

PRODUCTION CONDITIONS REPORT

12 Dec'2025



Gewas toestand
Crop Condition



Klimaat
Climate



Vergelyk
Compare



Opbrenge potentiaal
Production potential



Gewas opkoms
Greenup



Kaarte
Maps



Verslae
Report

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Definitions

- **Soil Water Index (SWI):** This represents an overview of the soil water percentage throughout the growing season. It compares three periods: the current season, the previous season, and the 5-year average. This average serves as a baseline, indicating typical soil water conditions.
- **Green Leaf Indicator (GLI):** Values over the growing season, illustrating the patterns of crop growth during the seasons.
- **Greenup:** Shows the current crop emergence progress compared to the 5-year average.

All the 2025/26 season data is from 1 July 2025 – 12 Dec.

Optimal planting dates

Gewas/Crop	Region							
	KZN	Mpumalanga & Gauteng	Limpopo	Oos-Vrystaat (VKB)	Oos Vrystaat (OVK)	Noordwes Vrystaat	Noordwes	Noord Kaap
Maize	1 Oct -30 Nov	1 Oct - 15 Nov	1 Nov - 31 Dec	1 Oct - 15 Nov	1 Oct - 30 Nov	15 Nov - 15 Dec	15 Nov - 15 Dec	1 Oct - 15 Dec
Soybean	1 Oct - 7 Dec	1 Nov - 7 Dec	1 Nov - 20 Dec	1 Nov - 7 Dec	1 Nov - 30 Nov	15 Nov - 10 Dec	15 Nov - 15 Dec	1 Oct - 30 Nov
Sunflower		1 Nov - 15 Dec	1 Nov - 15 Feb	1 Nov - 10 Jan	1 Nov - 10 Jan	10 Nov - 10 Jan	20 Nov - 10 Jan	1 Dec - 30 Jan

Summary

Rainfall patterns

Since September, most production areas have recorded significantly higher rainfall than previous seasons. North West received more than 290mm, about 50mm more than last year, while the North West Free State averaged 250mm, with places like Bothaville above 300mm, more than double last season. The Eastern Free State stands at about 320mm, 100mm higher than the year-on-year average, and the Eastern Highveld at 340mm, which is above the three-year average. Limpopo's rainfall has also generally been above average.

