



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

Agricultural Weather Highlights – Tuesday - February 19, 2019

- In the *West*, freeze warnings are in effect early today in *California's San Joaquin Valley*, as well as parts of the *Desert Southwest*. Elsewhere, cold, mostly dry weather prevails in the *Northwest*, while snow is blanketing portions of the *southern Rockies* and environs.
- On the *Plains*, this morning's low temperatures plunged below 0°F in *Montana* and the *Dakotas*. Below-normal temperatures prevail across the remainder of the *nation's mid-section*, while cloudiness and patches of light snow are overspreading the *central and southern Plains*.
- In the *Corn Belt*, cold, dry weather prevails, with sub-zero temperatures noted early today in the *upper Midwest*. Snow covers the region, except the *Ohio Valley*, following a weekend storm. In fact, multiple recent storms have left snow depths greater than one-half foot in much of the *northern and western Corn Belt*. Early today, snow depths stand at 11 inches in *Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota*, and 9 inches in *Des Moines, Iowa*.
- In the *South*, lingering warmth is limited to *southern Florida*. Cool, increasingly cloudy weather covers the remainder of the region in advance of an approaching storm system, and scattered showers and thunderstorms are developing from *eastern Texas to the southern Appalachians*.

Outlook: During the next 3 days, a complex and powerful storm system will emerge from the *southern Rockies* and move northeastward into the *Great Lakes region*. A large area from the *southern Rockies into the upper Midwest* will receive heavy snow, while portions of the *middle and northern Atlantic States* will have to contend with snow, sleet, and freezing rain. Meanwhile, storm-total rainfall will reach 2 to 5 inches or more from the *northern Mississippi Delta into the Tennessee Valley*, leading to the likelihood of flooding. After the storm departs, most areas *east of the Mississippi River* will experience a few days with above-normal temperatures. Cold conditions will persist, however, across the *western half of the U.S.* Periods of precipitation will accompany the *Western* chill. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for February 24 – 28 calls for the likelihood of below-normal temperatures nationwide, except for warmer-than-normal weather in the *Southeastern and Mid-Atlantic States*. Meanwhile, below-normal precipitation along the *Pacific Coast* and from *southern California to the southern Plains* should contrast with wetter-than-normal conditions across much of the *northern and eastern U.S.*

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