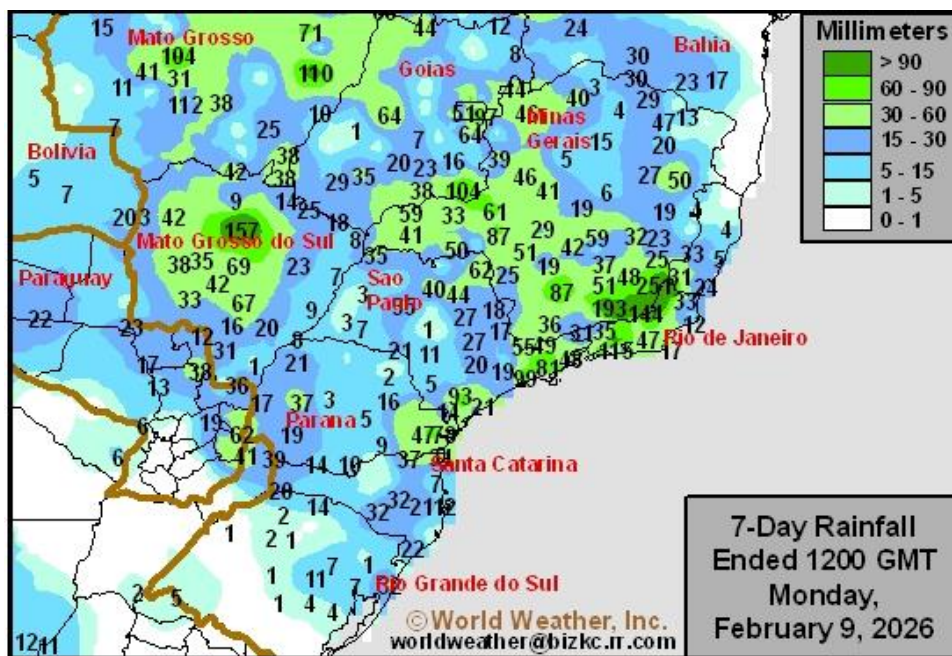


Brazil Harvest, Safrinha Corn Planting Advancing Around Rain

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, February 9 (World Weather Inc.) – Harvesting of the early-season crops and safrinha corn planting continued to expand across Brazil in recent days. Periods of significant rain in center-west and center-south Brazil may have delayed fieldwork at times during the past week while conditions were more favorable in the south. Establishment conditions remain relatively favorable for the early-planted safrinha corn, though several fields still need much more rain to support ideal long-term production potentials. Waves of rain are slated for much of Brazil this week that will help bolster or keep soil moisture at adequate to excessive levels. Harvesting and safrinha corn planting will likely advance swiftly around the rain. Establishment and early-season development conditions will remain relatively good in the main safrinha corn areas as well.

Mato Grosso and Mato Grosso do Sul into Goiás, Minas Gerais, and Rio de Janeiro received some of the most significant rain in Brazil during the past week. Moisture totals for the seven-day period ending this morning ranged from 0.59 to 4.00 inches with local amounts up to 9.88 inches in southern Minas Gerais for the seven-day period ending this morning. One location in northern Mato Grosso do Sul also reported 6.18 inches of rain. Sao Paulo, Parana, Santa Catarina, and portions of southern Bahia and southern Espirito Santo received 0.39 to 2.44 inches of rain with pockets in central Parana and western Sao Paulo that only received up to 0.20 inch of rain. A few locations in northern and eastern Rio Grande do Sul received 0.28 to 0.79 inch of moisture. Other locations in southern and extreme northeastern Bahia received little to no rain.

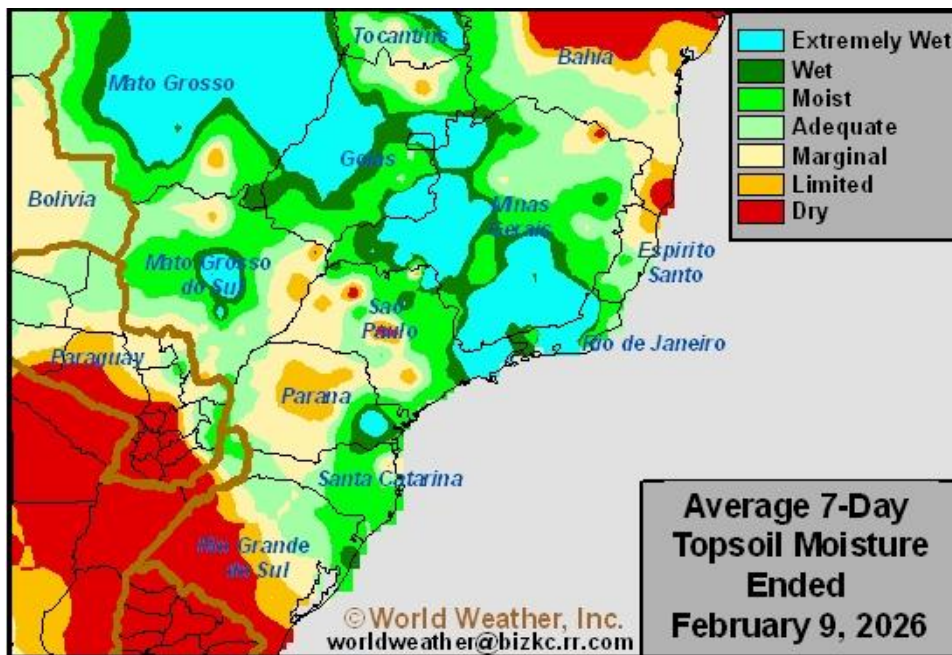


Soil moisture is rated adequate or excessive in a large section of Brazil. However, portions of Rio Grande do Sul have a shortage of moisture due to the lack of rain and warm

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weather during the past week. Pockets in Parana, western Sao Paulo, and immediate neighboring areas also have a shortage of moisture in the topsoil.