Overall crop condition at this stage

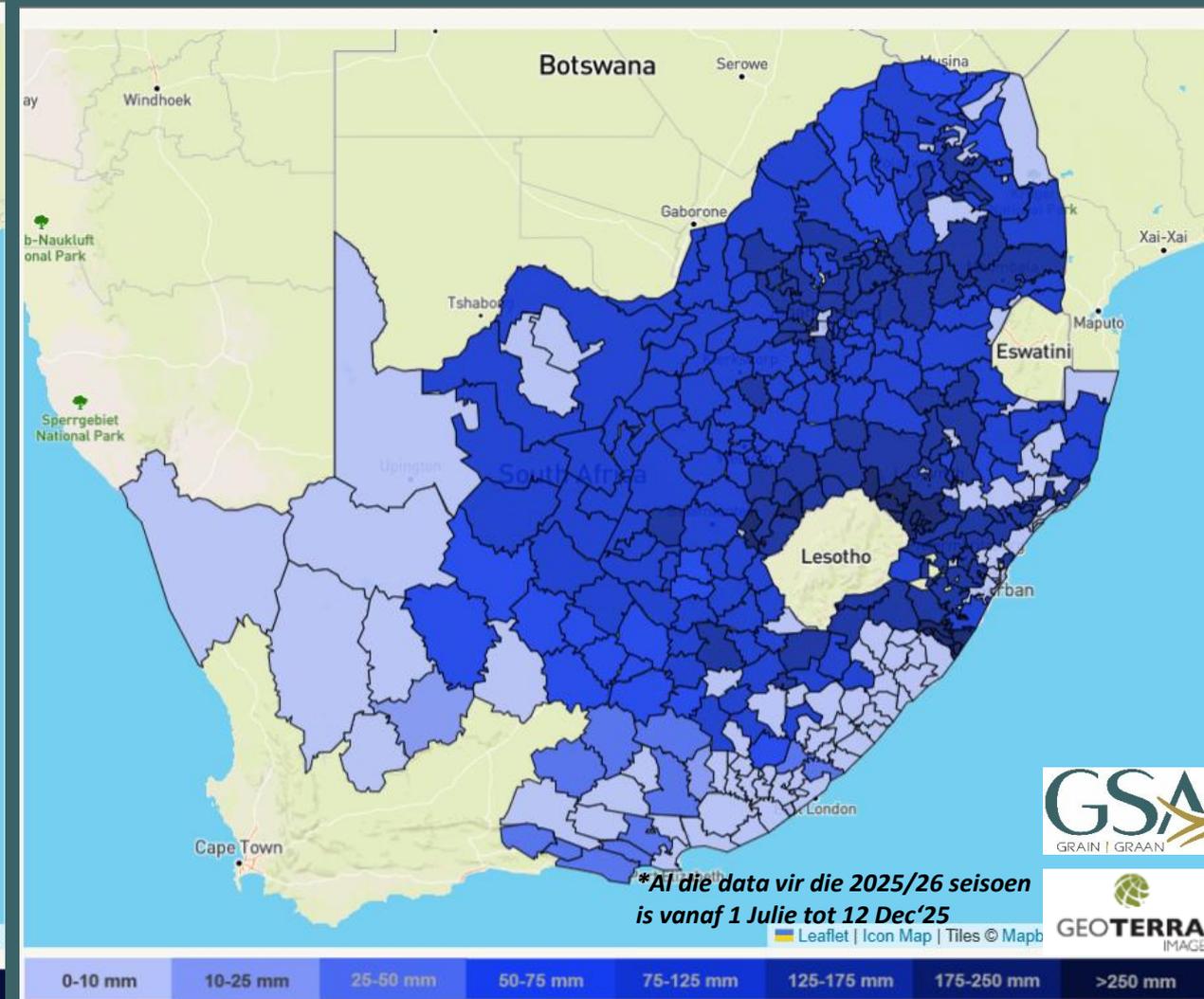
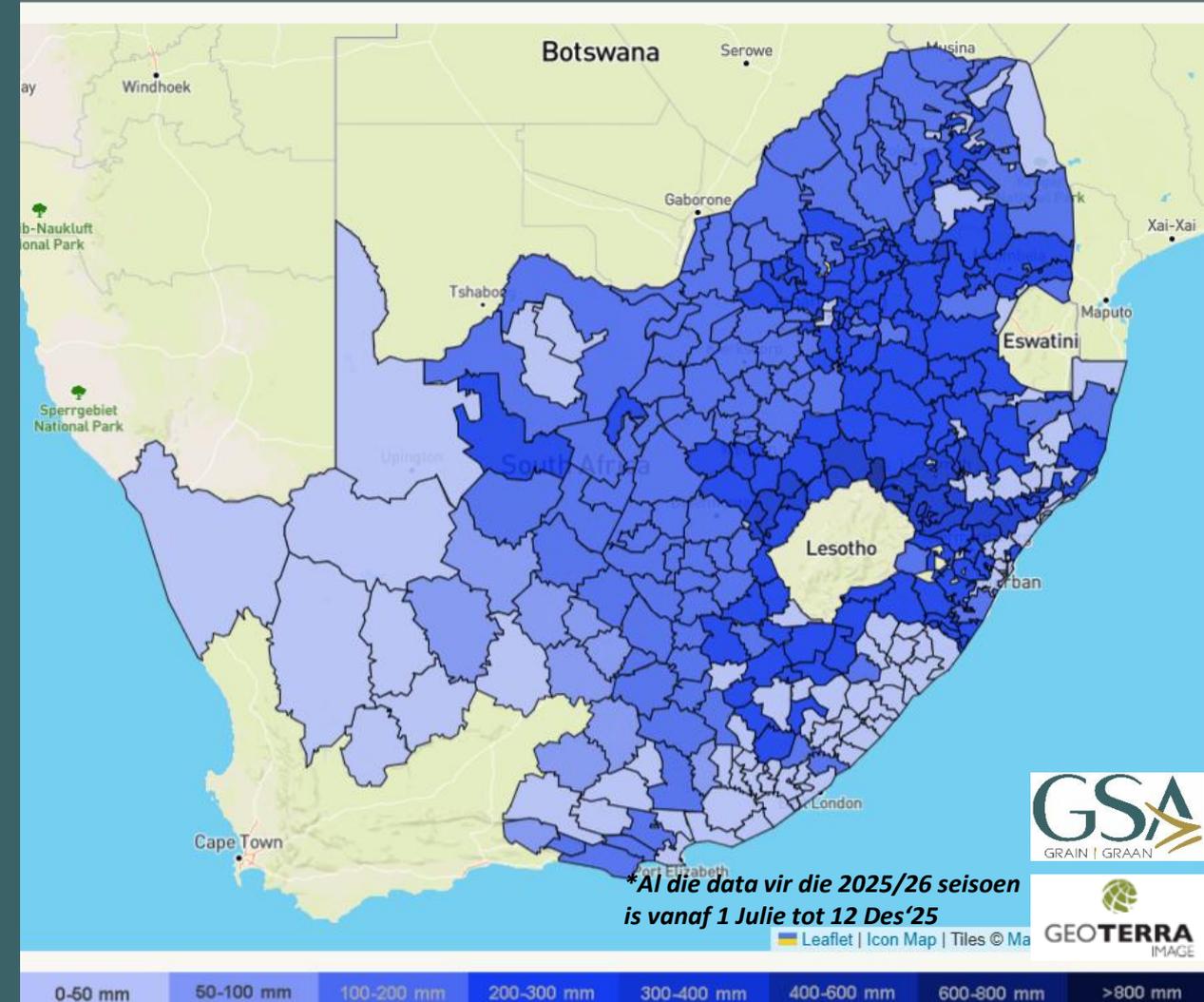
Most regions are experiencing very wet conditions that are slowing down planting rates and causing production challenges. In North West, soybeans are largely finished planting, but about a third of the maize still needs to be planted, making spraying difficult. In the Free State, the East is saturated with yellow maize and incomplete plantings; in the North-West Free State, water tables are full, crop damage to soybeans and maize, and concerns about shallow root development. The Eastern Highveld has finished planting, but some areas could not be planted; hail damage and a shortage of heat units due to cold and rain are a risk. Limpopo is also very wet, with runoff damage and many hectares still to be planted.

