RMD
Your Partner in Future Success
Tel: (044) 873 5930
Tel: (012) 665 5010
Reg No: 1997/013668/07
Web: www.rmd.co.za
26B Cathedral Street
George
6529
Postnet Suite 32
Private Bag x32
Highveld 0169

RMD – Shortened USDA Weekly Weather/Crop Conditions Report: 19 Feb 26

February 8 – 14, 2026, provided by USDA/WAOB

International Weather and Crop Summary

Global Ag Weather Highlights

Europe: Wet and very warm in west/south; still cold in northeast crop areas.

Middle East: Warm and unsettled from Turkey to Iran.

Northwest Africa: Widespread showers support strong yield prospects for winter grains.

Australia: Rain eased dryness/drought in most areas; southeast still dry.

South Africa: Good widespread rain, but uneven in corn belt—some areas still need more.

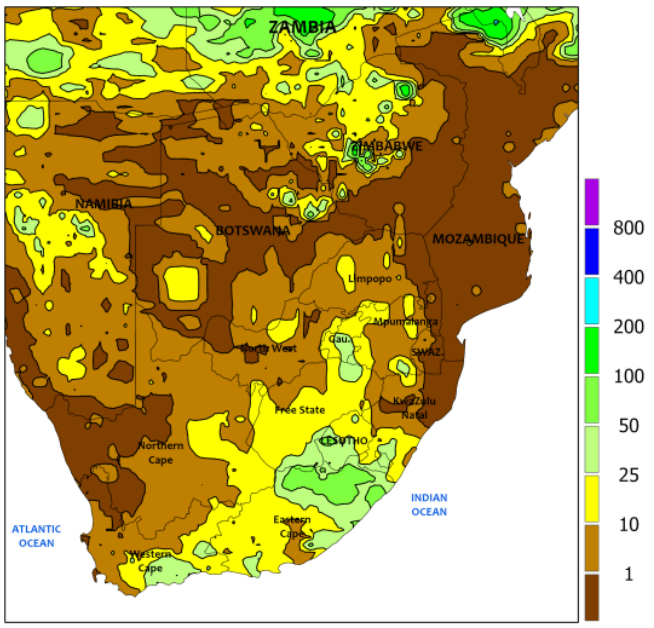
Argentina: Helpful rain in north/central (e.g. Santa Fe, Entre Ríos); south mostly dry.

Brazil: Heavy rain slowed soybean harvest in Mato Grosso; south received welcome moisture.

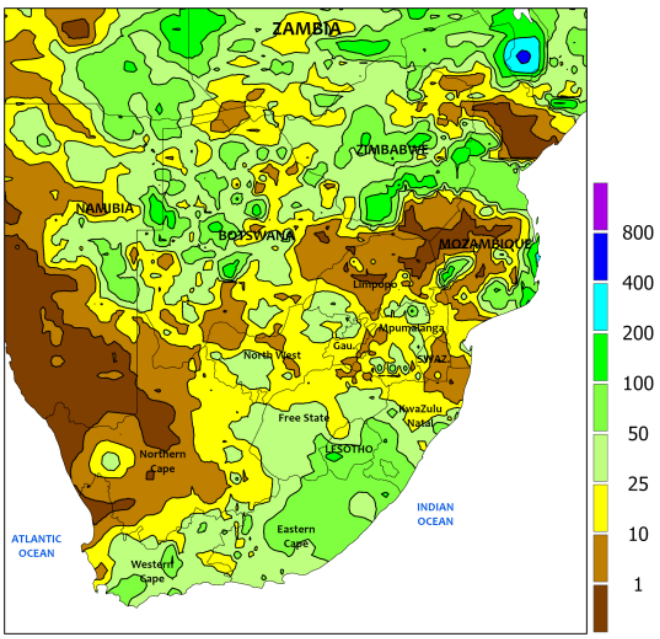
SOUTH AFRICA

Shortened Summary – South Africa (Corn Belt, mid-February 2026):

Widespread rainfall improved soil moisture in most maize areas, though unevenly distributed—generally under 25 mm, with 25–50 mm in the western corn belt and some central spots. Heavier falls (25–100 mm) along KwaZulu-Natal's coast aided rain-fed sugarcane. In the Western Cape, 10–50 mm of supplemental rain helped tree/vine crops, lifted dam levels, and cut irrigation needs during late-summer maturation. Temps were mixed: up to 3°C above normal in the east, 3°C below in the west, with daytime highs in the mid-to-upper 30s °C.



