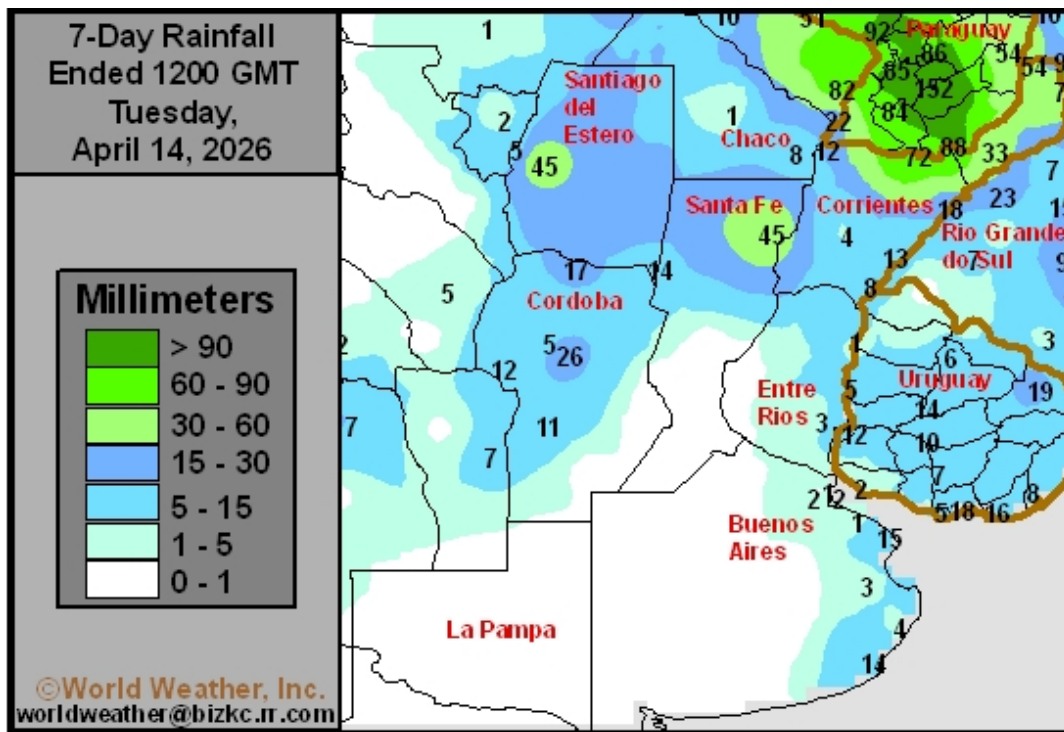


Argentina Rain Impacting Cotton, Oilseed Quality

By Andrew Owen

Kansas City, April 14 (World Weather Inc.) – Argentina’s harvest of the summer coarse grains, oilseeds, and cotton is ongoing. Rainfall in the north may have disrupted harvesting for brief periods of time during the past week while the main Pampas farming region experienced more favorable conditions for maturation and harvesting. Disturbances will promote periods of significant rain for Argentina during the coming week, especially in the north. Significant rain in northern Argentina may reduce quality for open boll cotton and a minor amount of oilseed that is produced in the region. Harvesting will likely advance slowly as well. Maturation and harvesting may also be sluggish in the Pampas farming region, though quality impacts will be minimal.

