



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures for 5:10 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights – Thursday - June 13, 2024

- In the *West*, a hot, dry regime is in place, except for somewhat cooler conditions near the *Canadian border* and along the immediate *Pacific Coast*. Although mostly sunny weather is promoting fieldwork and crop development, irrigation demands are increasing as topsoil experiences seasonal drying.
- On the *Plains*, hot weather prevails from *Colorado and Kansas southward*, allowing the winter wheat harvest to rapidly advance. By June 9, the wheat harvest in *Oklahoma* and *Texas* was 48 and 47% complete, respectively, versus 5-year averages of 17 and 39%. Later today, high temperatures will top 100°F as far north as *southeastern Colorado* and *central Kansas*. Meanwhile, pleasant weather covers the *northern Plains*, where scattered showers are gradually ending.
- In the *Corn Belt*, spotty showers in *northern corn and soybean production areas* are interrupting an otherwise dry pattern. With planting of *Midwestern* summer crops nearly complete, producers are focusing on other activities, including—where applicable—starting the winter wheat harvest. By June 9, *Missouri* led the *Midwest* with 10% of its winter wheat acreage harvested, well ahead of the 5-year average of 4%. On that date, the wheat harvest was 6% complete in *Illinois*.
- In the *South*, torrential rain has ended across *southern Florida*, although showers and flash flood concerns linger. On June 12, rainfall totaled 6 to 10 inches in *Florida* locations such as *Fort Lauderdale* (9.54 inches), *Pembroke Pines* (7.92 inches), and *Pompano Beach* (6.44 inches). Elsewhere, building heat and dry conditions favor a rapid pace of fieldwork and crop growth, as well as winter wheat maturation and harvesting. Later today, high temperatures will reach or exceed 90°F throughout the region, except in the *southern Appalachians*, *southern Florida*, and the immediate *Gulf Coast*.

Outlook: An early-season *Midwestern* heat wave will peak late in the weekend and early next week with temperatures ranging from 95 to 100°F, except in the *upper Mississippi Valley*. Similar temperatures (95 to 100°F) will be observed from the *central and southern Plains into the middle and southern Atlantic States*. However, the *northern Plains* and *upper Midwest* will escape the heat. Meanwhile, significant precipitation will be scarce the next 5 days, except in selected areas. For example, locally heavy showers will linger across *southern Florida*, where an additional 2 to 6 inches of rain could fall atop already impressive totals. Farther north, 5-day rainfall could reach 1 to 3 inches across the *northern and central Plains* and the *upper Midwest*. Finally, tropical moisture may begin to overspread the *western and central Gulf Coast States* early next week. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for June 18 – 22 calls for near- or above-normal temperatures nationwide, except for cooler-than-normal conditions across portions of the *northern High Plains*, *northern Great Basin*, and the *Northwest*. Meanwhile, near- or above-normal rainfall across most of the country should contrast with drier-than-normal weather in the *middle Atlantic States* and environs, including the *central Appalachians*.

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Web Site: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/TODAYSWX.pdf>