

PRODUCTION CONDITION REPORT

02 APRIL 2026



Gewas toestand
Crop Condition



Klimaat
Climate



Vergelyk
Compare



Opbrenge potensiaal
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 season.

- **Crop conditions**

Crop conditions describe the overall health and yield potential of crops, based on rainfall, soil moisture, and environmental stress factors.

All the 2025/26 season data is from 1 July 2025 to 02 April 2026.

REVISED AREA PLANTED AND SECOND PRODUCTION FORECAST OF THE 2025/26 PRODUCTION SEASON (CEC)

CROP/GEWAS	Area planted/ Opp beplant 2026 HA (A)	2nd forecast/ 2de skatting 2026 Tons (B)	1st forecast/ 1ste skatting 2026 Tons (C)	Yield/ Opbrengs 2026 Tons/Ha (B) / (A)	Area planted/ Opp beplant 2025 HA (D)	Final crop/ Finale oes 2025 Tons (E)	Change/ Verandering % (B) / (C)
Commercial/ Kommersieël:							
White maize/ Witmielies	1 664 700	8 757 850	8 509 550	5,26	1 599 700	8 450 000	2,92%
Yellow maize/ Geelmielies	1 051 500	7 750 450	7 616 800	7,37	997 000	8 200 000	1,75%
Total maize/ Totale Mielies	2 716 200	16 508 300	16 126 350	5,94	2 596 700	16 650 000	2,37%
Sunflower seed/ Sonneblomsaad	570 100	778 155	754 475	1,36	555 700	700 000	3,14%
Soybeans/ Sojabone	1 212 700	2 729 975	2 661 425	2,25	1 151 000	2 800 000	2,58%
Groundnuts/ Grondbone	44 650	69 360	65 238	1,55	48 125	63 350	6,32%
Sorghum	45 000	140 653	131 888	3,13	41 150	150 000	6,65%
Drybeans/ Droëbone	40 950	80 704	78 594	1,97	45 620	90 556	2,68%
TOTAL/TOTAAL	4 629 600	20 307 147	19 817 969	4,39	4 438 295	20 453 906	2,47%

Source: CEC. The 3rd CEC Production Forecast will be released on the 23rd of March

