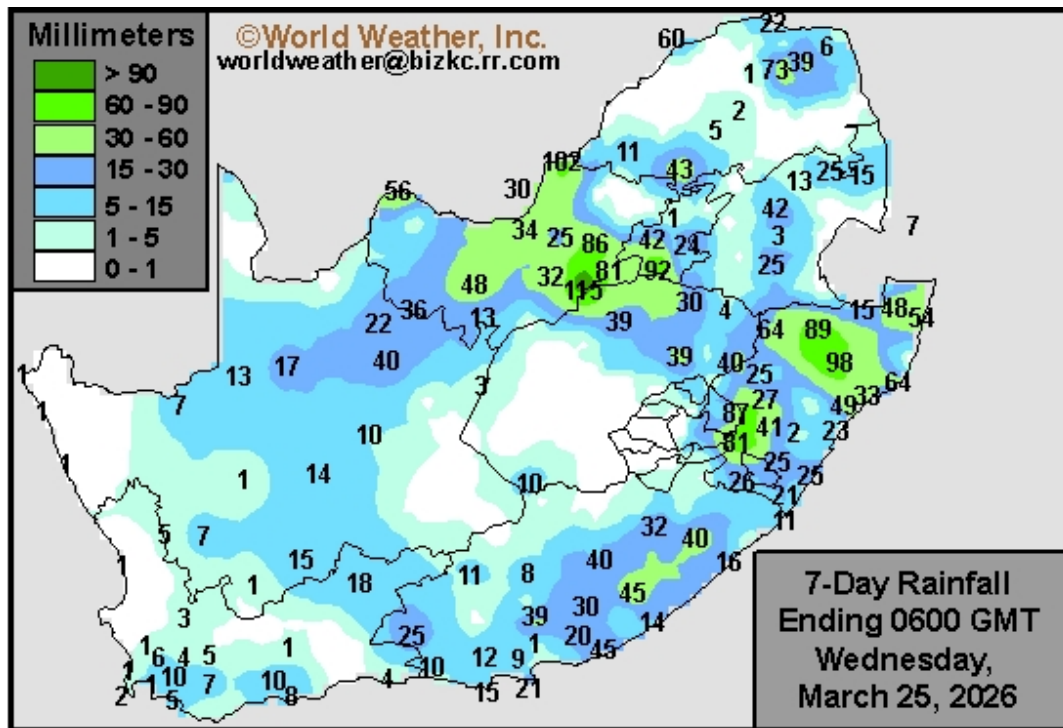


South Africa Crops Too See Good Late-Season Development

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, March 26 (World Weather Inc.) – Portions of South Africa’s summer crop region saw several waves of rain during the past week while other areas were either dry or experienced net drying. The rain helped maintain a good environment for aggressive late-season coarse grain, oilseed, and cotton development. Yields remain relatively favorable due to timely rain over the growing season. Early-season planting prospects for winter grains and oilseeds are also favorable, though timely rain must continue over the next month to maintain the best planting moisture. South Africa will see a good mix of rain and sunshine during the coming week that will maintain favorable development conditions and support early soybean harvesting. Drier periods will be needed later in April as the bulk of summer crops mature and get ready for harvesting.