Harvesting of the early-planted crops is ongoing across Brazil. As of January 31, soybean harvesting was 11.4% complete. First-season corn harvesting was 8.6% finished while dry bean harvesting was 35.3% complete. Only 1.4% of the rice was out of the ground. Harvesting likely progressed around the rain in more recent days, though some delays were possible in areas that received the greatest amount of rain during the past week. Coarse grains, oilseeds, and cotton that were still in the development stages received enough rain or had enough moisture to support relatively favorable development as well. Overall production potentials remain favorable.



Safrinha corn planting is also expanding across portions of Brazil. As of January 31, planting was 12.0% complete, down slightly from 14.0% for the previous five-year average. Mato Grosso had 22.1% of its crop in the ground, compared to 6.0% in Parana, 2.0% in Mato Grosso do Sul, 4.0% in Minas Gerais, and 1.0% in Goias. Rainfall during the past few weeks helped improve the moisture profile for most safrinha corn areas. While establishment conditions improved or remained favorable, significant rain is still needed in the coming weeks to support ideal long-term production potentials.

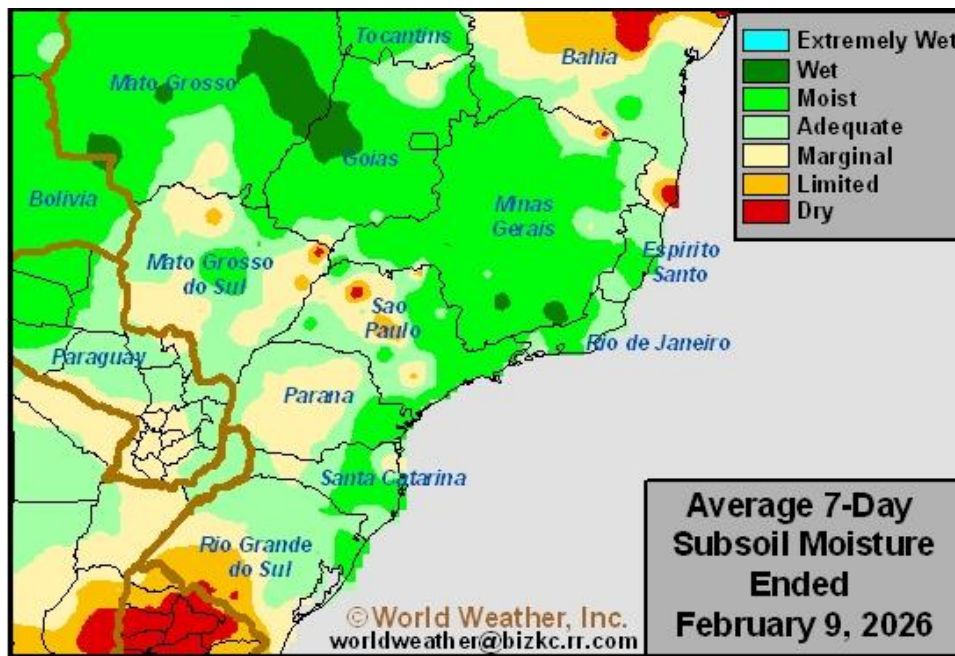
Waves of rain are slated for much of Brazil this week. Most locations outside southern Brazil will initially receive rain today and Tuesday. More widespread rain will then occur later this week and weekend as disturbances track across the country. Moisture totals by next Monday morning will range from 1.00 to 3.00 inches with local amounts of 4.00 inches or slightly more in center-west and center-south Brazil. Alternating periods of rain and sunshine will persist for much of Brazil's main production areas February 17 – 23.

Seasonable to seasonably warm weather is slated for much of Brazil this week. Daytime highs will peak to the upper 70s and 80s Fahrenheit with many areas in southern Brazil and Mato Grosso do Sul often warming to the 90s through Thursday. Pockets in northeastern Brazil will also warm to the 90s later this week and weekend. Low

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temperatures will be in the 60s and 70s with pockets in southern Brazil cooling to the 50s. Temperatures will remain near to above normal February 17 – 23.

The periods of rain in the coming weeks will maintain a good environment for the later-planted soybeans, first-season corn, and other early-planted crops across Brazil. Harvesting and general fieldwork will likely advance swiftly around the periods of rain as well. Production potentials will remain favorable for most locations. Safrinha corn planting and establishment conditions will be relatively good in much of center-west and center-south Brazil as well.



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