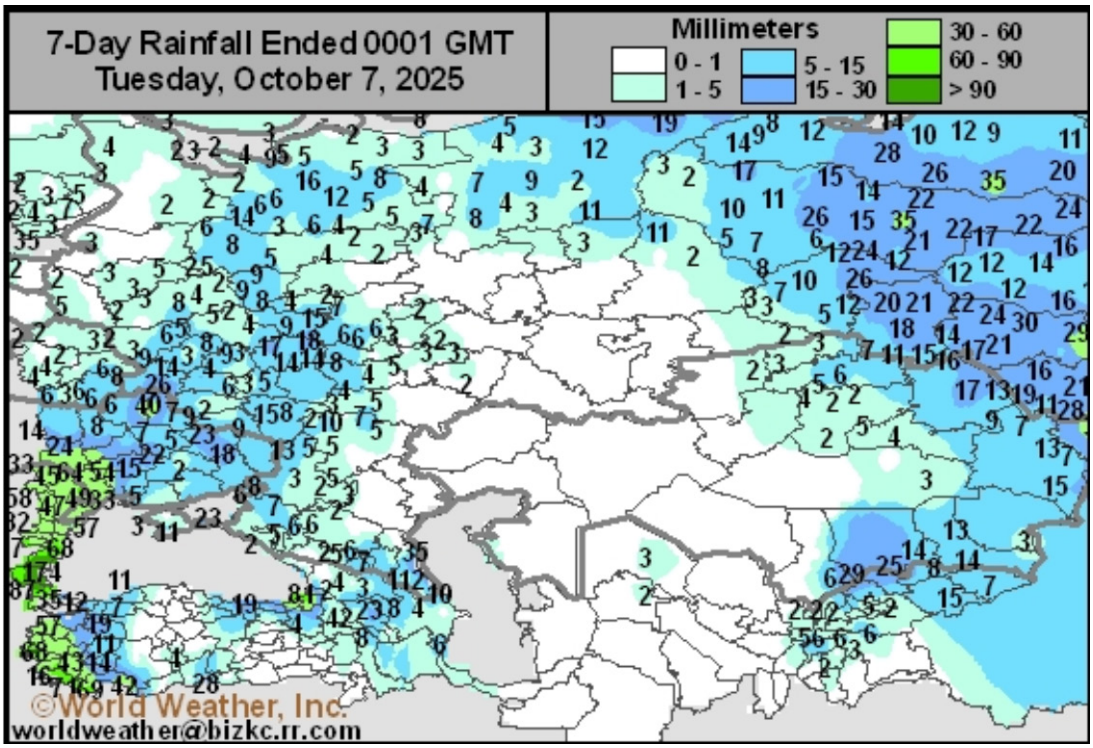
Ukraine, Russia Rain To Benefit Winter Crops

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, October 8 (World Weather Inc.) – ***Several locations in Ukraine, the main winter grain and oilseed areas in Russia, and western Kazakhstan are too dry to support aggressive establishment. These areas are in need of significant rain to not only improve establishment, but also support better long-term production potentials. These areas will see a good mix of rain and sunshine through the middle of next week that will bolster soil moisture. However, additional rain will be needed to completely fix the moisture deficits. Winter grains and oilseeds will still react favorably to the rain.***

Ukraine saw a mix of erratic rain and sunshine during the past week. Moisture totals for the seven-day period ending October 7 ranged from 0.20 to 0.95 inch with local amounts up to 2.13 inches in the north and southwest. Several areas in western Russia, Russia's eastern New Lands, and northern Kazakhstan received 0.12 to 1.02 inches of rain. Pockets in Russia's Volga River Basin and USDA defined 'Southern Region' received up to 0.39 inch of rain, though several locations received little to no rain. Western Kazakhstan and the Ural Mountains region were mostly dry.



