Agricultural Weather Highlights – Tuesday - November 29, 2022

- In the West, widely scattered snow showers stretch from the Pacific Northwest to the central Rockies. Frigid weather has overspread the northern Rockies, while much of the remainder of the West is also experiencing below-normal temperatures. Windy weather has developed in the southern Rockies, where peak wind gusts could range from 60 to 80 mph.

- On the Plains, light to moderately heavy snow is falling in some of the country’s driest areas, including parts of Nebraska. According to the November 22 U.S. Drought Monitor, 58.4% of Nebraska is experiencing extreme to exceptional drought (D3 to D4), which has contributed to 40% of the state’s winter wheat being rated in very poor to poor condition. Elsewhere, cold, breezy weather has developed on the northern Plains, while warmth lingers in parts of Oklahoma and Texas.

- In the Corn Belt, a band of snow extends northeastward from Nebraska into the upper Mississippi Valley. Cold, blustery weather blankets the far upper Midwest, where today’s high temperatures will remain below 32°F. In contrast, warmth is surging northward across the lower Midwest in advance of a cold front. In the Ohio Valley, where some producers are still wrapping up summer crop harvesting, today’s high temperatures should reach 65°F or higher.

- In the South, warm, dry weather prevails in advance of an approaching cold front. Today’s high temperatures should reach 80°F or higher in parts of the western Gulf Coast region and across Florida’s peninsula. Fieldwork includes late-season summer crop harvesting and winter wheat planting.

Outlook: A storm system currently crossing the central Plains will race northeastward and rapidly intensify, reaching the upper Great Lakes region early Wednesday. For the remainder of today, snow will spread from the central Rockies into the upper Midwest. Meanwhile, locally severe thunderstorms and isolated tornadoes may develop Tuesday afternoon along the storm’s trailing cold front, with the greatest likelihood of dangerous weather affecting the lower Mississippi Valley and neighboring areas. By mid-week, strong thunderstorms will sweep toward the southern Atlantic Coast, while cold, windy weather will briefly engulf the Plains and Midwest, with snow showers lingering in the vicinity of the Great Lakes. Late in the week, showery weather will return across the West, with beneficial precipitation expected as far south as California. Cold weather will become entrenched in much of the northern and western U.S., but warmth will prevail across the South. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for December 4 – 8 calls for the likelihood of below-normal temperatures from the Pacific Coast to the northern and central Plains and the upper Midwest, while warmer-than-normal weather will prevail across much of the South, East, and lower Midwest. Meanwhile, much of the country will experience near- or above-normal precipitation, with drier-than-normal conditions largely limited to parts of Florida.

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