Summary

Crop Conditions



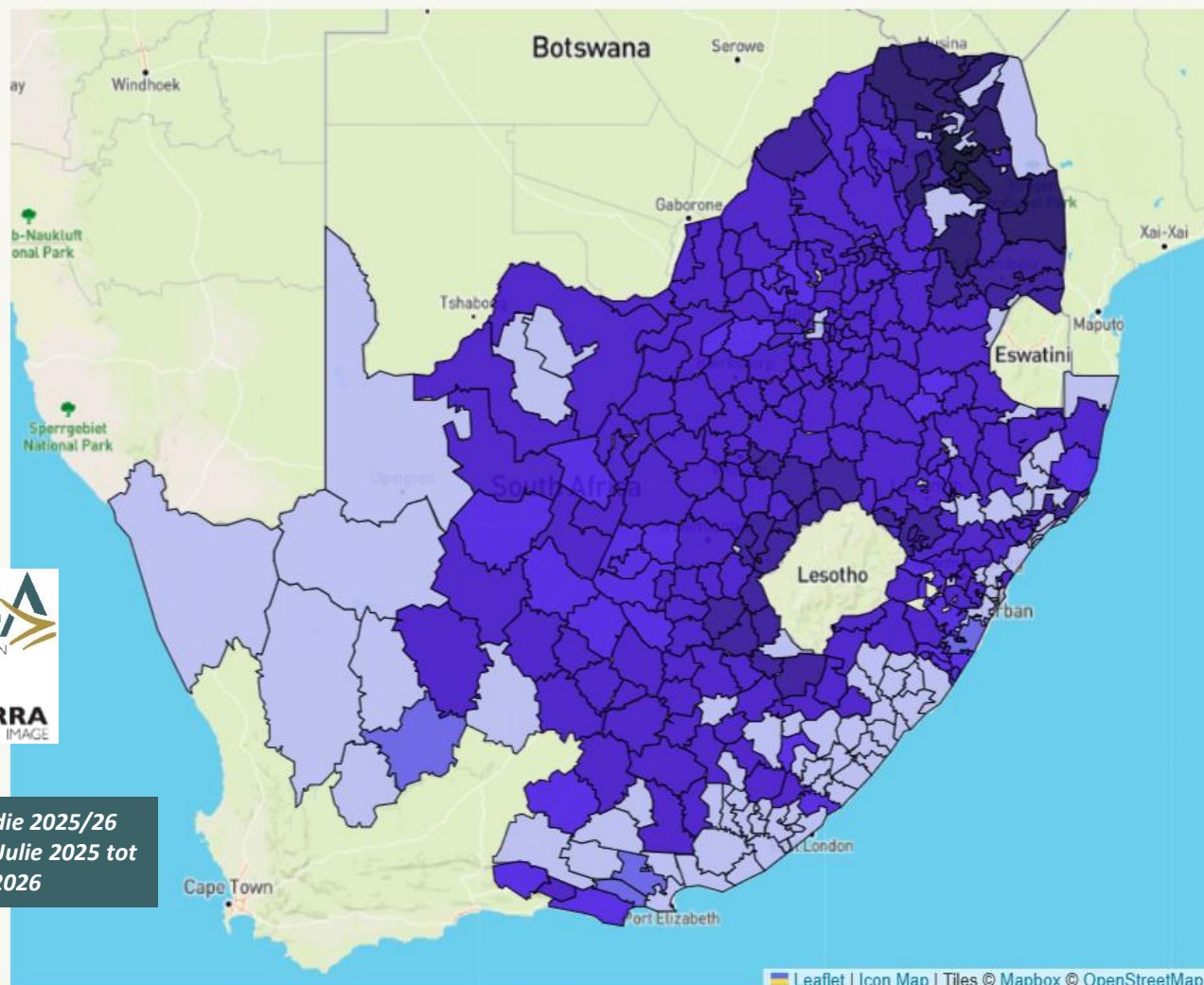
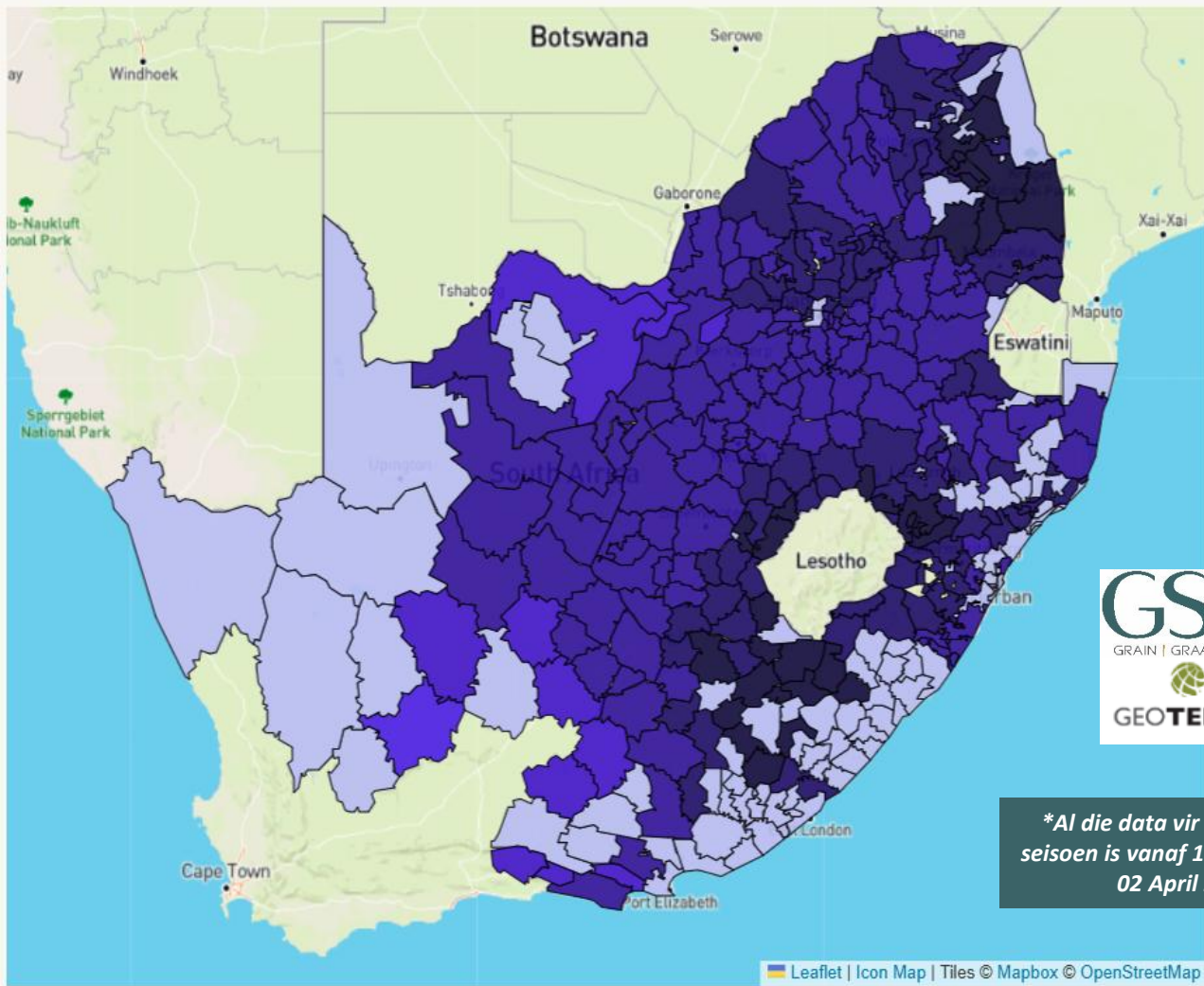
Crop conditions across the summer rainfall regions remain generally favourable, supported by widespread and above-normal follow-up rainfall in central areas. Regions in the Free State, North-West, and the Eastern Highveld have benefited from good moisture availability, which has supported crop development and improved crop potential, particularly for late-planted crops. However, excessive rainfall in parts of the Northwest Free State and North-West has resulted in waterlogged soils, localised flooding, and delays in harvesting activities. These wet conditions are also slowing the drying of mature crops, particularly maize and soybeans, which may affect harvest timing and crop quality in some areas. In contrast, Limpopo continues to experience uneven rainfall distribution, leading to variable soil moisture conditions and mixed production conditions across the region. Overall, while production conditions remain favourable across most regions, the season is increasingly characterised by a contrast between areas benefiting from adequate moisture (follow-up rain) and those facing challenges due to excess rainfall or uneven distribution. Improved field accessibility and drying conditions will be important for harvesting in the coming weeks.

