



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures for 6:40 a.m. EST (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights – Friday - November 27, 2020

- In the *West*, the National Weather Service has issued a freeze warning, in effect early today, for the *San Joaquin Valley*. Cool, dry weather also prevails across the remainder of the *western U.S.*, except for widely scattered showers associated with a disturbance crossing *Arizona* and *western New Mexico*. The disturbance is also contributing to gusty winds in *southern California*, leading to a heightened wildfire threat in portions of *Los Angeles and Ventura Counties*.
- On the *Plains*, mild, dry weather favors final harvesting of crops such as sorghum and sunflowers. In addition, the *Plains'* cotton harvest—which on November 22 ranged from 51% complete in *Kansas* to 74% complete in *Texas*—continues to advance. Drought, which currently covers 42% of the U.S. winter wheat production area—including all fields in *Colorado* and *Nebraska* and 70% of those in *Kansas* and *Texas*—remains a concern with respect to wheat establishment.
- In the *Corn Belt*, dry weather is promoting off-season farm activities. Following recent rainfall in the *eastern Corn Belt*, lingering cloudiness is limiting opportunities for drying as producers attempt to complete the 2020 corn harvest.
- In the *South*, scattered showers and thunderstorms are developing from *southern and eastern Texas to the southern Atlantic Coast*. Early today, the heaviest rain is falling in the *western Gulf Coast region*. In advance of approaching rainfall, *Southeastern* producers are harvesting crops such as cotton, peanuts, and soybeans, as conditions permit.

Outlook: During the next several days, a slow-moving storm system crossing the *southern and eastern U.S.* could produce rainfall totals of 1 to 3 inches or more. As cold air wraps into the storm's circulation, wind-driven snow may accumulate—starting on Monday—across portions of the *Ohio Valley, lower Great Lakes region, and central Appalachians*. Meanwhile, a *Pacific* storm system will arrive in the *Northeast* early next week, delivering some rain and snow. Most of the remainder of the country, including *California*, the *Great Basin*, the *northern and central Plains*, and the *upper Midwest*, will remain dry during the next 5 days. Wildfire concerns in *southern California* should gradually diminish but may return next week, while the freeze threat in *California's San Joaquin Valley* will linger into the weekend. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for December 2 – 6 calls for the likelihood of near- or below-normal temperatures and precipitation across much of the country. Warmer-than-normal weather will be limited to the *northern Plains, upper Midwest, New England*, and areas along and near the *Pacific Coast*, while wetter-than-normal conditions should be confined to the *Gulf Coast region* and portions of the *Atlantic Coast States*.

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Web Site: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/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 Thursday, Dec. 10. On other weekdays, this product will be posted by 9 am EST.