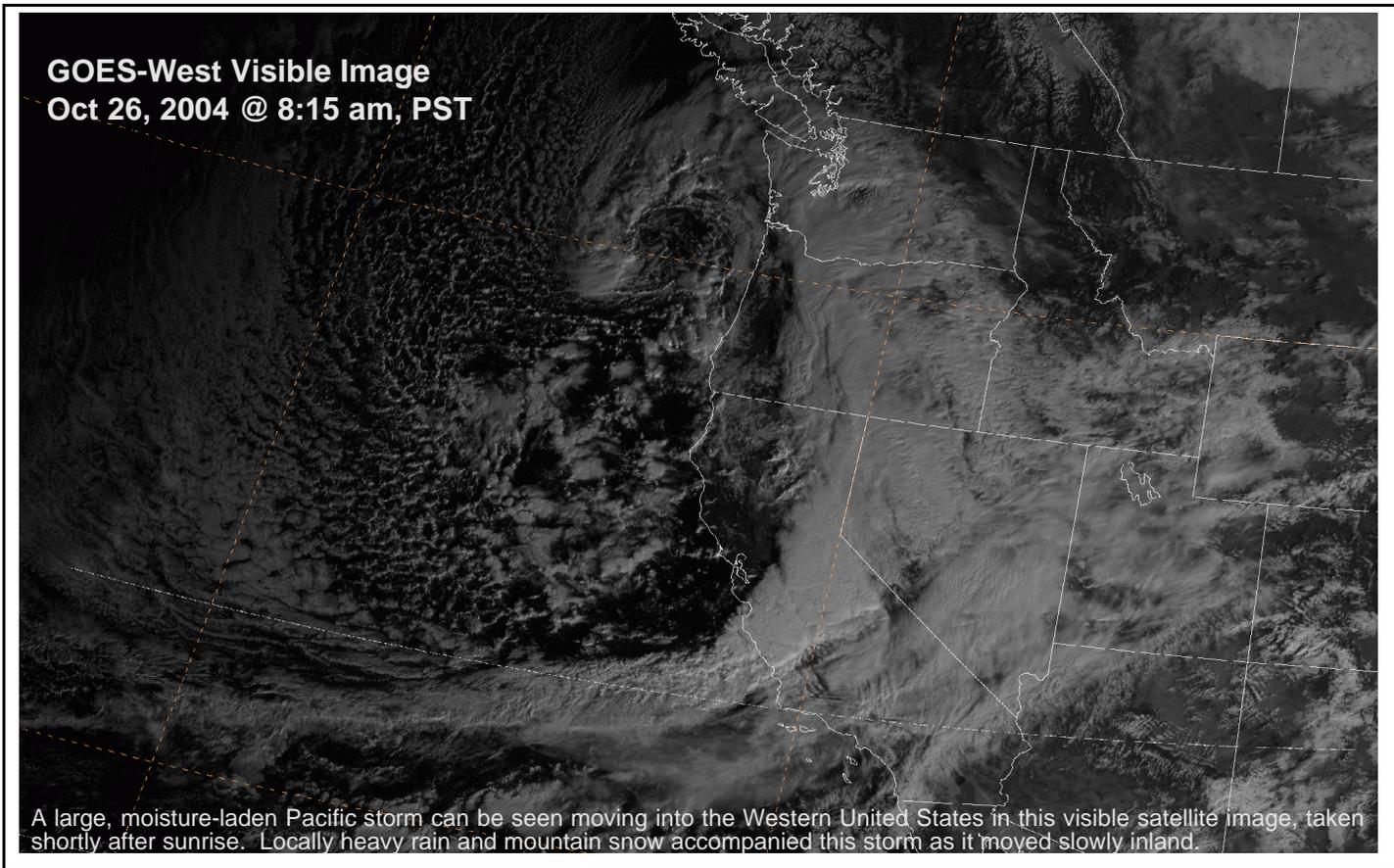


WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Agricultural Statistics Service
and World Agricultural Outlook Board



HIGHLIGHTS

October 24 - 30, 2004

Highlights provided by USDA/WAOB

The phenomenal start to the 2004-05 winter wet season continued for a second consecutive week across much of the **West**, establishing high-elevation snowpacks and aiding pastures, rangelands, and winter grains. However, **Western** rainfall also hampered fieldwork, caused local flooding, and adversely affected unharvested cotton, while cooler-than-normal weather (temperatures as much as 10°F below normal) slowed winter grain growth. In contrast, very warm weather prevailed across the **central and southern Plains**, the **Midwest**, and the **South**. Weekly temperatures averaged more than 15°F above normal in parts of the **western and**

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