Overview:
At the end of November, conditions remain mixed for wheat, while favourable for maize, rice, and soybeans. Winter wheat harvest is continuing in the southern hemisphere with issues in Australia, Argentina, and Brazil, while sowing wraps up in the northern hemisphere. Maize harvesting is wrapping up in the northern hemisphere as sowing continues in the southern hemisphere. Rice conditions remain generally favourable expect in Thailand and northern Nigeria. Soybean harvesting warps up in the northern hemisphere as sowing gets underway in the southern hemisphere.
At a glance for AMIS countries (as of November 28th)

Crop Conditions at a Glance

**Wheat** – In the southern hemisphere, harvesting is continuing with areas of concern in Australia, Argentina, and Brazil. In the northern hemisphere, winter sowing is wrapping up under mixed conditions, particularly in Europe and the Black Sea region.

**Maize** – In the northern hemisphere, harvest is wrapping up under generally favourable conditions. In the southern hemisphere, sowing of spring-planted crops is progressing.

**Rice** – In China, harvesting late-season rice. In India, harvesting of Kharif rice continues. In Southeast Asia, wet-season rice is harvesting in the northern countries, while in Indonesia, dry-season rice harvesting is wrapping up.

**Soybeans** – In the northern hemisphere, harvesting is wrapping up. In the southern hemisphere, sowing is gathering pace in Argentina and Brazil after initial delays.

**Forecasts at a Glance**

**Climate Influences** – The ongoing El Niño is developing into a strong event and is likely to maintain strength into early 2024. El Niño conditions will likely continue into March to May 2024 (88% chance) and transition to ENSO-neutral by May to July (55% chance). The ongoing strong positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) event will likely weaken in December but last into January.

**Argentina** – Both the short-term (2 weeks) and the long-term (3 months) forecasts show a likelihood of above-average precipitation over the main growing regions.

**Brazil** – In December, below-average rainfall is likely in parts of the north and northeast combined with above-average temperatures. The long-term forecast (December-February) indicates below-average precipitation in the north, while above-average precipitation across much of the rest of the country.

While the Crop Monitor for AMIS is primarily focused on documenting crop conditions based on environmental factors, the war in Ukraine and in other conflict areas will very likely negatively impact the ability of the crop to be harvested.

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Wheat Conditions for AMIS Countries

**Wheat:** In **Australia**, harvesting is ongoing under mixed conditions as hot and dry weather eroded yields across much of the country, however, timely October rains supported grain filling in Victoria and South Australia. In **Argentina**, harvesting is beginning in the north as recent rains have arrived too late for most of the crops, however, conditions have improved in Buenos Aires. In the **EU**, wetter than average conditions in western and northern Europe have delayed sowing and crop establishment, while dryness in south-east countries has led to poor development. In the **UK**, abundant rainfall has resulted in late sowing and may affect early crop development. In **Türkiye**, sowing is wrapping up under favourable conditions. In **Ukraine**, sowing is wrapping up under favourable conditions away from the conflict zones owing to warmer and wetter-than-average weather during November, while drought persists in Odessa. In the **Russian Federation**, November rains have improved conditions across most regions except for in the Caucasus. In **China**, conditions are favourable going into winter dormancy. In **India**, sowing is progressing in the northern and central states under favourable conditions. In the **US**, dry weather has continued to support winter wheat sowing. In **Canada**, winter wheat conditions are favourable in the main producing provinces of Ontario and Manitoba.

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Maize Conditions for AMIS Countries

Maize: In the US, harvesting is wrapping up in the northern states under favourable conditions. In Mexico, harvesting is ongoing for the Spring-Summer season (larger season) with a reduction in total sown area compared to last year. Sowing of the Autumn-winter season (smaller season) is beginning. In Canada, harvesting is wrapping up under favourable conditions. In India, conditions are favourable as the harvesting of the Kharif (larger season) crop wraps up and the sowing of the Rabi (smaller season) crop begins. In Ukraine, harvesting is wrapping up under favourable conditions away from the conflict zones. In the Russian Federation, harvesting is wrapping up. In Brazil, sowing of the spring-planted crop (smaller season) has slowed down due to adverse weather and the prioritization of soybean management. A reduction in the total sown area is expected for the spring-planted crop compared to last year. In Argentina, recent rains have improved conditions for the early-planted crop (larger season) in Buenos Aires, Entre Ríos, Santa Fe and, to a lesser extent, Córdoba. Additionally, the rains have also generated favourable conditions for the sowing of the late-planted crop (smaller season). In South Africa, sowing is ongoing under dry conditions in the western half of the main producing region.

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Rice Conditions for AMIS Countries

Rice Conditions

Conditions:
- Exceptional
- Favourable
- Watch
- Poor
- Out-of-Season
- No Data

Countries:
- AMIS Countries
- Non-AMIS Countries

Drivers:
- Wet
- Dry
- Hot
- Cool
- Extreme Event
- Pest & Disease
- Delayed Onset
- Socio-economic
- Conflict

Rice crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Crop condition information is based upon information as of November 28th. Where crops are in other than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. Crop Season Specific Maps can be found in Appendix 2.

