

Weekly Citrus Weather

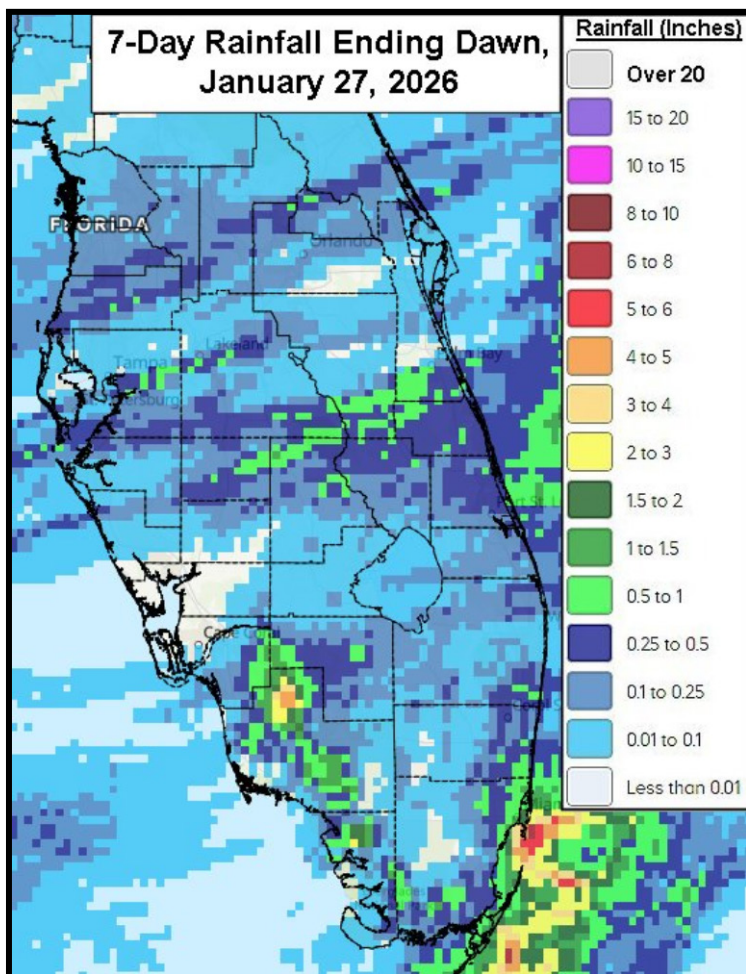
By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, January 27 (World Weather Inc.) – *A pool of arctic air will slowly make its way across eastern North America during the coming week. This air mass will drop temperatures below or well below normal for Florida's citrus country with nighttime lows dropping into the 20s Fahrenheit Sunday into early next week. This bout of cold air will bring with it some of the coldest conditions to occur in Florida this winter season and may damage some of the unprotected crops.* In Brazil, several locations in Sao Paulo and southwestern Minas Gerais were dry during the past week. However, rain will return during the coming week and main a good outlook for the citrus. *Many areas in northeastern Mexico also experienced frost and light freezes this morning.* Minor damage was possible in areas that did take precautions ahead of the cold.

FLORIDA

Florida may be subjected to the coldest temperatures of the season during the weekend and early part of next week. Sunday through Tuesday will likely be coldest.

Temperatures will be cold enough to potentially damage citrus in portions the main



production areas later this weekend and early next week.

Spray irrigation and other forms of warming citrus groves will likely be used ahead of the cold front, though conditions may be harsh enough to impact some of the production potentials for the upcoming season if adequate protection is not provided.

It is still unclear how low temperatures will get in this event and a very close monitoring of the situation is warranted. *For now, early indications suggest temperatures could fall deeply into the 20s.* A less significant cold airmass last week generated some lows of 25 to 30 degrees in the citrus belt and conditions were not nearly as good as they may be for the freeze event coming up which suggests an even colder morning is possible.