It is still very early in the season and much can still happen. The team will continue to measure conditions at ground level.

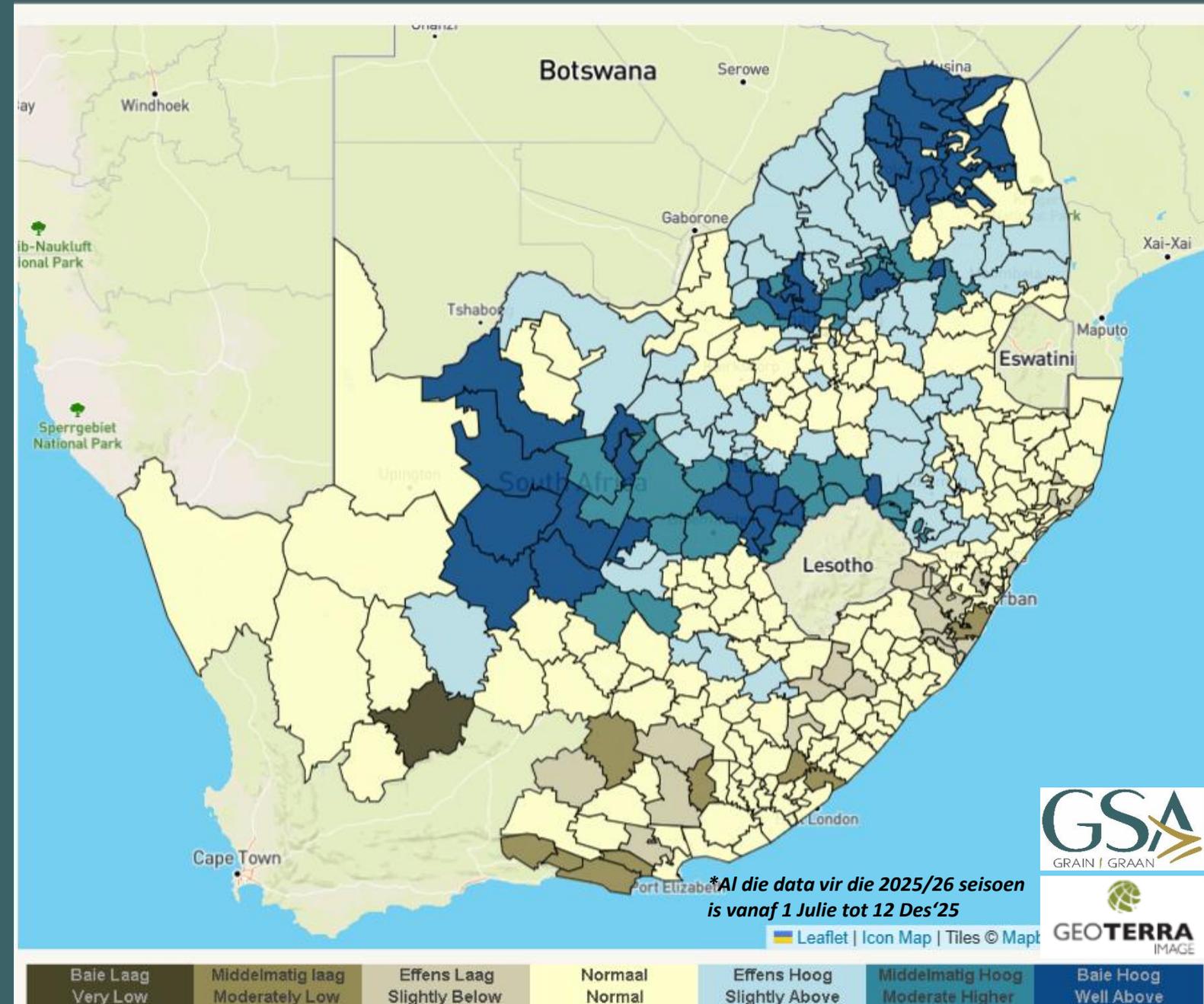
Rainfall

Totale Reënval/Total Rainfall

Reënval vir die afgelope 30 dae/Rainfall for the past 30 days



Reënval vir die afgelope 30 dae/Rainfall for the past 30 days



The seasonal rainfall shows the current season's rainfall compared to the 5-year average.

Seasonal Rainfall:

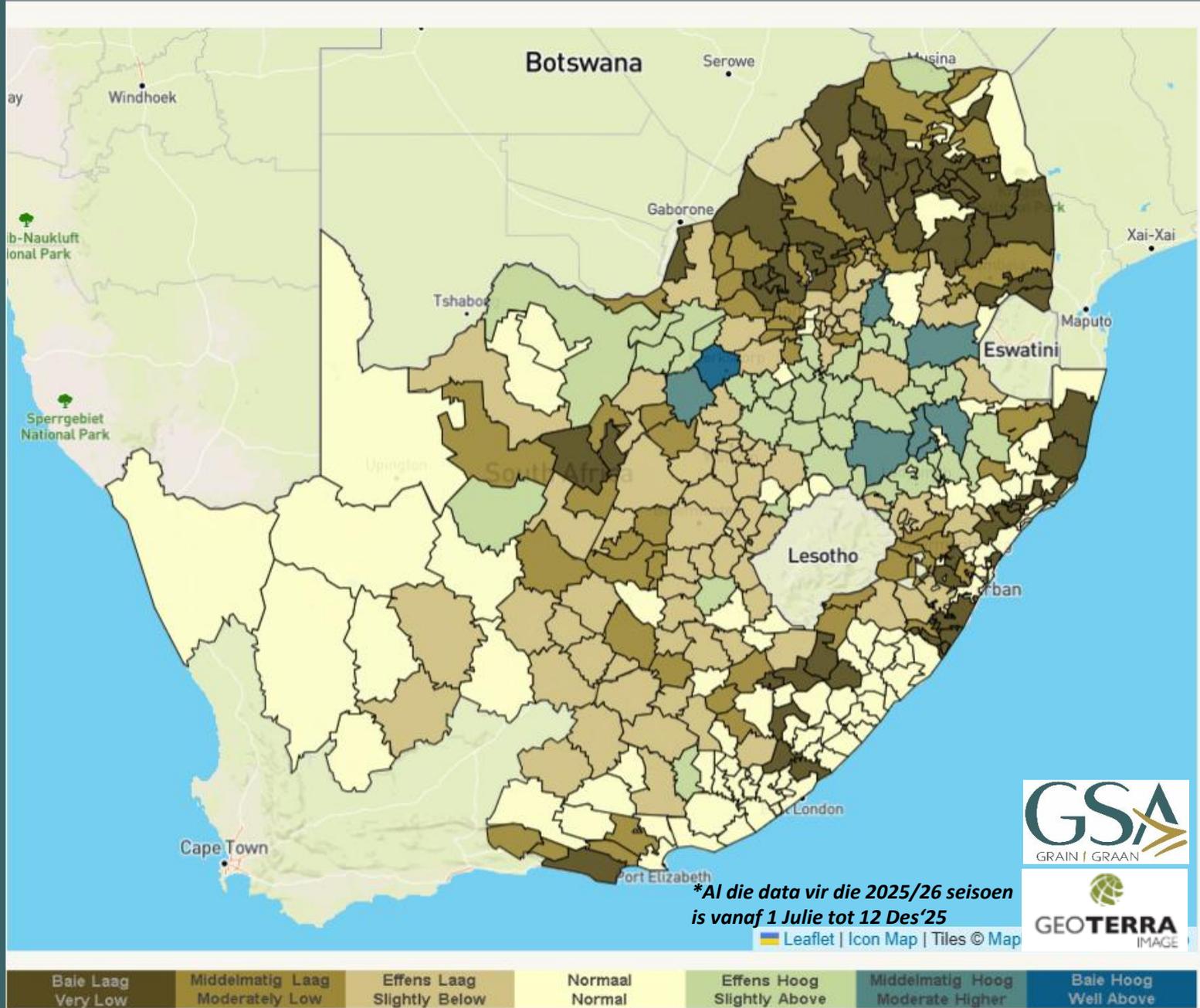
North West: The region has recorded an average of more than 290mm of rainfall since September, which is about 50mm more than the same time last year.

