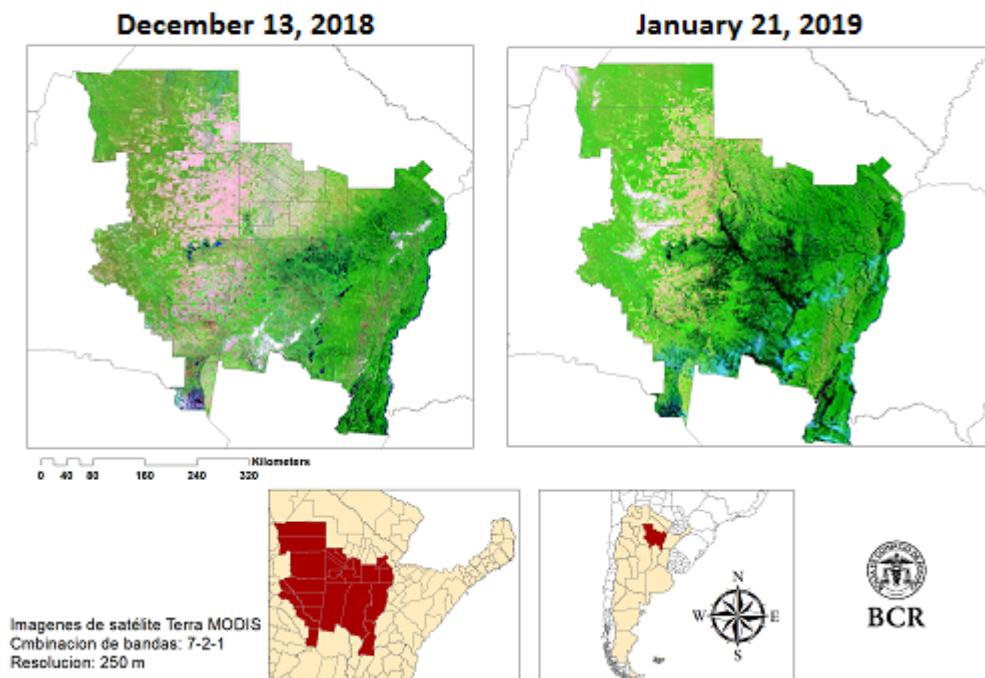


The importance of northern Argentina in the national agricultural output

SOFÍA CORINA - DESIRÉ SIGAUO - EMILCE TERRÉ

The most affected area includes 12 departments in the province of Chaco (12 de Octubre, 2 de Abril, 9 de Julio, Almirante Brown, Chacabuco, Fray Justo Sta. Ma. Oro, Gral. Belgrano, Independencia, M Luis J. Fontana, O'Higgins, San Fernando, San Lorenzo y Tapenagá), 5 departments in northern Santa Fe (9 de Julio, Gral. Obligado, San Javier, San Justo y Vera) and 6 departments in northeastern Santiago del Estero (Aguirre, Alberdi, Belgrano, Gral. Taboada, Juan F. Ibarra y Moreno). The area is located in northeastern Argentina, as the map shows.

Before and after satellite images show the scale of rainfall



The affected area covers about 160,000 km², 23 departments in three different provinces with a population of over one million people. The rain caused extensive floods that interrupted all fieldwork in the area, cutting yields, stressing the cattle and in some cases, causing total crop and cattle losses. What is the importance of the region's production at a national level? Ranches in Bajos Submeridionales and its surrounding areas own 11% of Argentine rodeo. The region has a 3-million-hectare productive area, which is 40% of the cultivated area in the provinces of Santa Fe, Santiago del Estero and Chaco. Farmers in this area grow about 60% of the cotton in Argentina, 15% of the sunflower, 10% of the corn, 8% of the soybeans and 14% of sorghum. The combination of these crops account for about 9.6 million tons, which is 36% of the three provinces' production and almost 10% of the national crops.