Previous Image - Total mm

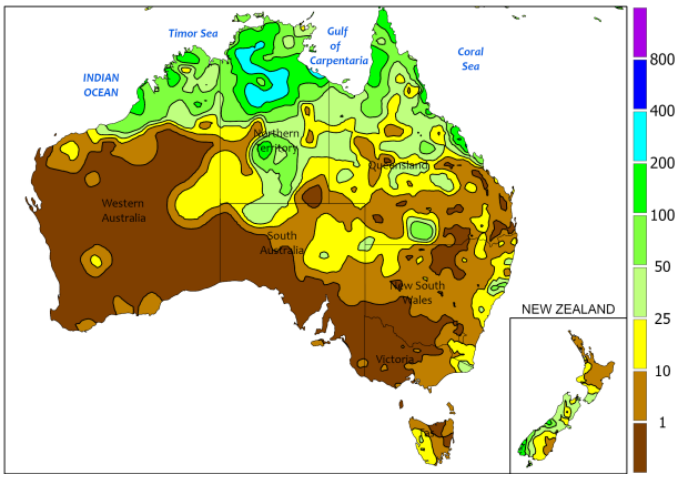


New Image - Total mm

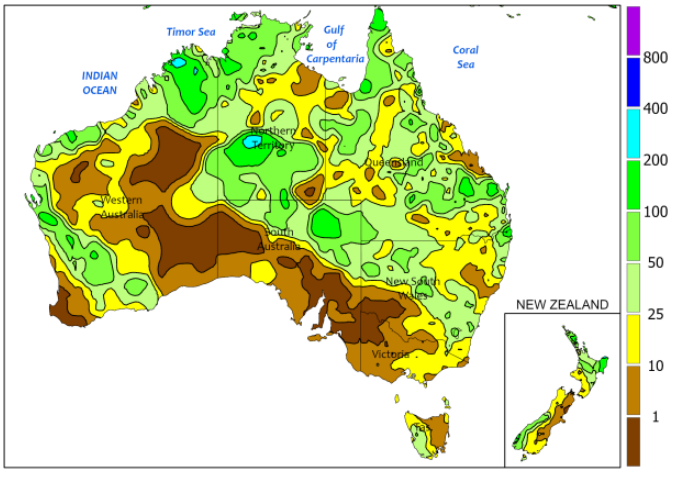
AUSTRALIA

Shortened Summary – Australia (mid-February):

Widespread showers reduced short-term dryness/drought across much of Australia, though southeastern regions stayed dry. A slow-moving cold front brought moderate to heavy rain (10–90 mm) to southern Queensland and northern New South Wales, boosting soil moisture for flowering (south) to open-boll (north) cotton and lifting reservoir levels—yet southernmost cotton areas in southern NSW remained unfavorably dry. Remnants of Tropical Cyclone Mitchell delivered 20–80 mm across northern and eastern Western Australia winter crop zones, easing dryness/drought there. Rain-affected areas saw cooler-than-normal temps (1–3°C below average); dry spots were near normal.