Free State:

- The **North West Free State's** average level of rainfall varies between moderately high and very high above average. The region has received approximately 250mm of rain, with places like Bothaville receiving more than 300mm to date. This is more than double compared to last season. The Eastern Free State has had an average of 320mm of rain to date, which is an increase of 100mm on the year-on-year average.
- **Eastern Highveld:** Rainfall levels for this season are higher compared to the three-year average. To date, the average rainfall for the region has been 340mm.

Limpopo: This season, rainfall in the region has generally been above average.

Grondvog Indeks / Soil Water Index



The soil moisture index compares three periods: the current season, the previous season, and the 5-year average.

North West:

Soil moisture in the North West region varies from slightly low to very high in certain areas.

Free State:

In the North West Free State, there are very high soil moisture levels, thanks to the improved rainfall patterns experienced this season. Despite this recovery, the water tables are filling up, which poses other risks for producers. Areas in the Eastern Free State also have slightly high to very high soil moisture levels at this stage of the season, thanks to the continuous rains over the past few months.

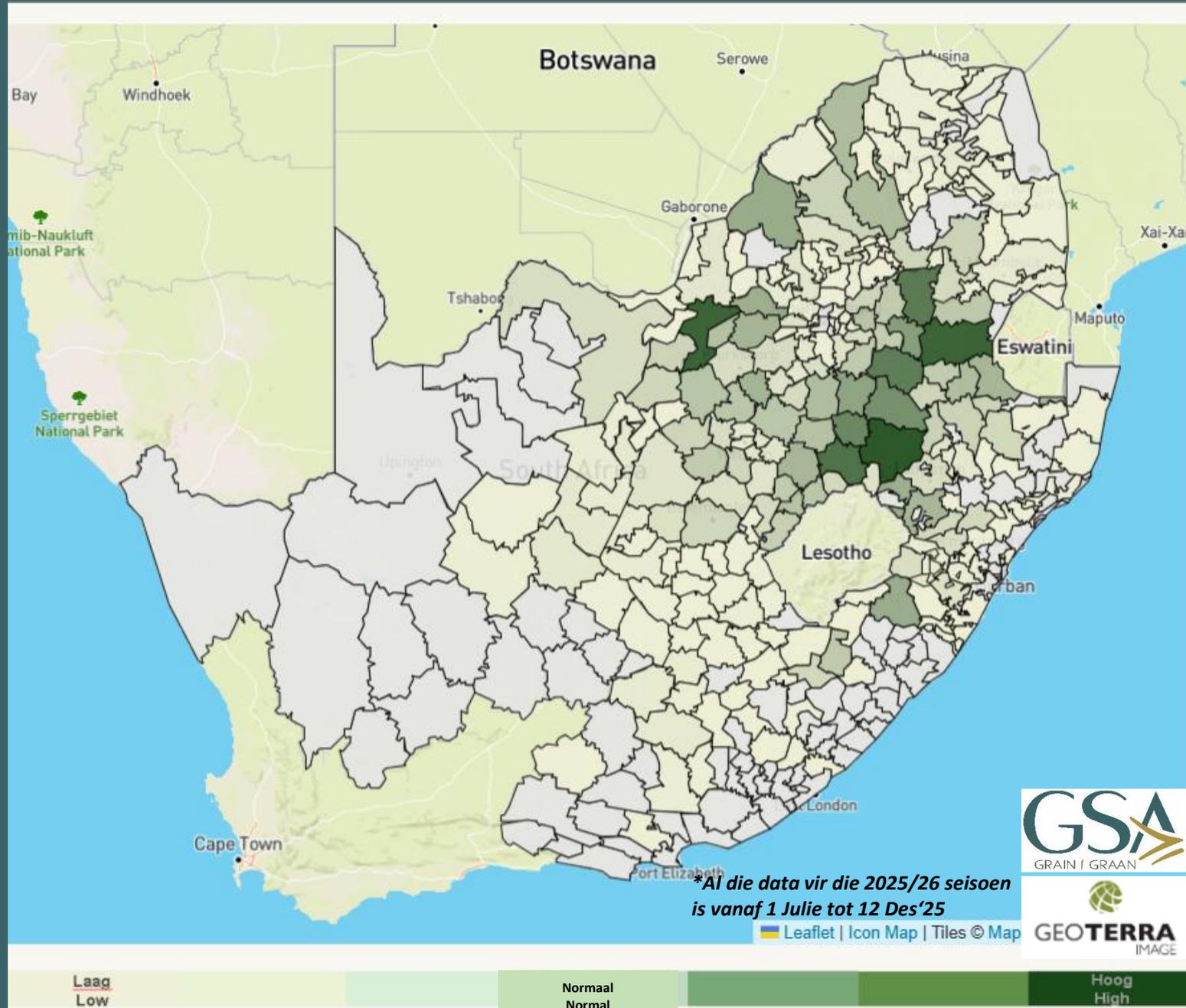
Eastern Highveld:

