



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures for 7:45 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights – Friday - May 24, 2019

- In the *West*, unusually cool conditions persist, maintaining concerns about slow development and poor quality for a variety of specialty crops, such as cherries and grapes. Dry weather has returned across the *Southwest*, but scattered showers linger across the *northern half of the region*.
- On the *Plains*, showers and thunderstorms are occurring in already saturated sections of *Kansas* and *Oklahoma*, maintaining the threat of additional flooding. Meanwhile, a chilly rain is falling across parts of the *northern Plains*, curtailing fieldwork and limiting crop emergence and growth.
- In the *Corn Belt*, warm, humid weather prevails in the *Ohio Valley*. Across the remainder of the *Midwest*, cool, stormy weather and soggy fields continue to inhibit nearly all spring planting operations, as well as corn and soybean emergence and establishment. Early today, some of the heaviest rain is falling in *Iowa* and environs.
- In the *South*, hot, humid weather favors a rapid pace of fieldwork and crop development. However, increasingly dry conditions are becoming a concern in parts of the *Southeast*. On May 19, topsoil moisture was rated at least 40% very short to short in *South Carolina* (48%), *Florida* (42%), and *Georgia* (41%).

Outlook: A barrage of storm systems will continue to emerge from the *western U.S.*, maintaining the likelihood of showers and locally severe thunderstorms across a broad area of the *nation's mid-section*. Five-day rainfall totals of 1 to 5 inches or more should occur across the *Plains* and *Midwest*, while cool, showery weather will linger across the *northern two-thirds of the West*. In stark contrast, warm, dry weather will cover the *South* into early next week. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for May 29 – June 2 calls for wetter-than-normal weather across most of the country, while below-normal rainfall will be confined to the *Pacific Northwest* and parts of the *Southeast* and *northern Plains*. Meanwhile, below-normal temperatures from the *Southwest into the upper Midwest* will contrast with warmer-than-normal conditions in the *Pacific Northwest*, along *California's coast*, and southeast of a line from *central Texas to northern New England*.

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Web Site: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather/pubs/Daily/TODAYSWX.pdf>

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The outlook is an interpretation of National Weather Service (NWS) forecasts and products.

The next scheduled noon release of the "Agricultural Weather Highlights" will be Tuesday, June 11. On other weekdays, this product will be posted by 9 am EDT.