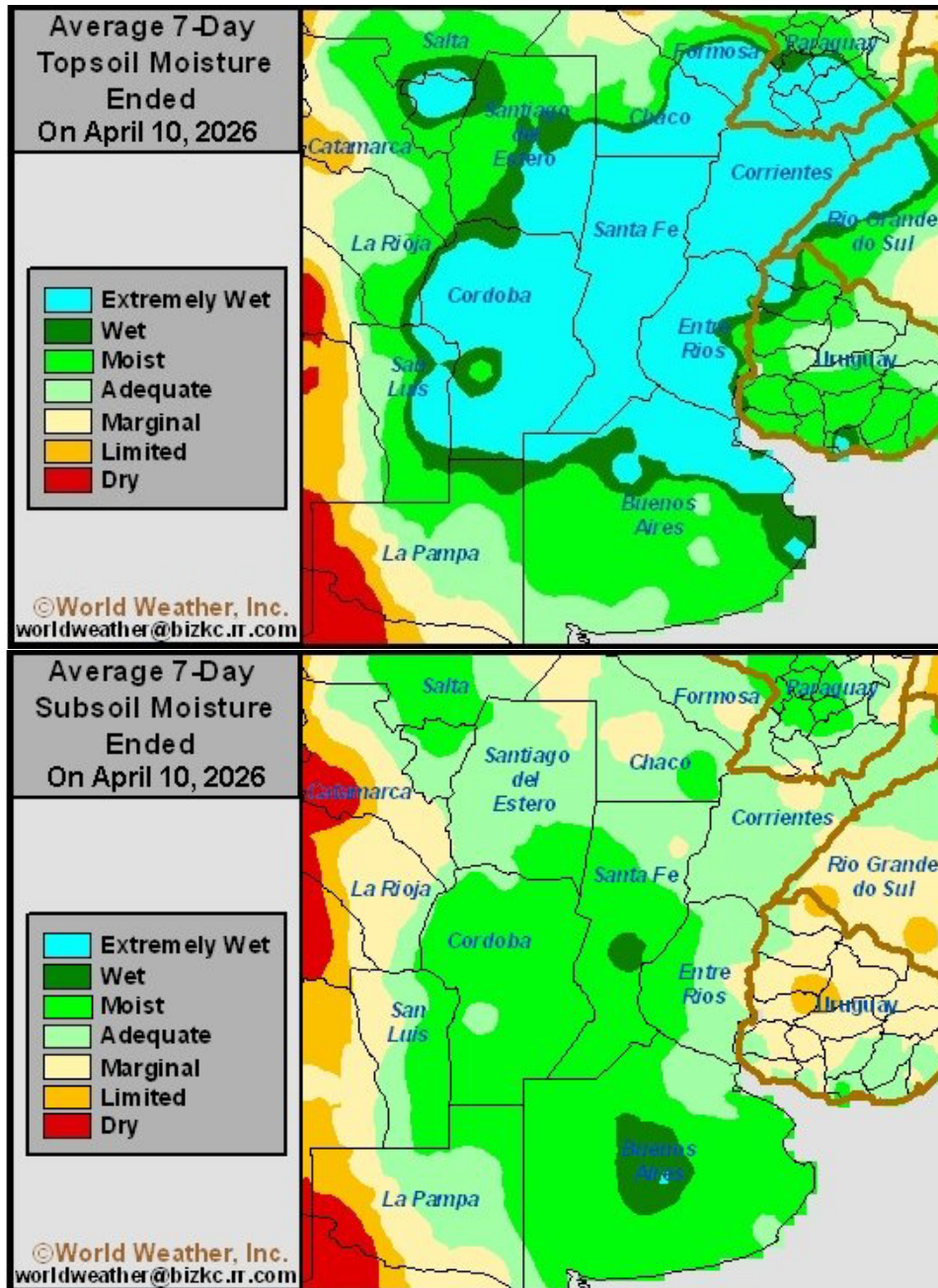
Santiago del Estero, northern Santa Fe, Formosa, and portions of Chaco, Corrientes, and northern and central Cordoba saw a mix of rain and sunshine during the past week. Moisture totals for the seven-day period ending this morning ranged from 0.32 to 1.77 inches with local amounts up to 3.32 inches in Formosa. A few locations in San Luis and eastern fringes of Entre Rios and Buenos Aires received 0.12 to 0.59 inch of rain. The remaining production areas received little to no precipitation. Soil moisture is rated adequate to excessive due to significant rainfall earlier this month.



The harvest continued in Argentina during the past week despite some rain in the north. As of April 9, corn harvesting was 25% complete, up from 21% this time last year. Sorghum harvesting was 11% finished, down from 18% last year. Sunseed harvesting was 83% finished while rice harvesting was 73% complete. Cotton harvesting was 17% complete ahead of last year’s pace of 9%. Soybean harvesting had not yet begun.

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The main production areas still had ample moisture to support late-season growth during the past week despite many areas receiving little to no rain. Production potentials remain relatively good across the country. Drier weather would be welcome in the wettest locations in the coming weeks to maintain favorable maturation and harvest conditions.