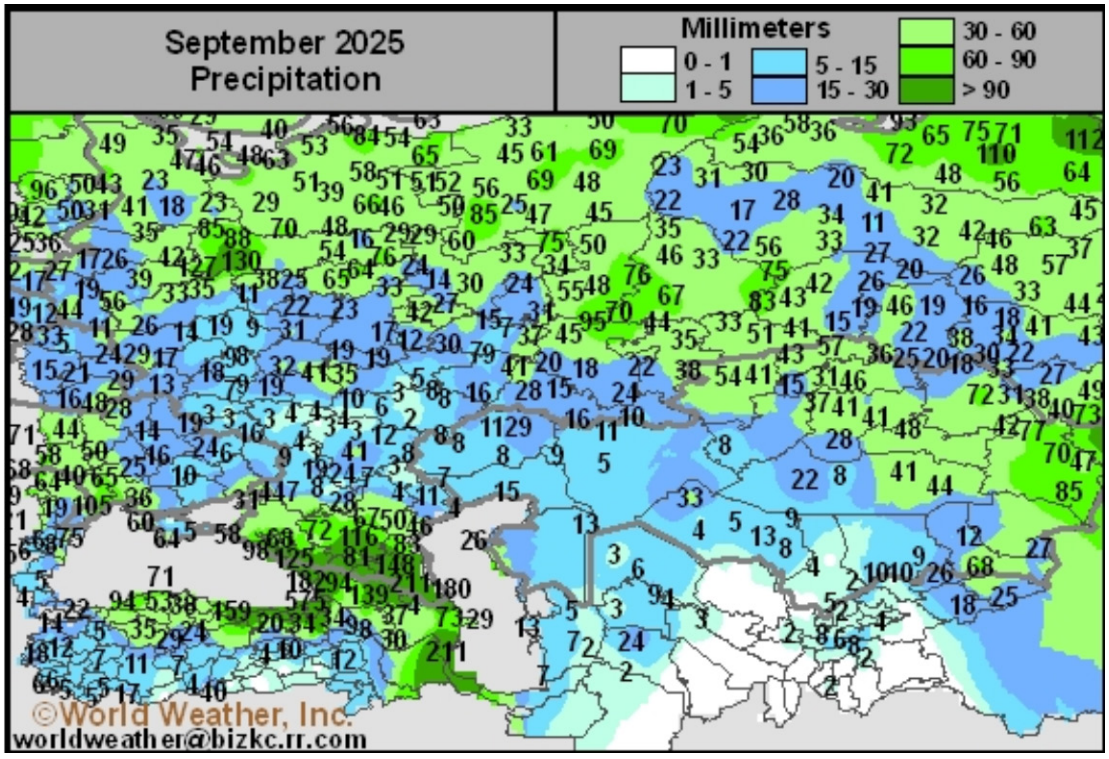
The Volga River Basin and portions of southwestern Russia, eastern Ukraine, western Kazakhstan, and portions of Russia's 'Southern Region' were drier biased in September. These areas received 0.20 to 0.95 inch of rain with local amounts up to 2.50 inches.

Several locations in the Volga River Basin and 'Southern Region into western Kazakhstan and eastern Ukraine have short or critically short soil moisture due to the

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lack of rain in recent weeks. Other locations in Russia, Ukraine, and northern Kazakhstan generally have adequate moisture.