Daytime highs will peak

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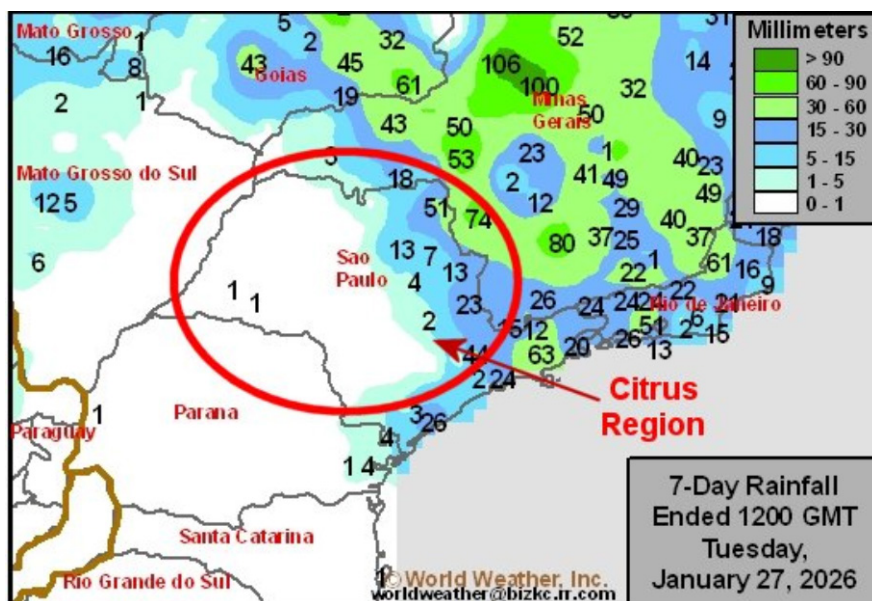
to the 50s and lower 60s with pockets in the upper 60s through Friday and again at the beginning of next week. Highs will drop to the 40s and lower 50s this weekend due to the cold front. Nighttime lows will be in the 30s and lower 40s through Saturday before dropping to the 20s and lower 30s Sunday and Monday. Lows will rebound back to the 30s and lower 40s next Tuesday.

Florida will receive limited precipitation during the coming week. High pressure will promote mostly dry weather through Friday. A frontal boundary will generate light rain Saturday with a few lingering showers early Sunday. Drier weather will return early next week. Moisture totals by next Tuesday morning will range from trace amounts to 0.25 inch and local amounts up to 0.50 inch. Rainfall will again supplement irrigation, though irrigation will be the primary source for moisture. Harvesting and general farming activity will advance around the rain.

In the meantime, precipitation varied across the main citrus areas in Florida during the past week. Several areas in Collier County received 0.50 to 3.00 inches of rain with locally greater amounts for the seven-day period ending this morning. Other locations received trace amounts to 0.50 inches of rain with locally greater amounts from Indian River and southern Brevard Counties into northern Highlands County and neighboring areas, along with pockets in western Hendry and eastern Lee Counties. The rain supplemented irrigation and was beneficial for any citrus that is flowering. Harvesting and general farming activity likely advanced around the rain.

Seasonable to seasonably warm weather was most common for Florida during the past week. However, highs only reached the upper 60s and 70s Fahrenheit January 20 – 21 and again January 26 while highs most other days were in the upper-70s to mid-80s. Nighttime lows were in the upper 40s and 50s with many areas only cooling to the lower 60s January 25 – 26. Lows this morning also dropped to the 30s with pockets in the north cooling to the upper 20s. Overall citrus damage was likely minimal due to the cold weather this morning. Only minor leaf burning was suspected.

BRAZIL



Eastern fringes of Sao Paulo and pockets in southwestern Minas Gerais saw a mix of rain and sunshine during the past week. Moisture totals for the seven-day period ending this morning ranged from 0.16 to 0.91 inch with local amounts up to 2.01 inches. Other locations in Sao Paulo were dry or did not