Previous Image - Total mm

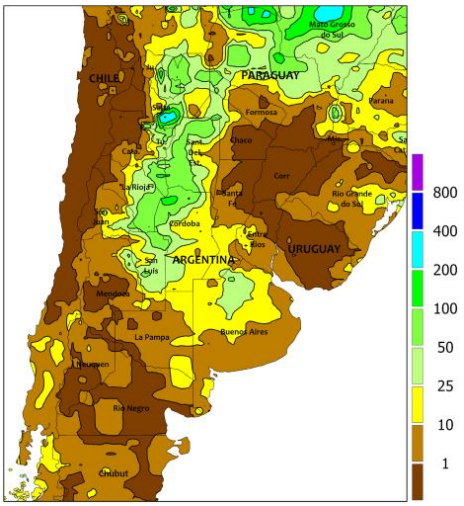


New Image - Total mm

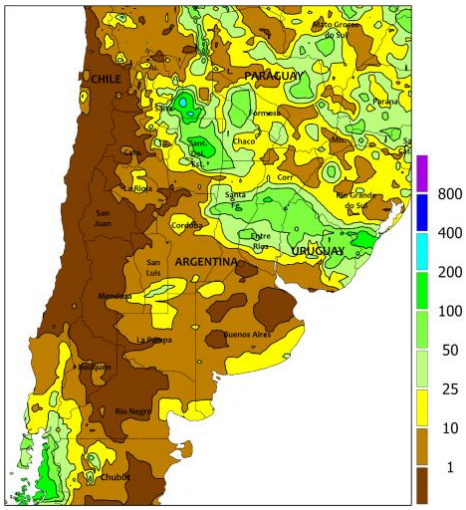
ARGENTINA

Shortened Summary – Argentina (mid-February 2026):

Beneficial rain continued in northern Argentina and brought vital relief to Santa Fe and Entre Ríos, ending dryness that stressed summer crops. Totals mostly 10–50 mm, with some spots hitting 100 mm to aid cotton and other fair-to-good crops. Southern areas (Córdoba, San Luis, La Pampa, Buenos Aires) stayed mostly dry (<10 mm), raising heat-stress concerns. Temps were normal to 2°C above average, with highs in the mid-to-upper 30s °C north and lower-to-mid 30s °C south. As of February 12: Corn was good to fair—early-planted nearing maturity after January stress, late-planted still needing rain. Soybeans varied: early-planted mostly acceptable but stressed; late-planted critical with possible permanent losses. Cotton stayed mostly good to fair, with recent rain supporting recovery despite prior heat impacts.



Previous Image - Total mm

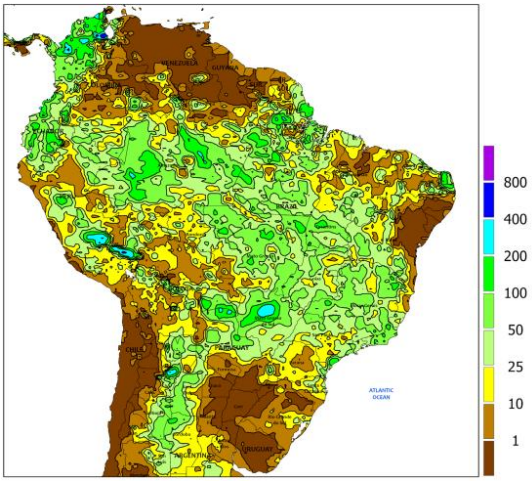


New Image - Total mm

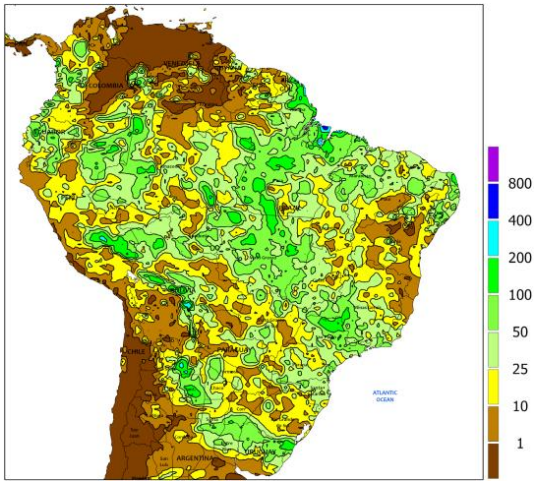
BRAZIL

Shortened Summary – Brazil (mid-February 2026):

Widespread showers continued across most of Brazil, but dry pockets persisted in Rio Grande do Sul. Rainfall varied 10–100+ mm. In Mato Grosso, heavy rain slowed soybean harvest and risked quality issues. The south mostly benefited except parts of Rio Grande do Sul, where minimal rain plus mid-to-upper 30s °C heat caused yield-threatening stress. Other areas had milder highs (lower to mid-30s °C). In Paraná, first-crop corn harvest advanced with record yields in spots; second-crop corn emerged after improved rain. Soybean harvest at 20% (mainly west), strong output still expected despite January stress. In Rio Grande do Sul, prolonged drought and heat severely reduced soybean yields via flower/pod abortion despite some recent rain. Corn harvest reached 50% as hot, dry weather sped maturity, but earlier stress caused high yield variability (worst on poor soils). Second-crop planting lagged due to low moisture.