This is the last official Production Conditions Report for the summergrain region for this season. From next week onwards, a Producer Deliveries Report will be sent out.

Total Rainfall

Totale Reënval/Total Rainfall

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



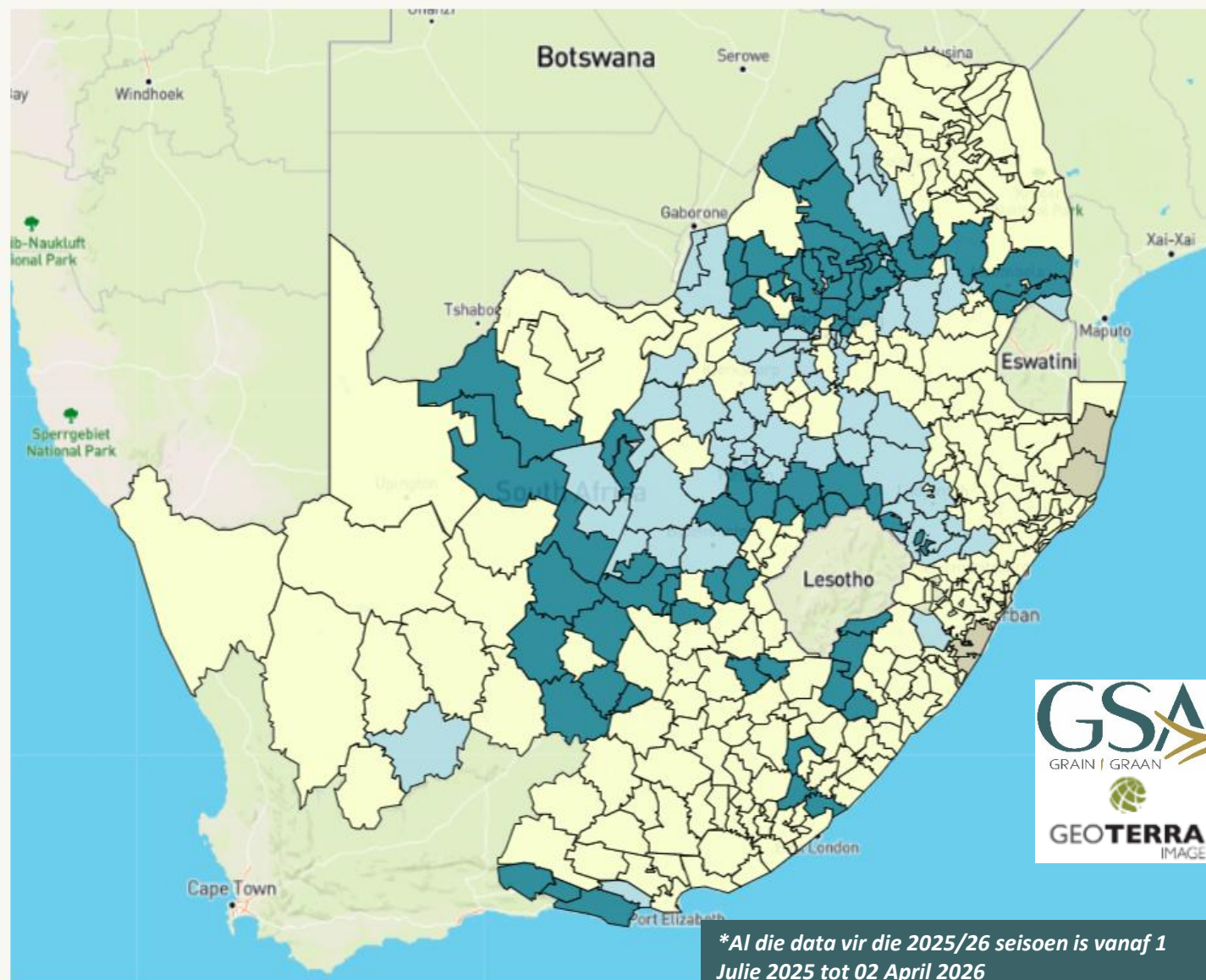
**Al die data vir die 2025/26 seisoen is vanaf 1 Julie 2025 tot 02 April 2026*

Leaflet | Icon Map | Tiles © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Leaflet | Icon Map | Tiles © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap



Seisoen reënval afwyking/Season rainfall deviation



*Al die data vir die 2025/26 seisoen is vanaf 1 Julie 2025 tot 02 April 2026

Baie Laag Very Low	Middelmatig laag Moderately Low	Effens Laag Slightly Below	Normaal Normal	Effens Hoog Slightly Above	Middelmatig Hoog Moderate Higher	Baie Hoog Well Above
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Rainfall patterns over the past few weeks have continued to influence crop conditions across the summer rainfall regions, with above-normal rainfall recorded across much of the west and central production areas, while northern regions such as Limpopo remain more variable.

Free State:

- ❑ **Northwest Free State:** The region has received substantial rainfall over the past week, particularly around Hoopstad, resulting in wet conditions. In contrast, areas towards Bothaville experienced excessive rainfall in a short period, leading to standing water and localised crop damage. While rainfall has supported crop development in some areas, it has also delayed harvesting due to poor field accessibility.
- ❑ **Eastern Free State:** The eastern parts of the province have received consistent and meaningful rainfall over the past two weeks. Conditions remain generally wet, supporting strong crop development and maintaining an average to above-average crop potential.

