



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

Agricultural Weather Highlights – Monday - July 23, 2018

- In the *West*, hot, mostly dry weather prevails. An excessive heat warning is in effect today for much of the *Desert Southwest*, where today's high temperatures could approach 120°F. More than four dozen fires, in various stages of containment, are burning in the *western U.S.*—many of them in the *Pacific Northwest*.
- On the *Plains*, lingering heat across *central and southern Texas* is maintaining stress on crops and livestock. In contrast, below-normal temperatures cover the *northern and central Plains*. Scattered showers are primarily confined to the *central Plains*.
- In the *Corn Belt*, mostly dry weather accompanies near- or below-normal temperatures. In the last several weeks, spotty dryness has adversely affected some pastures and summer crops in primarily the *northeastern and southwestern Corn Belt* (e.g. *Michigan* and *Missouri*, respectively), while abundant rainfall has occurred across the *upper Midwest*.
- In the *South*, heavy showers continue to spark local flooding in portions of the *middle and southern Atlantic States*. Showers also extend westward along the *Gulf Coast* into *Louisiana*, but hot, dry weather persists in the *western Gulf Coast region*.

Outlook: As the week progresses, cool conditions will become more deeply entrenched across the *central and eastern U.S.*, but hot, humid weather will linger across the *Deep South*. However, very hot weather will persist in much of the *Far West*. Meanwhile, heavy showers in the *eastern U.S.* could result in additional rainfall totals of 2 to 6 inches or more, especially from *Florida into the Northeast*. In contrast, little or no rain will fall during the next 5 days from *central and eastern Texas into the lower Ohio Valley*. Late in the week, showers will become more numerous across the *Rockies* and *central Plains*, but mostly dry weather will continue in the *Far West*. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for July 28 – August 1 calls for the likelihood of cooler-than-normal conditions across much of the *central and eastern U.S.*, while hotter-than-normal weather will be confined to *New England*, the *Deep South*, and the *Far West*. Meanwhile, above-normal rainfall from the *central and southern Plains to the Atlantic Seaboard* should contrast with drier-than-normal conditions across *northern sections of the Rockies and Plains*.

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