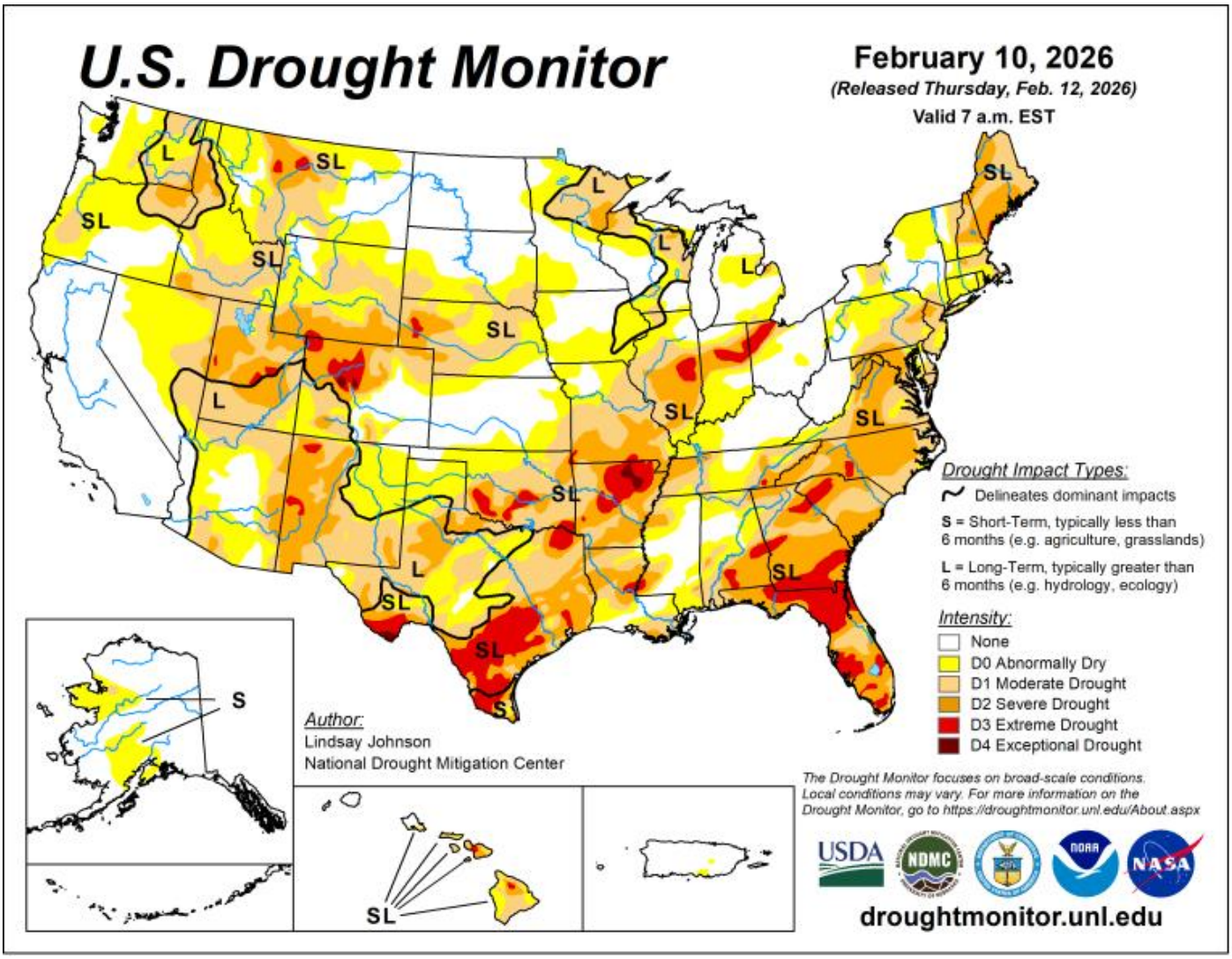


Previous Image - Total mm



New Image - Total mm

USA



Drought Monitor

Source:

Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB. This report is a shortened version of the Weekly USDA report.

Full report - https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/wwcb.pdf

Compiled by DJF