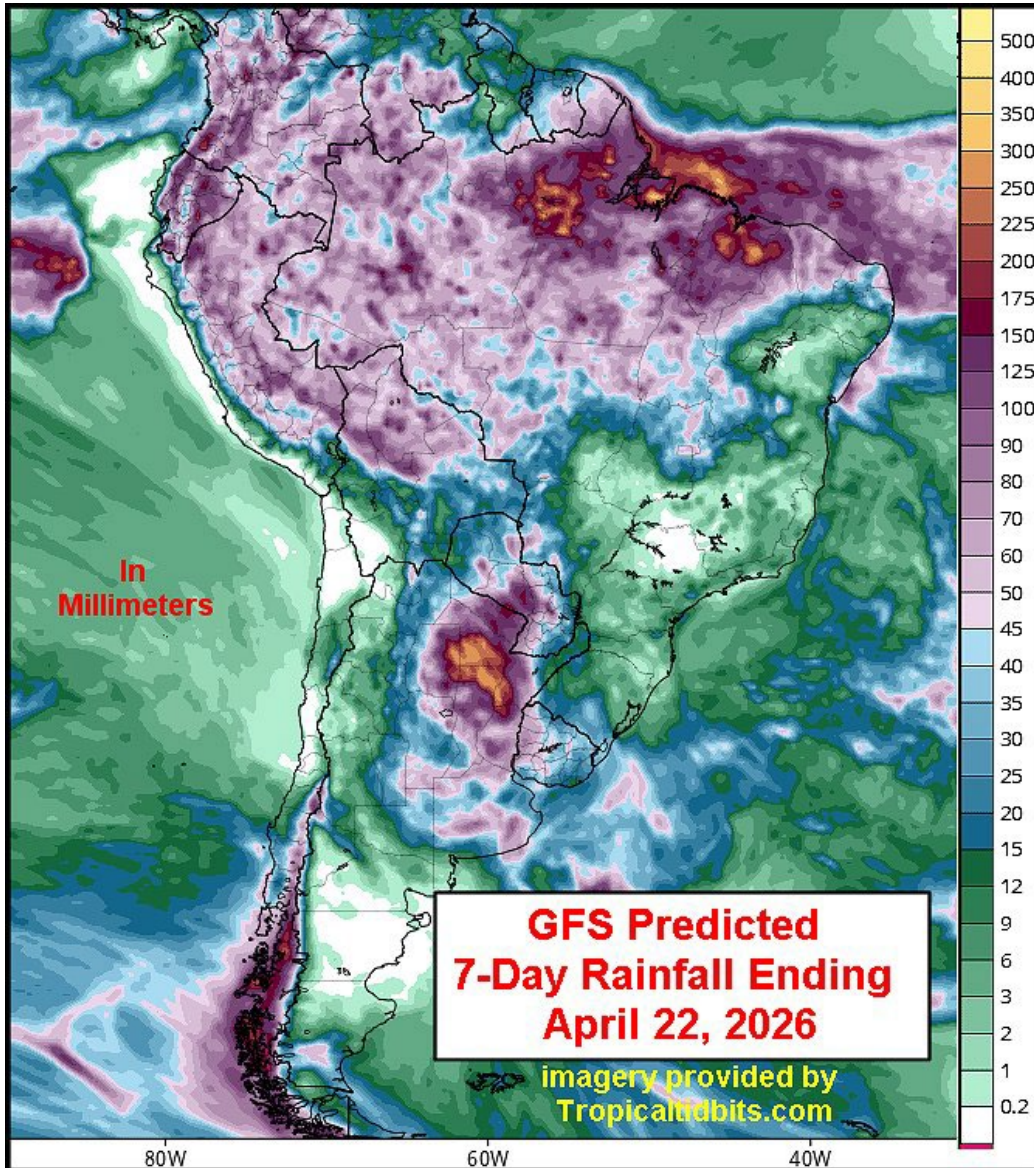


An unusually wet weather pattern is slated for Argentina during the coming week.

A disturbance will generate rain today and Wednesday with heavy amounts in portions of northern Argentina. Spotty showers will produce light rain in a few locations Thursday and Friday. Another disturbance will promote more widespread rain over the weekend with some lingering showers Monday. **Moisture totals by next Tuesday morning will range**

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from 3.00 to 7.00 inches and locally greater amounts for Chaco, Formosa, eastern Santiago del Estero, northern Santa Fe, and western Corrientes where soil conditions are already saturated today. That means nearly all of the advertised rain will runoff into rivers and streams with some of it standing in fields with poor drainage. Other production areas in Argentina will receive 1.00 to 4.00 inches of rain. Temperatures will be mild with daytime highs often reaching the 60s and 70s Fahrenheit due to the rain and cloudiness. Portions of northern Argentina will still warm to the 80s and lower 90s during drier periods. Low temperatures will be in the 50s and 60s with pockets in southern Argentina cooling to the 40s.



Waves of rain in the coming week will significantly slow or delay harvesting and general fieldwork in northern Argentina. The region produces a significant amount of cotton along with many grain, oilseed and other crops. Cotton quality has already suffered some decline with recent rain, but this next week will string some of the cotton

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out of the bolls and will reduce fiber quality. Production potentials may be reduced in the wettest locations. Central and southern Argentina will also receive enough rain to potentially slow or delay the harvest at times. Quality impacts in the Pampas region should be relatively minimal.

Drier weather is slated for Argentina April 22-28. Periods of erratic rain will still occur, though overall rain totals will be much lower compared to the first week of the outlook. Temperatures will trend near to above normal as well. The environment will slowly improve for maturation and harvesting.

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