The region has seen a significant recovery in soil moisture, bringing it much closer to normal levels after a challenging period. This trend could support crop growth and agricultural activities in most of the region. A risk remains hail and a shortage of heat units due to continuous rain.

Limpopo:

Soil moisture levels in many areas have increased to slightly above average, with some regions experiencing exceptionally high moisture content.

Gewasopkoms per Distrik / Crop Greenup per District



The crop emergence indications show the current crop emergence progress compared to the 4-year average.

North West:

In this region it is very wet and producers are experiencing continuous rain over most of the area. This is causing delays in planting rates. The majority of the soybean plantings are complete and about a third of the maize plantings are yet to happen. Producers are also struggling to get into the fields to spray. The overall planting rate is ahead of last year.

Free State:

In the **Eastern Free State** it is also extremely wet. The majority of the crops have been completed. There are areas where it was too wet to plant certain parts. There is some maize in the area that is starting to turn yellow.

In the **Northwest Free State** the water tables are full or getting full at this stage. There is crop damage to soybeans and maize and for many producers it is too wet to transplant. There is also a concern that roots will not grow deep enough or remain shallow, which could cause a problem later in the season.

Eastern Highveld:

The region has finished planting. There are areas that producers were unable to plant due to the wet conditions. Hail damage has also been reported in the area. The biggest risk is the shortage of heating units due to the continuous rain and cold temperatures.

Limpopo:

The region is also very wet. There are still many hectares being planted in this area. There is above average rain as well as runoff damage occurring here and there.

Intentions to plant 2025/26*

CROP/GEWAS	Intentions/ Voomeme 2026 Ha	Area planted/ Opp beplant 2025 Ha	Ninth estimate/ Negende skatting 2025 Tons	Change/ Verandering/ %
	soos middel Okt 2025/ as mid Oct 2025		as on 28 Oct 2025/ soos op 28 Okt 2025	
	(A)		(C)	
Commercial/Kommersieël:				
White maize/Witmielies	1 614 700	1 599 700	8 335 750	0,94%
Yellow maize/Geelmielies	1 051 000	997 000	7 988 800	5,42%
Maize/Mielies	2 665 700	2 596 700	16 324 550	2,66%
Sunflower seed/Sonneblomsaad	531 100	555 700	708 300	-4,43%
Soybeans/Sojabone	1 179 200	1 151 000	2 753 125	2,45%
Groundnuts/Grondbone	42 240	48 125	61 389	-12,23%
Sorghum	39 250	41 150	144 665	-4,62%
Dry beans/Droëbone	36 420	45 620	90 556	-20,17%
TOTAL/TOTAAL	4 493 910	4 438 295	20 082 585	1,25%

Note: Estimate is for calendar year, e.g. production season 2025/26 = 2026

Nota: Skatting is vir kalenderjaar, bv. produksie-seisoen 2025/26 = 2026