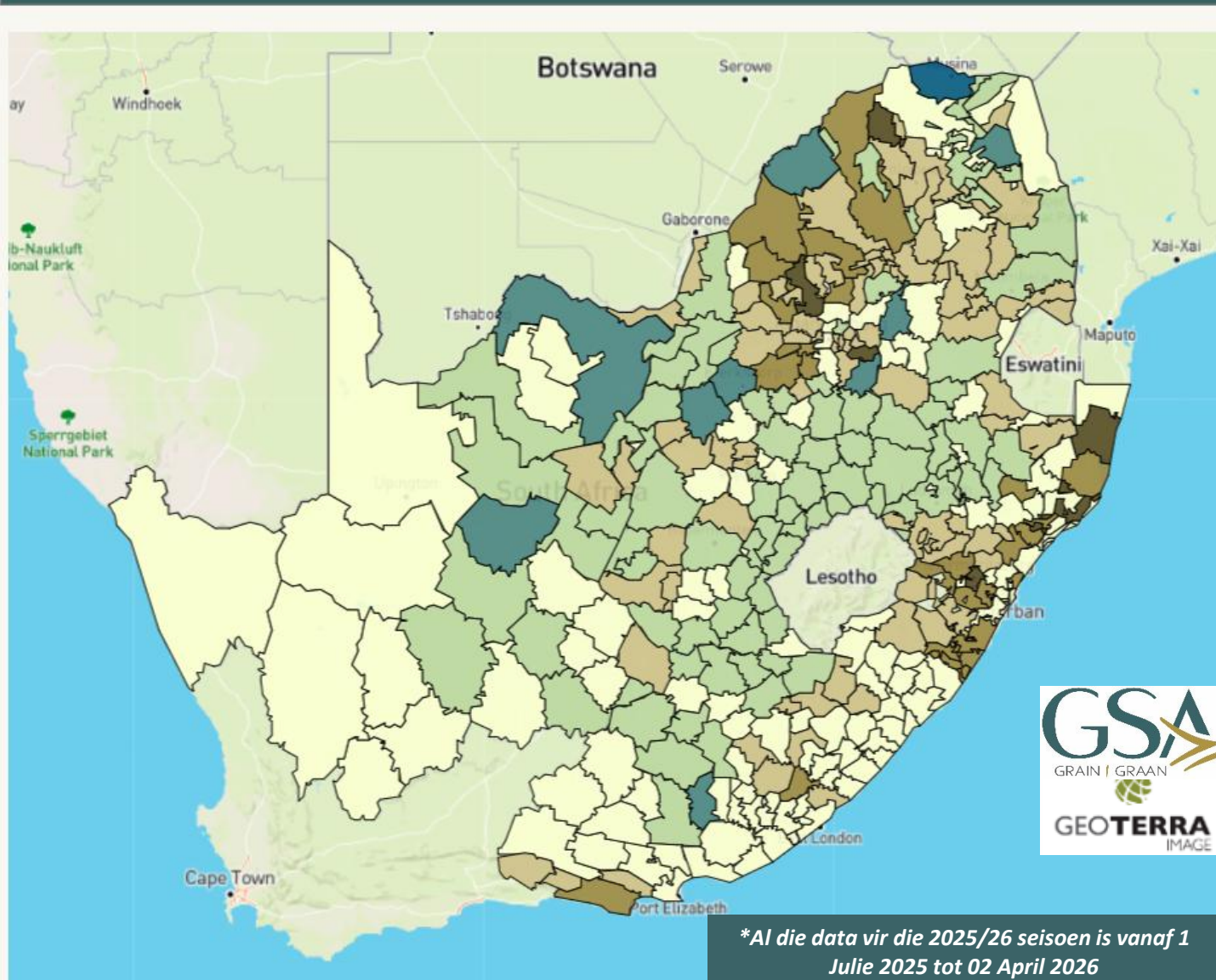
Limpopo: Rainfall remains uneven across the region, with scattered showers recorded but not widespread. This has resulted in continued variability in crop conditions, with some areas benefiting while others remain relatively dry.

