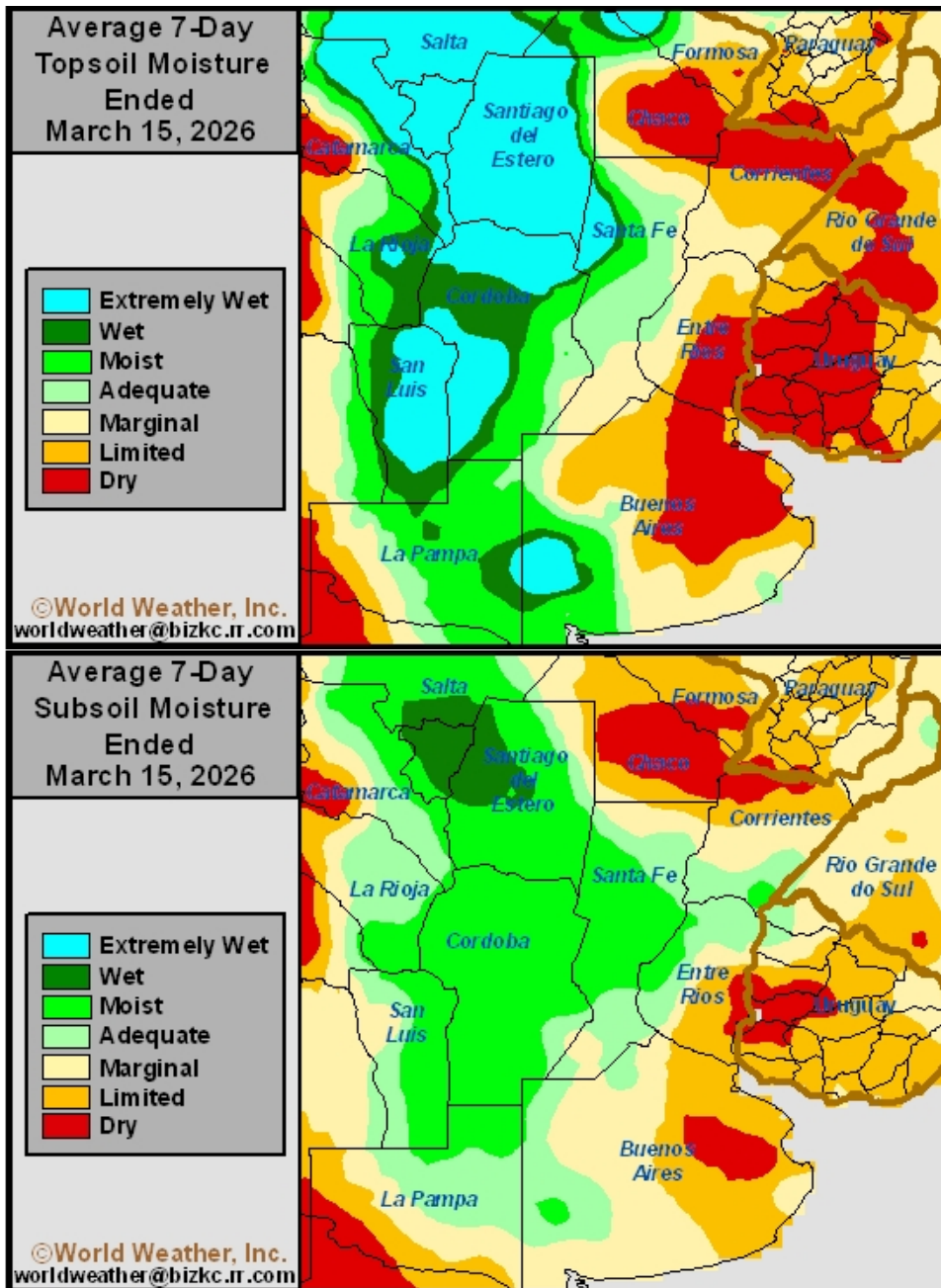


Argentina Rain To Saturate Soil, Delay Early Harvest

long term dryness; though more rain was still needed. One location in central Formosa received 4.76 inches of rain while most other totals were not more than 2.54 inches.

In contrast, [rainfall in eastern and some central parts of Argentina was quite limited resulting in net drying conditions leaving the ground quite short of moisture. The region from Corrientes into southern Paraguay and a part of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil remained quite dry during the week as did crop areas from northeastern Buenos Aires and Entre Rios into Uruguay. Some of these drier areas have been dry long enough to cut into production.](#)