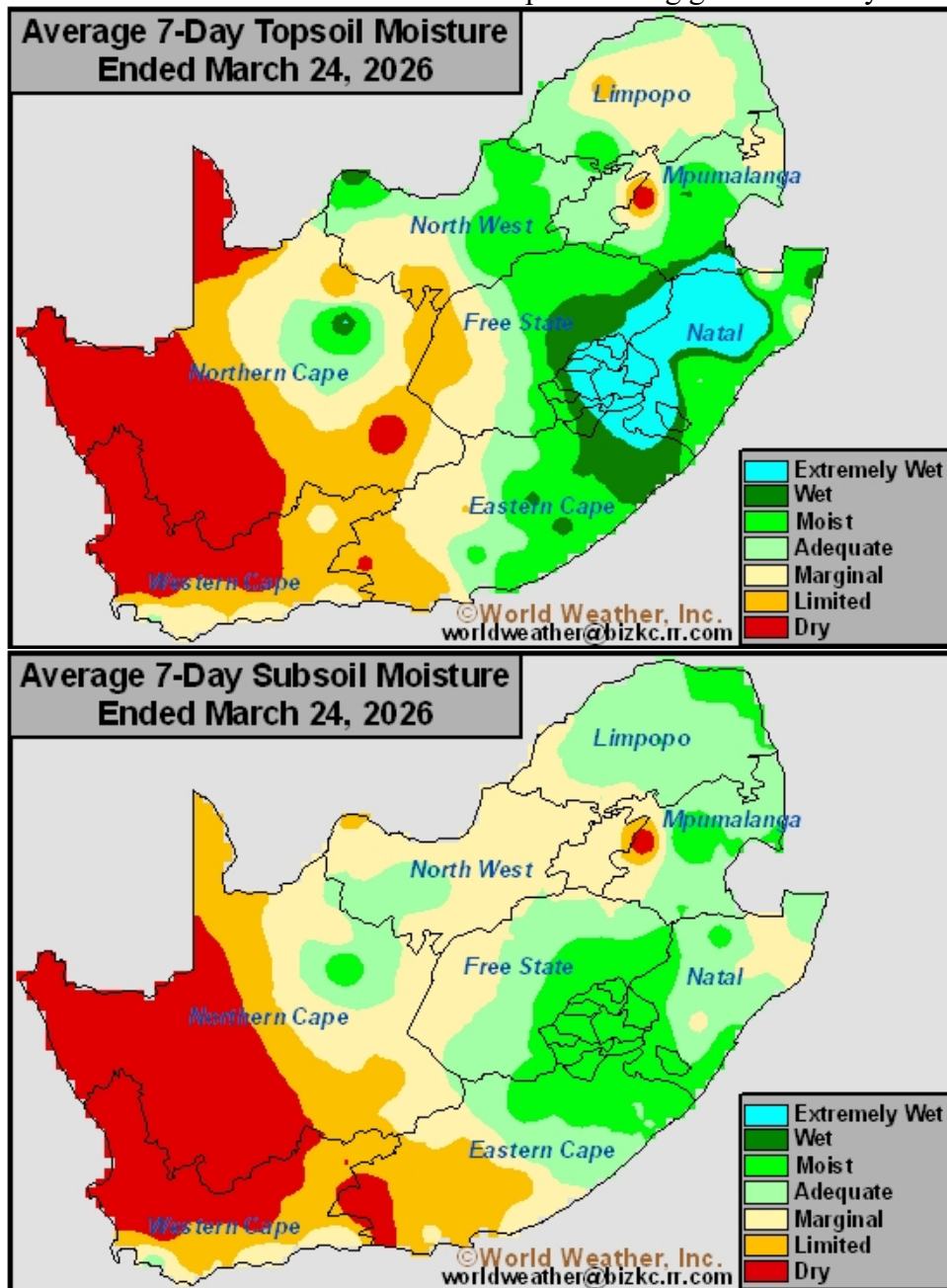
North West, Gauteng, Natal, and many areas in Free State received some of the most significant rain in South Africa during the past week. Moisture totals for the seven-day period ending March 25 ranged from 1.00 to 3.50 inches with local amounts up to 4.50 inches. Most other locations in South Africa received 0.43 to 1.75 inches of rain with pockets in Northern Cape and Western Cape that received little to no rain. The eastern two-thirds of South Africa have adequate to marginally adequate moisture while moisture shortages are ongoing in western South Africa.



Additional rain during the past week helped maintain a good environment for late-season growth for the coarse grains, oilseeds, cotton, and other crops produced this time of year. Yield potentials remain relatively favorable this season due to timely rain over much of the growing season. The earliest-maturing crops are being harvested already while the