Rice: In China, harvesting is wrapping up for the late-season crop under favourable conditions. In India, harvesting of the Kharif season crop is wrapping up in the northern and central states, while ongoing in the southern and eastern states. In Indonesia, dry-season rice harvesting is wrapping up with good yields, but with a reduction of total harvested area. Wet-season rice sowing is continuing into its second month under favourable conditions. In northern Viet Nam, harvesting of the main wet-season rice is wrapping up under favourable conditions. In the south, harvesting of the other wet-season (autumn-winter and seasonal) rice is ongoing under favourable conditions as the sowing of dry-season rice begins. In Thailand, harvesting of wet-season rice is ongoing with poor yields due to early in-season drought followed by damages from floods. In the Philippines, wet-season rice sown in July to August is beginning to be harvested under favourable conditions with little damage reported from the passage of typhoon “Jenny”. In Brazil, sowing is progressing with an increase in the total sown area expected compared to last year.

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Soybean Conditions for AMIS Countries

Soybeans: In Canada, harvesting is wrapping up under favourable conditions with an anticipated increase in harvested area compared to last year. In India, harvesting is wrapping up under favourable conditions. In Ukraine, harvesting is wrapping up under favourable conditions away from the conflict zones. In Brazil, sowing is continuing under generally favourable conditions despite excess rainfall in the South region and a lack of rain in other producing regions. An increase in total sown area is expected compared to last year. In Argentina, after receiving some rainfall in recent weeks, sowing is accelerating across most growing areas. However, due to the earlier dry conditions and remaining drought in some places, a significant proportion of the early-planting crop (typically larger season) is being shifted to the late-planted crop (typically smaller season).

For detailed description of the pie chart please see box below.

Information on crop conditions in non-AMIS countries can be found in the GEOGLAM Crop Monitor for Early Warning, published December 7th

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Climate Influences: Strong El Niño Advisory and Intense Positive IOD

The ongoing El Niño is developing into a strong event and will likely maintain its strength into early 2024, possibly even becoming a historically strong event (35 percent chance). El Niño conditions will likely continue into March to May 2024 (88 percent chance) and transition to ENSO-neutral by May to July (55 percent chance), according to the North America forecast.

El Niño events tend to enhance precipitation in Central Asia, southern North America, south-eastern South America, east and southern East Africa, and south-eastern China. Drier-than-average conditions tend to occur in Central America, northern South America, parts of the northern U.S. and Canada, Southern Africa, Northern China, the Maritime Continent, and Australia.

The ongoing strong positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) event will likely weaken in December but last into January, according to the Australian Bureau of Meteorology. The combination of positive IOD and El Niño conditions have led to intense rain and severe flooding in East Africa and dry conditions in Australia and the Maritime Continent.

Globally, temperatures during 2023 have been the warmest on record, and the warming influence of El Niño will likely continue this upward trend. Warmer temperatures will exacerbate rainfall deficits.

Source: UCSB Climate Hazards Center
Global Two-week Forecast of Areas with Above or Below-Average Precipitation

The two-week forecast (Figure 1) indicates a likelihood of above-average rainfall over eastern Ontario and Quebec in Canada, the southeast US, southern Peru, southern Brazil, northern Uruguay, eastern Argentina, Gabon, southern Republic of the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, western Tanzania, northern Angola, northeastern Madagascar, northern Kazakhstan, central and eastern regions of the Russian Federation, western China, the Democratic Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea, Myanmar, Viet Nam, Laos, southern Thailand, and the central Philippines.

There is also a likelihood of below-average rainfall over northern Canada, the western US, northwest Mexico, eastern Venezuela, southern and eastern Guyana, Suriname, southern French Guiana, northern and central Brazil, southern Chile, Czechia, southern Poland, southern and western Ukraine, Romania, Serbia, southern Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, southern Angola, Namibia, southern Zambia, northern Zimbabwe, central Mozambique, western South Africa, northeast Iran, eastern Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, southern Kyrgyzstan, northern Pakistan, northwest India, Sir Lanka, northern Bangladesh, Indonesia, southern Papua New Guinea, and northern Australia.

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Argentina Outlook

The 5 to 11 December precipitation anomaly forecast (left) indicates a likelihood of above-average rainfall over southern Santa Fe, Entre Rios, southern Cordoba, and northern Buenos Aires. During the same period, below-normal temperatures are expected over Santiago del Estero, southern Chaco, northern Cordoba, northern Santa Fe, Corrientes, and Entre Rios.

The 12 – 18 December precipitation anomaly forecast (centre) shows a likelihood of above-average rainfall over most agricultural areas except for southern Santa Fe, southern Entre Rios, eastern Cordoba, and northern Buenos Aires. During the same period, above-average temperatures are likely over most agricultural areas except northern Santa Fe and Santiago del Estero.

The long-term December-January-February 2023/2024 precipitation anomaly forecast (right) indicates a likelihood of above-average rainfall over most agricultural areas with the highest likelihood over Entre Rios, Corrientes, and Misiones. During the same time, temperatures are likely to be near average across most of the main agricultural areas, with a likelihood of above-average temperatures in the north.