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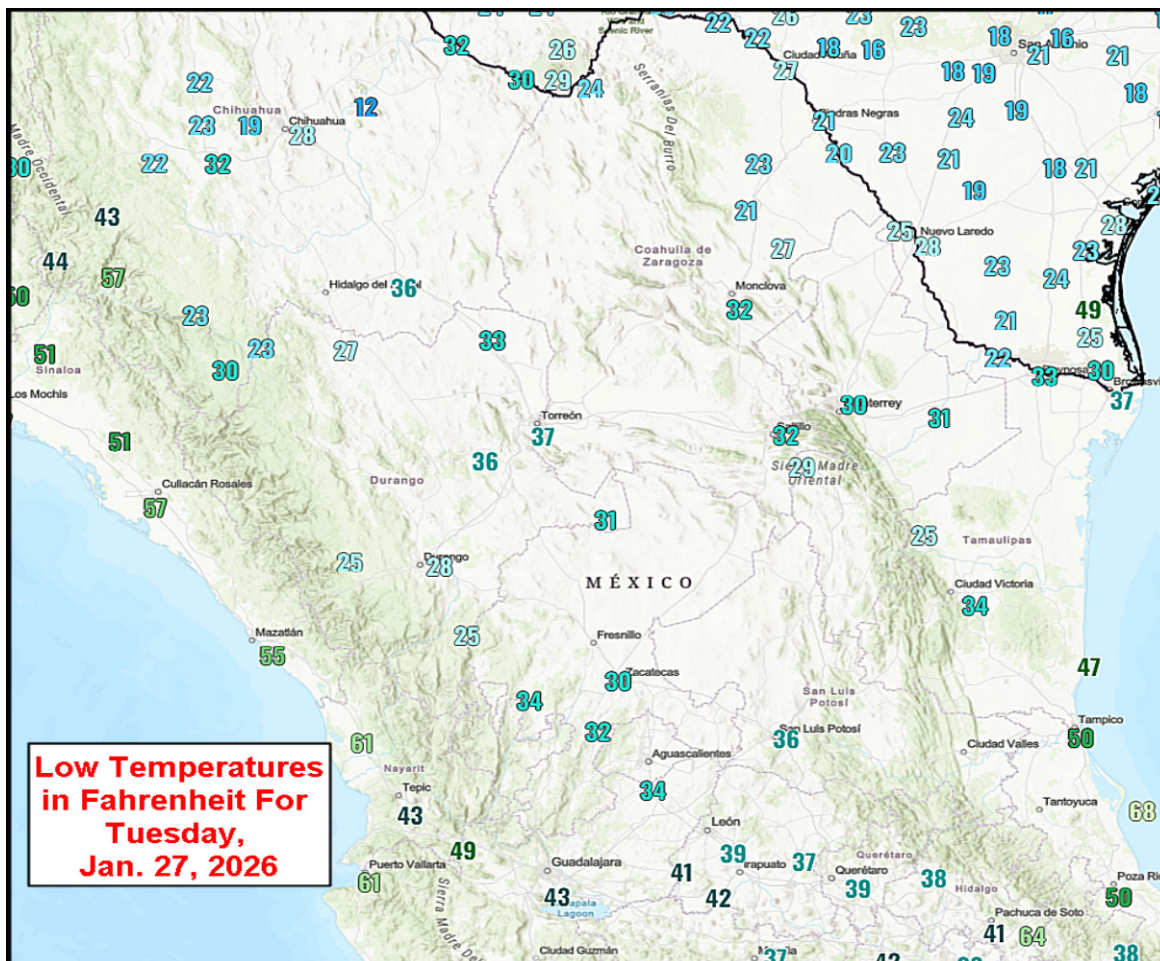
receive enough rain to counter evaporation. Temperatures were near to above normal with highest readings in the upper 80s and 90s. Lowest temperatures were in the upper 50s and 60s.

Net drying was noted in a large section of Sao Paulo and southwestern Minas Gerais during the past week due to the lack of rain and periods of warmer than usual weather. There was still some moisture in the subsoil to support new growth, though the main production areas are in need of more significant rain for ideal long-term production potentials.

Rain will return to much of Sao Paulo and southwestern Minas Gerais during the coming week. Scattered showers will occur on a near daily basis. The most widespread rain will occur Thursday into Friday and again early next week. Moisture totals by next Tuesday morning will range from 1.00 to 3.00 inches with local amounts over 4.00 inches. Temperatures will be near normal with daytime highs in the upper 70s and 80s with pockets occasionally warming to the lower 90s. Low temperatures will be in the 60s and 70s.

Waves of rain during the coming week will slowly restore soil moisture to more favorable levels across the main citrus areas. Development conditions will improve or remain favorable.

