



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 6:45 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Wednesday - November 3, 2004

- ***In the West***, light rain and snow showers are returning to ***northern California*** and the ***interior Northwest***, following a brief period of dry weather. Although the strong start to the 2004-05 winter wet season has established high-elevation snow packs and benefited pastures, rangelands, and winter grains, rain in ***California*** has caused local flooding and adversely affected unharvested cotton.
- ***On the Plains***, mild weather across ***northern portions of the region*** contrasts with cold conditions and lingering showers in ***Oklahoma*** and ***Texas***. In ***western Texas***, producers are assessing the effects of Tuesday's snow and wind storm on open-boll cotton and other unharvested summer crops. Farther north, cold weather is slowing winter wheat growth on the ***central Plains***, where this morning's low temperatures fell below 20 degrees F in some locations.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, dry weather favors a limited return to summer crop harvesting, although wet soils continue to slow fieldwork in some areas.
- ***In the South***, locally heavy showers and thunderstorm are sweeping into areas ***east of the Delta***, boosting soil moisture reserves but halting fieldwork. Fieldwork delays continue from the ***Delta westward***, following recent heavy rainfall, while warm, dry weather lingers in the ***southern Atlantic region***.

Outlook: A complex storm system will move slowly northeastward from the ***lower Mississippi Valley to the Mid-Atlantic Coast***, generating a large area of rain. Meanwhile, scattered showers and below-normal temperatures will accompany a late-week cold front sweeping southeastward across the ***Midwest***. Elsewhere, high pressure building into the ***nation's mid-section*** will provide mild, mostly dry conditions from the ***Plains westward***, although a slow-moving disturbance will provide cool, increasingly showery weather to ***California*** and adjacent areas. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for November 8-12 calls for below-normal temperatures in the ***East***, while warmer-than-normal weather will prevail across the ***northern High Plains*** and much of the ***West***. Below-normal precipitation is expected across much of the U.S.; wetter-than-normal conditions will be confined to ***southern Florida***, the ***northern Plains***, and ***southern portions of the Plains and Rockies***.

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Web Site: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/AgWxHighlights/TODAYSWX.PDF>