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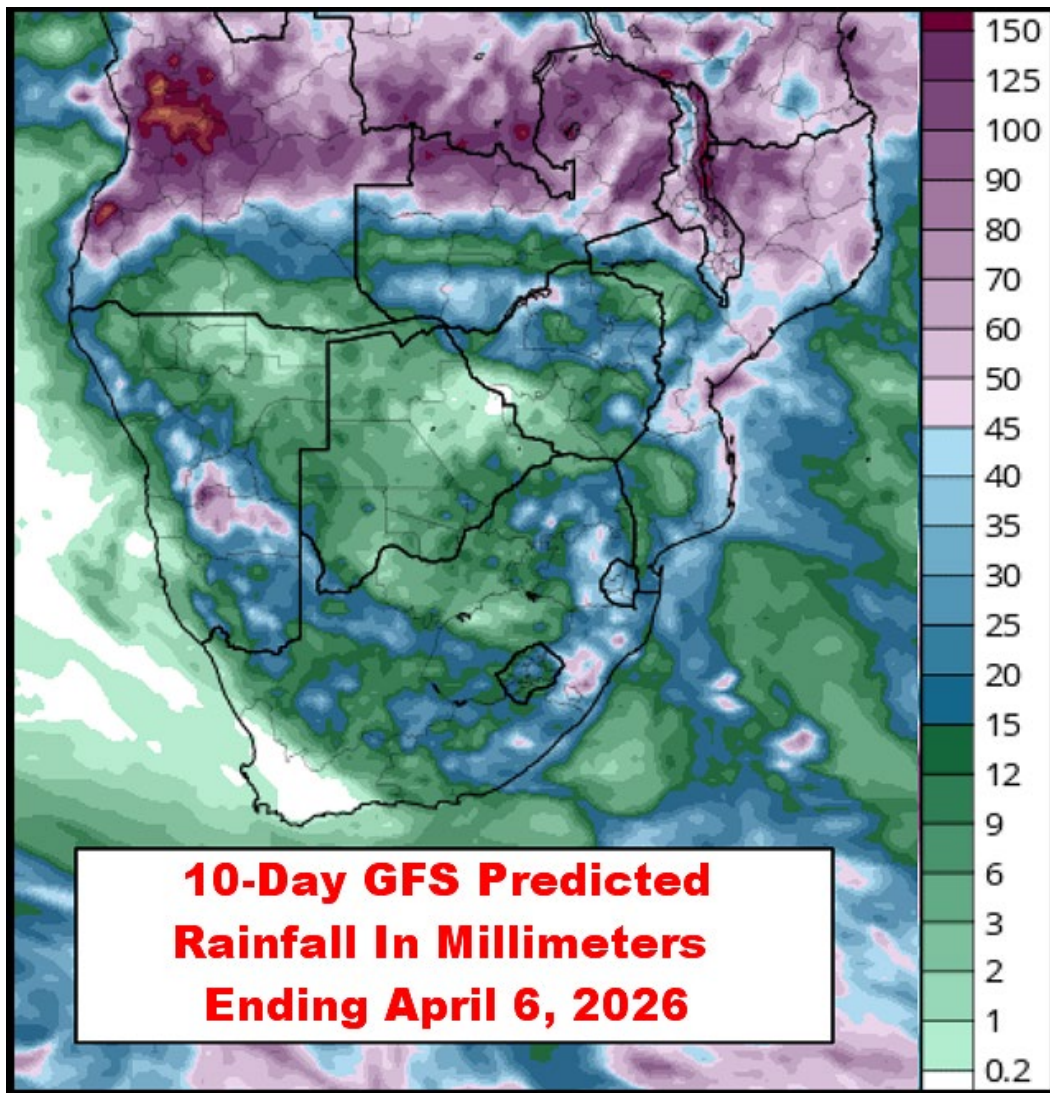
bulk of summer crops are still filling and maturing with the harvest coming soon. Drier weather will be needed when the bulk of 2026 crop harvesting gets under way.



Early-season planting of winter wheat and barley usually begins during the latter part of April or early May depending on the region and crop. Free State has ample moisture for generally good planting and establishment. Western Cape and Northern Cape would benefit from increased rainfall in the coming weeks to support better planting conditions, even in areas that primarily use irrigation. Timely rain must continue over the next few weeks since soil conditions could be much drier a month from now than they are today without additional rounds of rain.

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South Africa will see a good mix of erratic rainfall and sunshine during the coming week. Scattered showers will evolve on a frequent basis through the end of the weekend as disorganized disturbances pass over the country. Light and erratic rain will continue for portions of eastern and northern South Africa at the beginning and middle of next week. Much of South Africa will receive 0.50 to 2.00 inches of rain by next Thursday morning with a few exceptions. Many areas in Natal, Mpumalanga, and Limpopo will receive 3.00 inches or slightly more of rain. Western fringes of Western Cape and Northern Cape will also be dry or not receive enough rain to counter evaporation. Much of South Africa will again see a mix of erratic rain and sunshine April 3-9.



The temperature profile will trend near to above normal for South Africa through next Thursday. Daytime highs will peak to the 70s and 80s Fahrenheit with pockets in eastern South Africa only warming to the 60s through the end of the weekend. Portions of western South Africa will often warm to the 90s as well, most notably next week. Low temperatures will be in the 50s and 60s with pockets in eastern and southern South Africa

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occasionally cooling to the 40s. Seasonable to seasonably warm weather will persist April 3 – 9.

Waves of rain in the coming weeks will maintain a good environment for aggressive late-season growth across South Africa. Yield potentials will remain relatively favorable. The periods of drier weather will also help support better summer crop maturation and early season harvest conditions. Soybeans are being harvested most aggressively at this time of year.

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