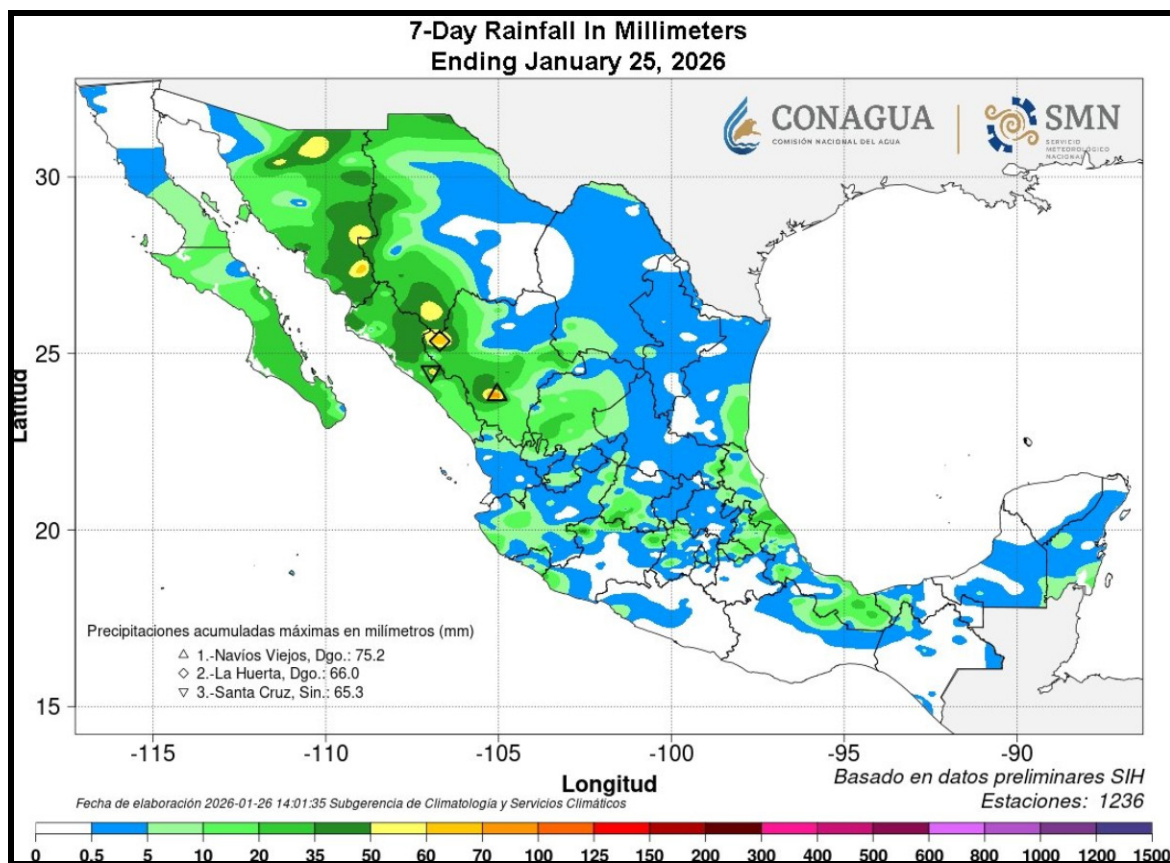
MEXICO



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Frost and freeze condition occurred in northern Mexico this morning. The cold was significant for a few unprotected citrus production areas in the northeast parts of the nation. Most of the lows were in the 30 Fahrenheit; however, several extremes in the upper 20s were noted which may have induced a little damage to unprotected citrus trees. Those areas that applied spray irrigation overnight likely experienced little to no damage to trees, blossom buds or unharvested fruit. An assessment of damage will be forthcoming in future days and weeks. Most likely the impact was low except in areas where no spray irrigation was available to protect crops.

Prior to this morning, temperatures fluctuated between warm and cold during the past week. Highest readings were in the 80s and lower 90s with pockets in east-central and northeastern Mexico only warming to the lower 80s. Lowest temperatures were in the 30s and 40s in northeastern Mexico and the 40s and 50s with pockets in the 60s in east-central and northeastern Mexico.



Veracruz, northern Oaxaca, southeastern Tamaulipas, and pockets in San Luis Potosi, Colima, and Michoacan saw a mix of rain and sunshine during the past week. Moisture totals for the seven-day period ending January 25 ranged from trace amounts to 0.75 inch and locally greater amounts. Other production areas were dry or did not receive enough rain to counter evaporation.

The rain was welcome in Mexico during the past week. Early-season flowering conditions have been relatively favorable due to the spotty rain. However, more widespread precipitation would be welcome in the coming weeks as citrus flowering continues. Any flowering that was occurring when freezes evolved this morning may lead to a cut in

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production. Most of the flowering, though, should have been in Veracruz and not in areas to the north.

Mexico's citrus areas will continue to see a mix of erratic rainfall and sunshine during the coming week. Light rain will initially be scattered across a few pockets in east-central and western Mexico through Thursday. A frontal boundary will generate more widespread rain Friday and Saturday. Rain will continue later this weekend and early next week as a disturbance passes over the country. Moisture totals by next Tuesday morning will range from 0.10 to 0.75 inch in most locations. However, several areas in Veracruz, northern Oaxaca, eastern Puebla, and Tamaulipas will receive 0.75 to 3.00 inches of rain. Temperatures will be near to below normal.

Daytime high temperatures in the coming week will peak to the 60s and 70s with many areas in western Mexico still warming to the 80s. Low temperatures will be in the 30s and 40s in northeastern Mexico and the 40s and 50s in east-central and western Mexico. Pockets in northeastern Mexico will also cool to the upper 20s Saturday.

The waves of rain will again be welcome across Mexico during the coming week. Precipitation will supplement irrigation where it is used and support relatively good early-season flowering. Harvesting and general farming activity will advance around the rain.

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