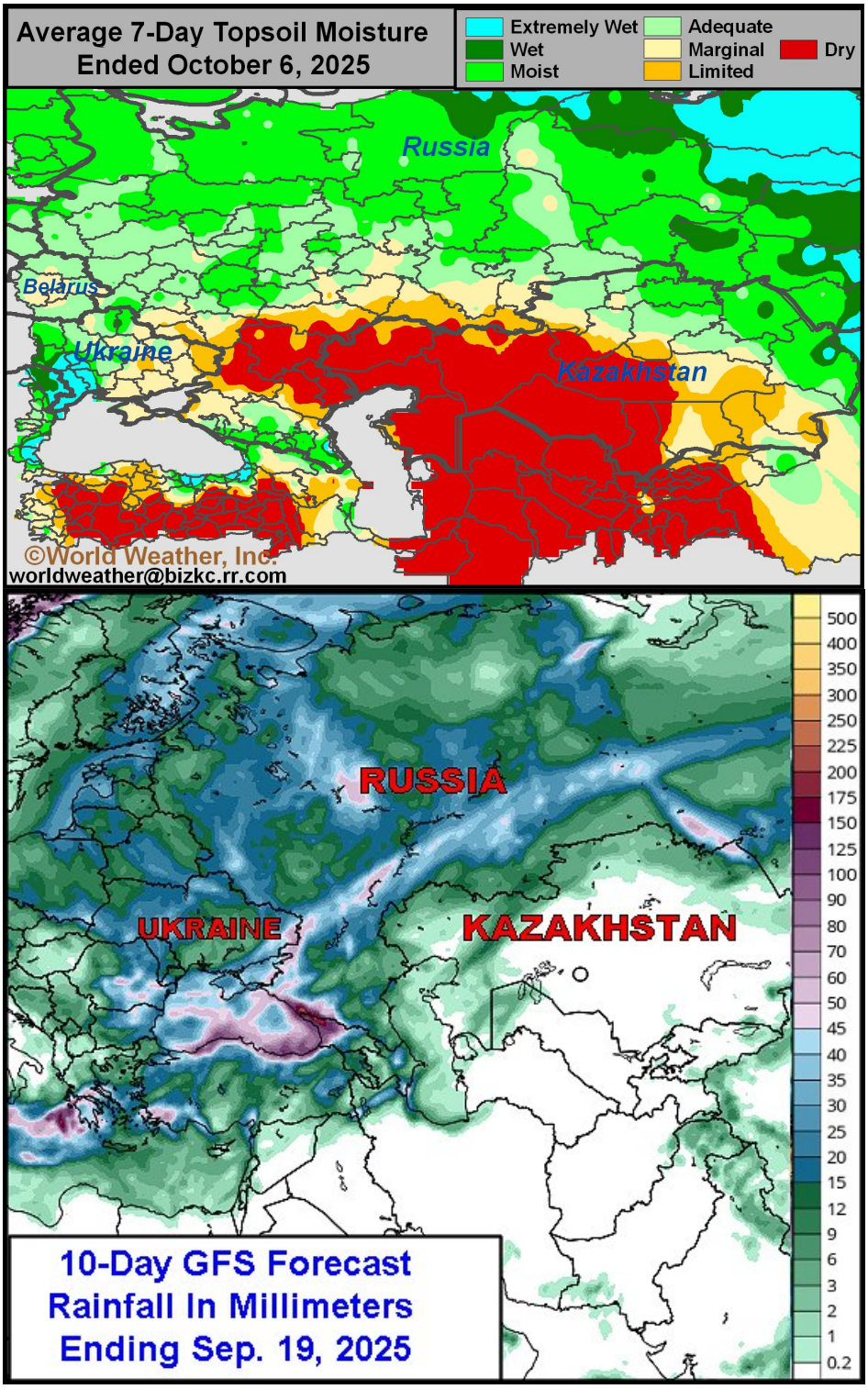
The lack of moisture in the main winter grain and oilseed areas in Russia, western Kazakhstan, and eastern Ukraine is impacting crop establishment. The need for rain is high for the near future to improve establishment conditions before temperatures turn cold enough to induce winter dormancy. Continued dryness would raise the potential for poor crop establishment which might lead to lower production in 2026.



Much of Ukraine, Russia's Volga River Basin and 'Southern Region', and western Kazakhstan will see a mix of rain and sunshine through the middle of next week. An upper-level disturbance will initially promote erratic rainfall today and Thursday. Another upper-level system will continue to generate precipitation Friday through the first part of next week. Moisture totals by next Wednesday morning will range from 0.50 to 2.00 inches with drier pockets in western Kazakhstan and neighboring areas in Russia. These areas will again have a few opportunities for precipitation October 16-22, though resulting precipitation will be lower compared to the first week of the outlook.

The moisture profile will slowly improve for much of Ukraine, Russia's Volga River Basin and 'Southern Region', and western Kazakhstan through the middle of next week. The driest areas in Russia and Kazakhstan will not receive enough rain to completely fix the moisture deficits and additional precipitation will still be needed late this month and in early November. Winter grain and oilseed establishment conditions will still improve due to the waves of precipitation expected through mid-week.

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