

Brazil Safrinha Planting Weather Good; Will The Pattern Last?

By Drew Lerner

Kansas City, February 20 (World Weather Inc.) – Brazil’s cotton planting is nearly complete while Safrinha corn is only about one-third complete. Corn planting has advanced relatively well so far this season and the trend will likely continue over the next ten days, despite some increase in rainfall next week. The bigger question is how well will the crop perform overall this year? World Weather, Inc. believes the moisture profile will be a little short when the monsoon ends and there will be no extended rainy season this year like that of last year. That will raise some concern over the potential yields for the corn crop since it is dependent upon either timely rain or deep subsoil moisture to carry crops through the dry season. The situation is unlikely to become a crisis, but it may grab the market trade’s attention for a while this spring.

SAFRINHA CORN PLANTING PROGRESS FROM CONAB ON FEB. 14, 2026

Estado	Semana até:			Média 5 anos
	2025	2026		
	15-Feb	7-Feb	14-Feb	
Goiás	30.0%	3.0%	7.0%	23.4%
Piauí	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5.4%
Tocantins	40.0%	25.0%	30.0%	37.0%
São Paulo	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.4%
Minas Gerais	16.9%	10.0%	14.0%	13.2%
Maranhão	10.0%	2.0%	10.0%	16.0%
Mato Grosso do Sul	19.0%	8.0%	14.0%	19.2%
Mato Grosso	43.3%	37.1%	52.7%	58.1%
Paraná	46.0%	12.0%	22.0%	30.0%
9 estados	35.7%	21.6%	32.2%	38.6%

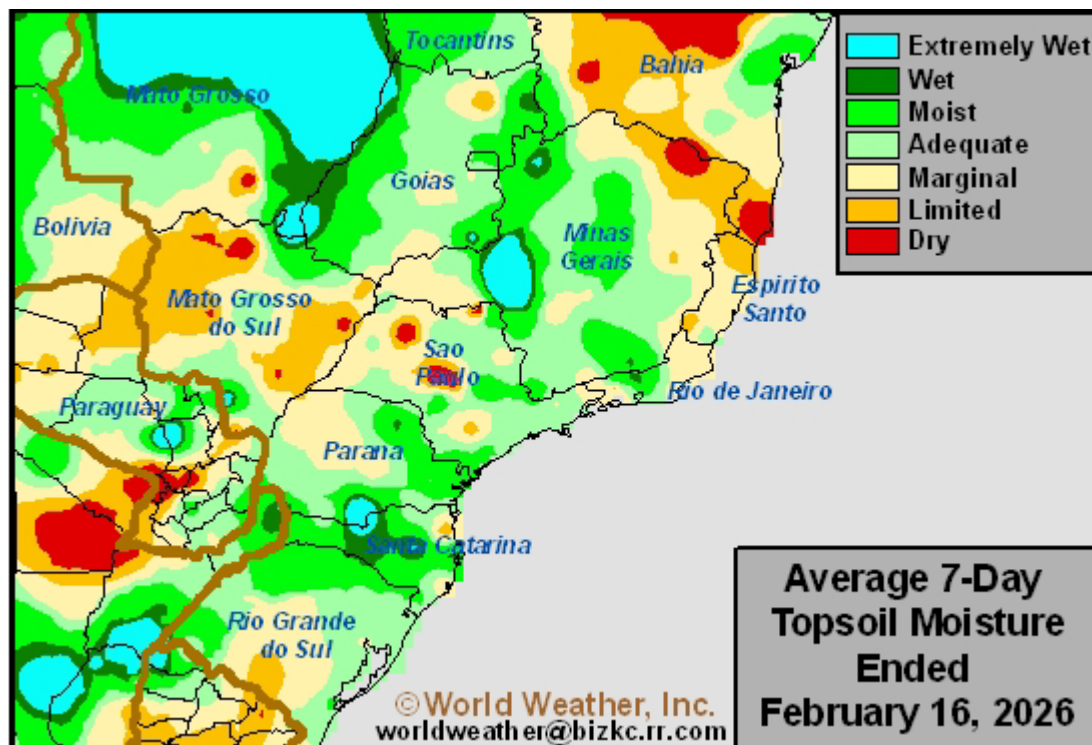
Soil conditions reported this week were nearly ideal for supporting crop development. Sufficient dry time occurred, as well, supporting some aggressive crop maturation and harvest progress in early soybeans, first season corn, dry beans and early rice. Fieldwork should have advanced well and that includes the planting of Safrinha corn and cotton (which is already mostly in the ground).

Recent weather and that which is expected over the next two weeks will be well balanced with alternating periods of rain and dry weather. The moisture will be sufficient to support ongoing and newly-planted crop development while the drier days will be ideal for harvesting and planting. The environment could not be much better.

There is some concern this year over soil moisture in center west production areas when the monsoon season ends in early April. World Weather, Inc. believes late season rainfall will become erratic and a little lighter than usual leaving soil moisture not ideally positioned to support Safrinha crops all the way through their reproductive process. Some timely off-season rainfall will be needed to ensure the best yields.