Eastern Highveld: The region has received good and consistent rainfall in the past week. While this has improved crop conditions and supported grain filling, it has also maintained wet field conditions, slowing the drying of mature crops.

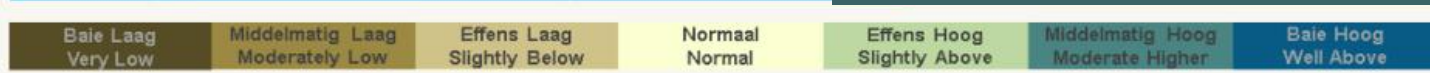
North West Province: Rainfall across much of the province has been normal to slightly above average over the past two weeks, improving moisture availability and supporting crop development. However, persistent rainfall is delaying harvesting activities, particularly in sunflower-producing areas, as fields remain too wet for operations.



Grondvog Indeks / Soil Water Index



**Al die data vir die 2025/26 seisoen is vanaf 1 Julie 2025 tot 02 April 2026*



The soil moisture index compares current moisture levels with both the previous season and the 5-year average. Recent rainfall contributed to above-average moisture levels in many regions, while areas with limited rainfall show little improvement.

Free State

- ❑ **Northwest Free State:** Soil moisture levels are above-average, with certain areas experiencing oversaturation. Between Hoopstad and Bothaville, soils are waterlogged with standing water present. While this supports crop growth in some areas, excessive moisture is contributing to crop damage and limiting harvesting activities.
- ❑ **Eastern Free State:** Soil moisture levels remain good and are above both last season and the five-year average. Continued rainfall has sustained slightly above-average conditions, supporting crop development across the region.

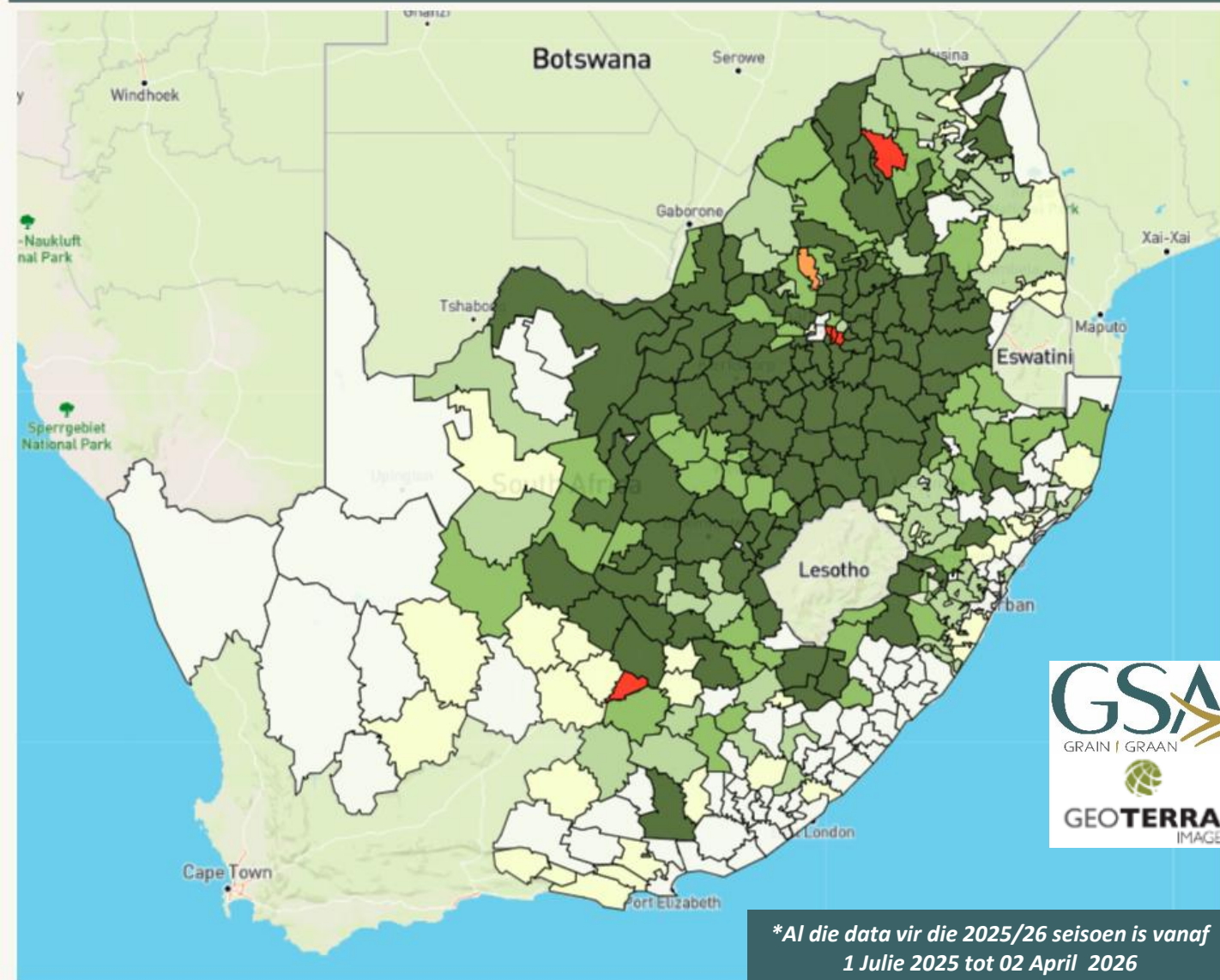
Limpopo: Soil moisture remains below average in many dryland areas due to uneven rainfall distribution. Although isolated areas have improved slightly, overall moisture levels have changed little compared to previous weeks.

