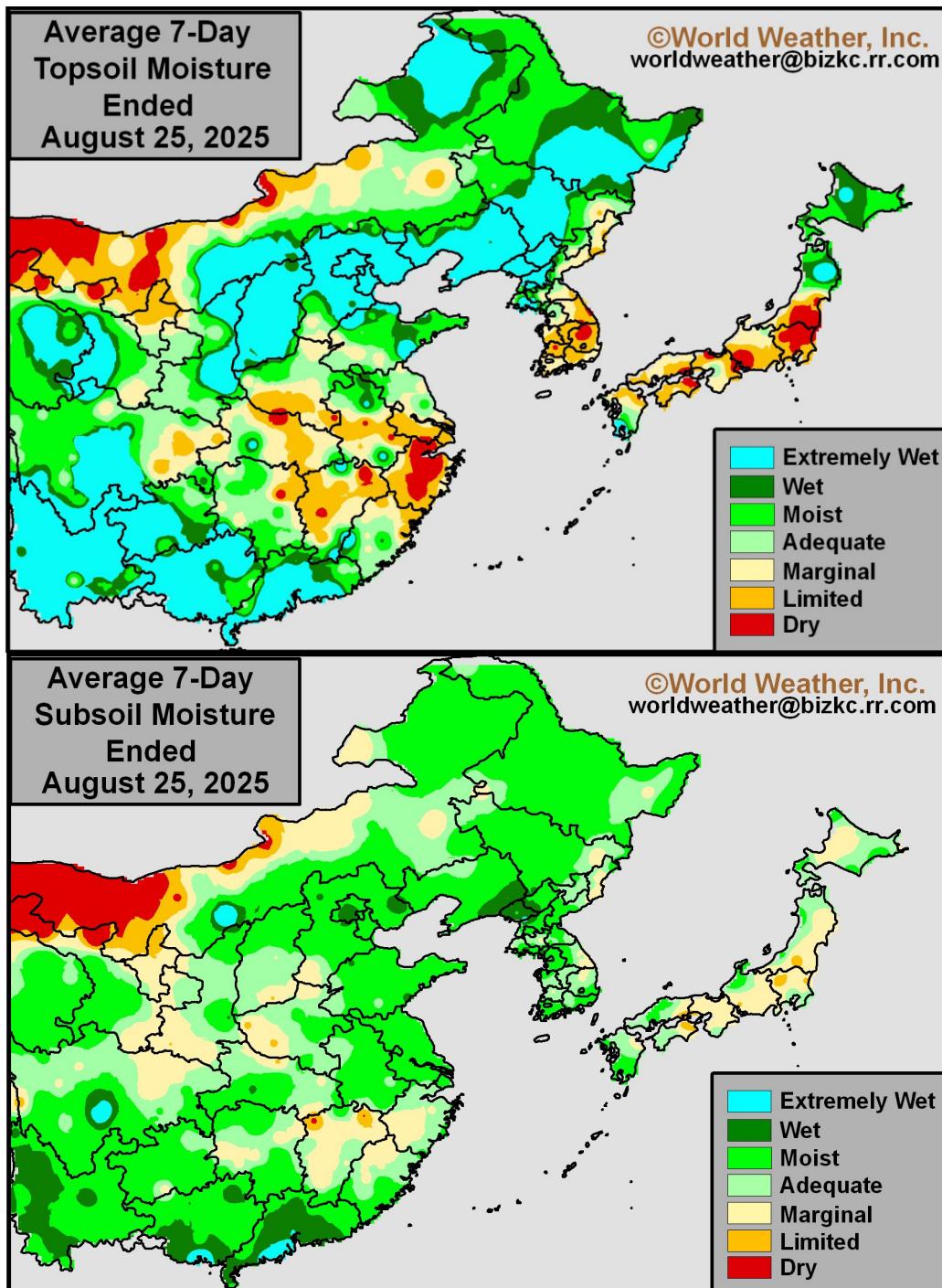
The region will get timely rainfall in this coming week restoring soil moisture and ensuring that normal crop development continues. Most other areas in China experienced favorable weather in the past week and will experience a good mix of rain and sunshine over the next ten days that will bolster or keep soil moisture at adequate to excessive levels.

Rainfall varied significantly across the main production areas in China during the past week. Yunnan, Guangxi, central Sichuan, Shanxi, Shaanxi, Hebei, Liaoning, Jilin, southern Heilongjiang, and portions of central and northeastern Inner Mongolia received 1.00 to 6.15 inches of rain with local amounts up to 12.00 inches for the seven-day period ending this morning. Most other locations received 0.50 to 3.50 inches of rain, though several pockets in Hubei, eastern Hunan, Jiangxi, Zhejiang, Jiangsu, southern Henan, and eastern Sichuan received little or no rain.