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World Weather, Inc. believes post monsoonal precipitation will not be anywhere near as great and anomalous as it was in 2025. Any low soil moisture that is present when the monsoon ends this year will set the stage for some potential crop stress during reproduction and filling if the forecast for normally dry weather is correct for late April and May.



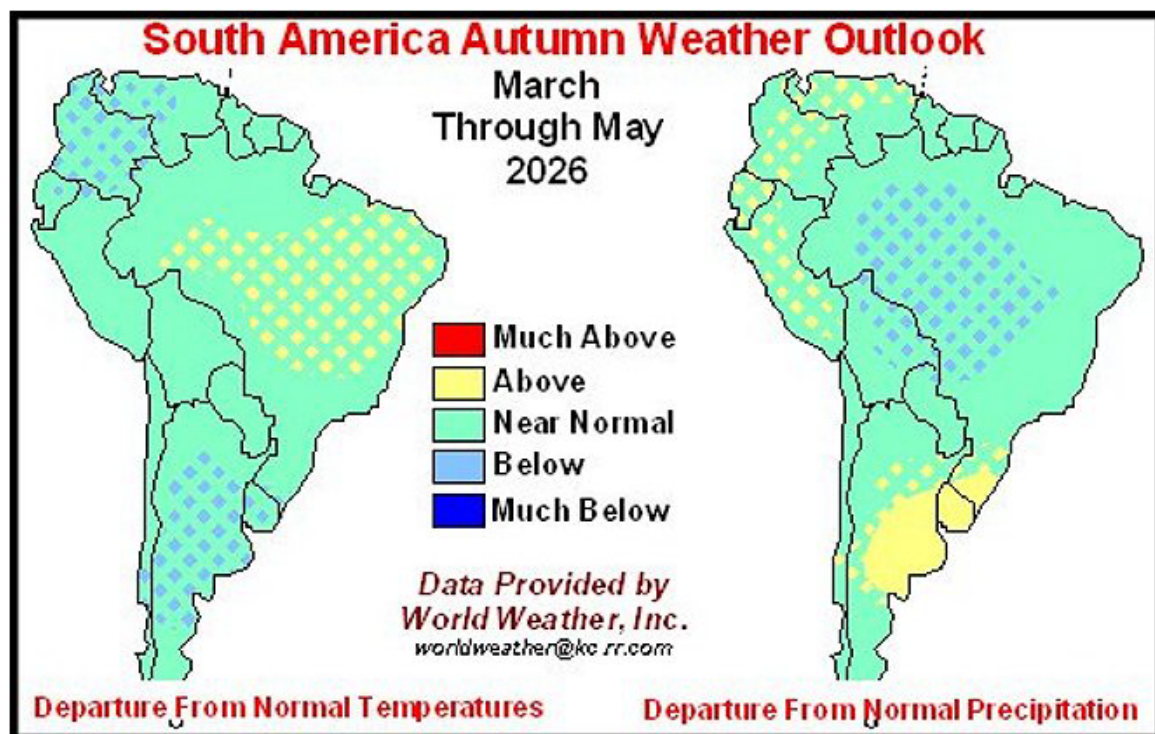
Typically, Safrinha corn and cotton require the ground to be completely saturated on the last day of the monsoon season which usually occurs in early April. Corn, in particular, is dependent upon abundant soil moisture and seasonable temperatures from late April through June to ensure the best yields during reproduction. If the moisture profile is running low as the monsoon ends there is a higher than usual potential for crop moisture stress during reproduction and this can be heightened by any warmer than usual temperatures that occur during those same weeks.

Last year's monsoon lasted much later than usual supporting Safrinha crops in a highly favorable manner, despite the fact that 25% of the crop was planted much later than usual. Fear over poor production was running rampant in late March and early April of 2025, but once it became obvious that timely rain was going to last through reproduction the bullishness disappeared and futures market prices started to fall. The fall in prices was not helped any when it became obvious that the U.S. would have a large summer crop as well.

This year's rainy season in Brazil will not be extended and if soil conditions are not totally saturated on the last day of the monsoon there is a good chance that some of the Safrinha corn and possibly a small part of the cotton crop could become stressed enough during reproduction to lose some yield potential. A close watch on the situation is warranted since World Weather, Inc. has been suggesting less than usual rainfall and a slight warmer than usual bias to temperatures in the March through May period. A disastrous crop of corn is certainly not expected since it will be well established when the monsoon ends and its deep root systems will buy some time before production is impacted. However,

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there will still be some crop moisture stress and yields may drift a little lower from what early season predictions might suggest.



A close watch on Safrinha corn development is warranted this year for possible support for rising futures market prices. Some of that concern for Safrinha corn will be added to concern over U.S. wheat damage and dryness in the Plains as well as concern over western and some central U.S. spring planting conditions. There will also be a little concern over Central Russia's crops because of possible spring flooding. All of this may support futures prices for a little weather-related scare this spring. Be careful, though, futures market price behavior in the past during the post sunspot maximum years tends to be trade range bound suggesting as weather conditions improve later this year market prices may relax and trend lower once again.

All of these comments are based on weather alone with no consideration for macro-economic and political issues that may come along. World Weather, Inc. and its staff are prohibited from trading commodity futures to ensure an unbiased opinion about the weather and its influence on agriculture and the market place.

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