Eastern Highveld: Soil moisture levels remain moderate, consistent with earlier assessments. Adequate moisture continues to support late-stage crop development, although wet conditions are slowing drying and delaying harvest readiness.

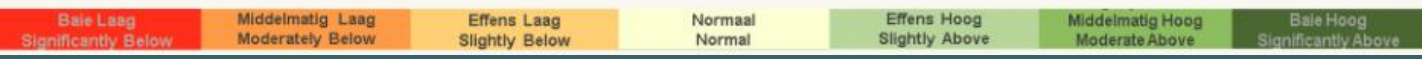
North West: Soil moisture improved following good follow up rainfall, supporting late-planted maize and sunflowers. However, above-average moisture levels in certain areas are now limiting field access. Soil moisture is above both the previous season and the 5-year average in the wetter zones.



Gewas Toestand / Crop Condition



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The Green Leaf Index (GLI) reflects crop growth and development throughout the season, with conditions across most summer rainfall regions significantly above the 5-year average.

Free State: The GLI index is significantly above the 5-year average.

- ❑ **Northwest Free State:** In Hoopstad, producers have started harvesting sunflowers and some early maize where field conditions allowed. Several fields remain wet, affecting the progress. In Bothaville, the recent rainfall has resulted in water accumulation and delays in harvesting, with some localised crop losses. Wesselsbron producers reported that early-planted maize is drying gradually.
- ❑ **Eastern Free State:** In areas around Bethlehem, Fouriesburg, and the Harrismith area, soybeans are completing seed filling, and maize is approaching maturity. Limited early harvesting has taken place where fields were accessible, while many producers are waiting for improved conditions.

Limpopo: In Springbokvlakte and surrounding areas, harvesting of sorghum, sunflower and irrigated maize is underway. Dryland crops on the fields show varied outcomes depending on rainfall received earlier in the season.

Eastern Highveld: In Mpumalanga (Ermelo, Amersfoort, Carolina, and Breyten), some producers have started harvesting maize and soybeans. Maize remains wet in many fields, and soybean drying is slow due to recent rainfall. Above-average harvests for soybeans and for maize are expected in areas affected by earlier water damage. Later-planted crops remain in their final development stages.

North West: Sunflower harvesting has started across parts of Lichtenburg, Sannieshof and Mareetsane, although rainfall has caused repeated interruptions. Maize is drying down steadily, and late-planted fields are progressing through grain filling stages. In Christiana and Hartswater, some producers have started harvesting early maize and groundnuts, while most maize remains on the land due to wet field conditions.

THANK YOU!

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