Precipitation Anomaly Forecasts

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
**Brazil Outlook**

The December 2023 precipitation anomaly forecast (left) indicates a likelihood of below-average rainfall over northern and eastern Pará, Tocantins, northern Goiás, Maranhão, southern Piauí, Bahia, northern Minas Gerais, Espírito Santo, central Rio Grande do Sul, and central Mato Grosso. During this time, temperatures are likely to be above-average across all of Brazil, except for Rio Grande do Sul.

The long-term November-December-January 2023/2024 precipitation probability forecast (right) indicates a high likelihood of below-average rainfall across much of northern Brazil. Additionally, some areas in western Mato Grosso and central Rio Grande do Sul with a likelihood of below-average precipitation. The rest of Brazil is likely to see above-average precipitation. During this time, all of Brazil except for southern Rio Grande do Sul is likely to experience above-average temperatures.

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Appendix 1: Terminology & Definitions

Crop Conditions:

**Exceptional**: Conditions are much better than average* at the time of reporting. This label is only used during the grain-filling through harvest stages.

**Favourable**: Conditions range from slightly lower to slightly better than average* at reporting time.

**Watch**: Conditions are close to average* but there is a potential risk to final production. The crop can still recover to average or near average conditions if the ground situation improves. This label is only used during the planting-early vegetative and the vegetative-reproductive stages.

**Poor**: Crop conditions are well below average*. Crop yields are likely to be more than 5% below average. This is only used when conditions are not likely to be able to recover, and an impact on production is likely.

**Out of Season**: Crops are not currently planted or in development during this time.

**No Data**: No reliable source of data is available at this time.

*“Average” refers to the average conditions over the past 5 years.*

**Drivers:**

These represent the key climatic drivers that are having an impact on crop condition status. They result in production impacts and can function as either positive or negative drivers of crop conditions.

**Wet**: Wetter than average (includes water logging and floods).

**Dry**: Drier than average.

**Hot**: Hotter than average.

**Cool**: Cooler than average or risk of frost damage.

**Extreme Events**: Catch-all for all other climate risks (i.e., hurricane, typhoon, frost, hail, winter kill, wind damage, etc.). When this category is used, the analyst will also specify the type of extreme event in the text.

**Delayed-Onset**: Late start of the season.

**Crop Season Nomenclature**:

In countries that contain multiple cropping seasons for the same crop, the following chart identifies the national season name associated with each crop season within the Crop Monitor. Within the Crop Monitor for AMIS countries, the larger producing season (most recent 5 years) has been assigned to the first season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Season 1 Name</th>
<th>Season 2 Name</th>
<th>Season 3 Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Soybean</td>
<td>Spring-planted</td>
<td>Summer-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Summer-planted (larger producing season)</td>
<td>Spring-planted (smaller producing season)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>Winter-planted</td>
<td>Winter-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Spring-planted</td>
<td>Summer-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Single-season</td>
<td>Late-season</td>
<td>Early-season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>Winter-planted</td>
<td>Spring-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Summer-season</td>
<td>Nilot season (Nile Flood)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Kharif</td>
<td>Rabi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Kharif</td>
<td>Rabi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Wet-season</td>
<td>Dry-season</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Spring-planted</td>
<td>Autumn-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Main-season</td>
<td>Short-season</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Main-season</td>
<td>Off-season</td>
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<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Wet-season</td>
<td>Dry-season</td>
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<td>Russian Federation</td>
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<td>Spring-planted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Wet-season</td>
<td>Dry-season</td>
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<td>United States</td>
<td>Wheat</td>
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<td>Spring-planted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Wet-season</td>
<td>Dry-season</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Appendix 2: Crop Season-Specific Maps

**Winter Planted Wheat Conditions for AMIS Countries**

Winter wheat crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Crop condition information is based upon information as of November 28th. Where crops are in less than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

**Spring Planted Wheat Conditions for AMIS Countries**

Spring wheat crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Crop condition information is based upon information as of November 28th. Where crops are in less than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Maize 1 crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Crop condition information is based upon information as of November 28th. Where crops are in less than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

Maize 2 crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Crop condition information is based upon information as of November 28th. Where crops are in less than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Rice 1 crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Crop condition information is based upon information as of November 28th. Where crops are in less than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

Rice 2 crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Crop condition information is based upon information as of November 28th. Where crops are in less than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Rice 3 crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Crop condition information is based upon information as of November 28th. Where crops are in less than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

Soybean 1 crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Crop condition information is based upon information as of November 28th. Where crops are in less than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Soybean 2 crop conditions over main growing areas are based upon a combination of national and regional crop analyst inputs along with earth observation data. Crop condition information is based upon information as of November 28th. Where crops are in less than favourable conditions the climatic drivers responsible for those conditions are displayed. The crop calendar is provided as a point of reference to provide information on what part of the life cycle the crops are currently in for each area.

* Assessment based on information as of November 28th
Prepared by members of the GEOGLAM Community of Practice
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Climatic Influences by Climate Hazards Center of UC Santa Barbara

The Crop Monitor is a part of GEOGLAM, a GEO global initiative.

Photo courtesy of Brian Barker

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