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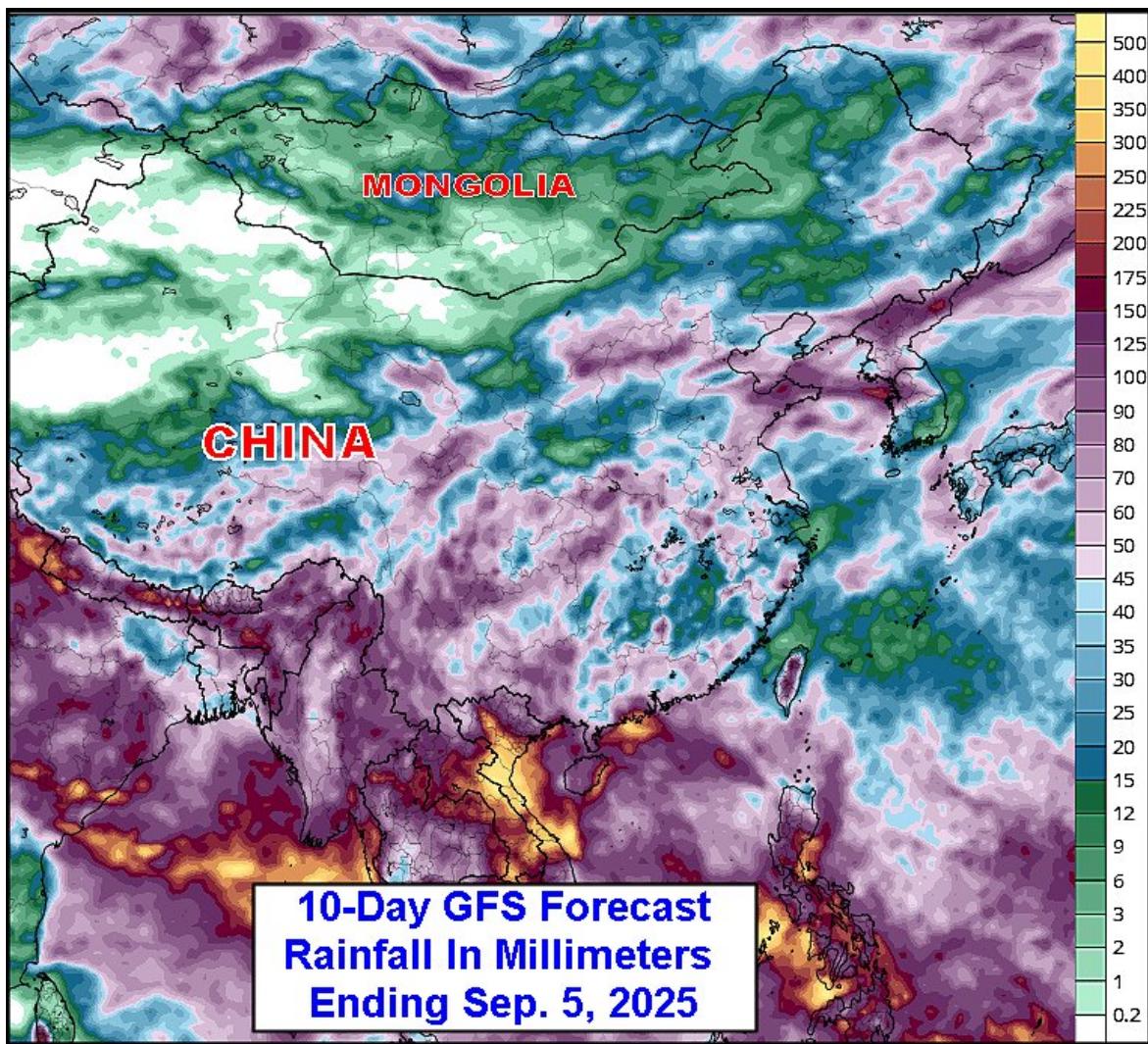
Yangtze River Basin still had some moisture and heat stress. Timely rain will be needed in the driest areas to maintain a good outlook for late-season development, though no major production impacts are expected. Drier weather is otherwise needed in some of the wettest fields to support a better environment for crop maturation and early-season harvesting.



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WEATHER OUTLOOK

China's main production areas will all have several opportunities for rain this week. Erratic rainfall will evolve on a daily basis for areas near and south of the Yangtze River. A series of disturbances will also promote waves of rain from the North China Plain and central Yellow River Basin into Northeast China and central Inner Mongolia. Most locations will receive 0.75 to 4.00 inches of rain by next Monday morning. There will be pockets in Yunnan, Liaoning, and southern Jilin that receive 6.00 inches or slightly more of rain. A few locations in southeastern China and the central Yellow River Basin will also only receive 0.25 to 0.75 inch of moisture.



Temperatures will trend near to above normal for much of China this week. Daytime highs will peak to the 80s and 90s Fahrenheit most often with pockets in southeastern China warming above 100 degrees later this week and weekend. Many areas in northern China, Heilongjiang and Inner Mongolia in particular, will often only warm to the 70s as well. Low temperatures will be in the 60s and 70s with many areas near and south of the Yangtze

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River only cooling to the 80s. Portions of northern China will also cool to the upper 40s and 50s.

Alternating periods of rain and sunshine will prevail for much of China September 2-8. However, many areas in the North China Plain and central Yellow River Basin will only receive light amounts of rain. Temperatures will again trend near to above normal.

Additional rain in coming weeks will help maintain a good environment for late-season grain, oilseed, cotton, sugarcane, and other crop development for much of China. The lack of abundant rainfall will also be welcome for the maturing crops and for any early-season harvesting that will take place. Overall, production potentials will remain favorable for the country.

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