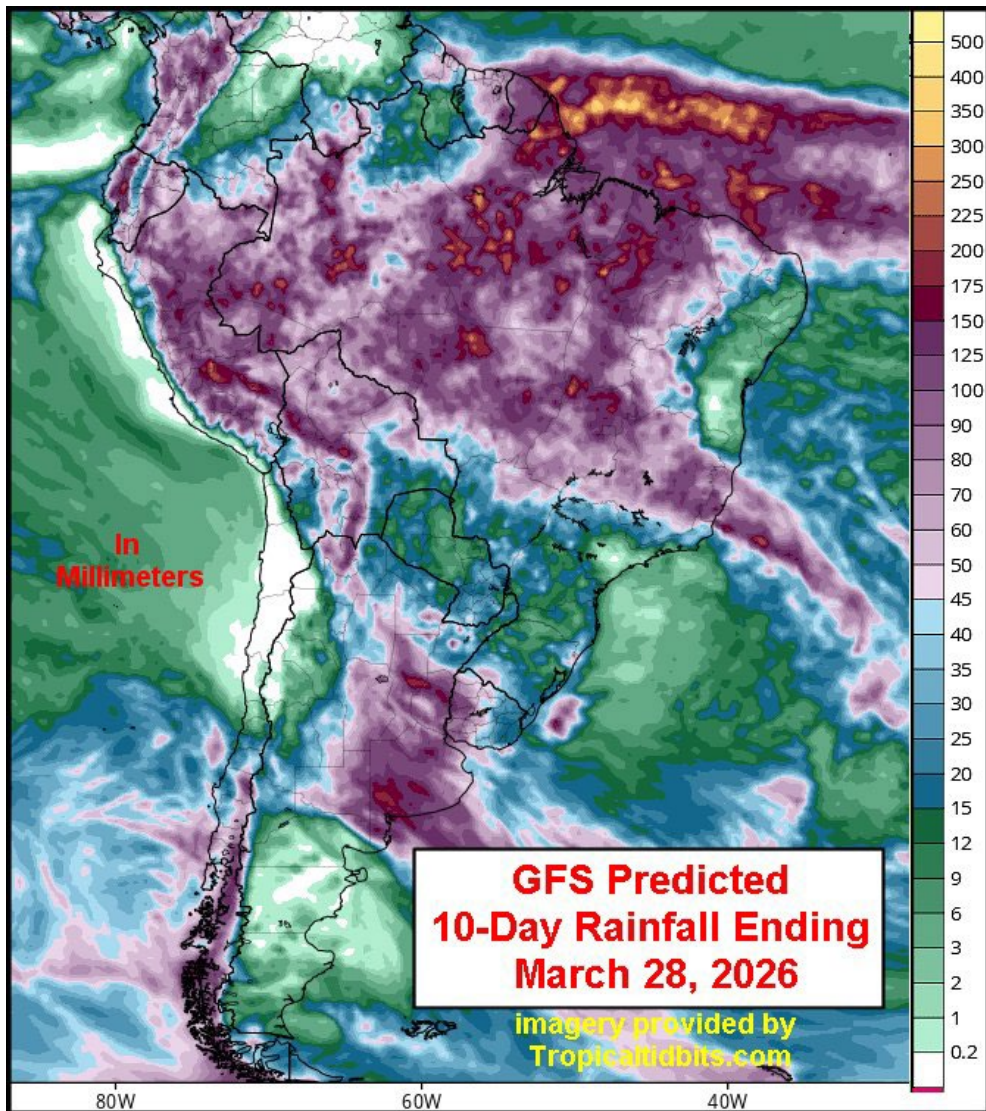


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Harvesting of the corn began in recent days in parts of Argentina. As of March 12, the Argentina Ag Minister suggested, the harvest was 9% complete, up from 5% this time last year. Sunseed harvesting was 42% finished, up from 23% last year. Rice harvesting was 35% finished, down from 50% this time last year. Harvesting of the remaining crops will expand in the coming weeks.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

The driest areas in eastern Argentina would still benefit from a good shot of rain to improve late-season development. Entre Rios, northern Buenos Aires, and neighboring areas were too dry in recent weeks for ideal growth and production may have been impacted. Other areas received enough rain to improve or maintain relatively good late-season growth. Some of the wettest areas in Santiago del Estero would even benefit from drier weather as more crops mature and get ready for harvest.



Argentina Rain To Saturate Soil, Delay Early Harvest

Argentina will see waves of rain over the coming week. A frontal system will bring rain from south to north late Thursday into Saturday. Scattered showers will persist Sunday as a new disturbance potentially advances into the country. The next more significant rain event is expected Monday night into Wednesday of next week. Moisture totals by the end of next week will vary from 1.50 to 5.00 inches and locally more. Some lighter and less frequent precipitation is expected in Argentina during the following week.

Seasonable to seasonably warm weather will be most common for Argentina this week despite the waves of rain. Daytime highs will peak to the 70s and 80s Fahrenheit most often with many areas in northern and eastern Argentina often warming to the 90s. Many areas in southern Argentina will also only warm to the upper 50s and 60s Sunday into next Monday. Low temperatures will be in the 50s and 60s with pockets in the 40s for the southern half of crop country. Areas farther north will cool to the 60s and 70s most days. The temperature profile will then dip near or slightly below normal March 24 – 30.

The coming week of rain in Argentina will improve late-season development for the driest areas in the nation while inducing some saturated conditions in other areas. Some of today's wetter locations may continue to be wetter biased for a while and that could lead to some crop harvest delays. The quality of some unharvest mature grain or oilseeds could be compromised by the wet conditions including some early maturing cotton.

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