Agricultural Weather Highlights – Friday - November 25, 2022

- In the West, a mixture of rain and snow is pushing into the Pacific Northwest, otherwise dry weather dominates. Somewhat warmer conditions returned to California – ending a week-long period of frosty mornings in the San Joaquin Valley – but southern parts of the state are at a higher risk of fire activity due to gusty Santa Ana winds.

- On the Plains, a wintry mix of precipitation is providing much-needed moisture to portions of New Mexico and Texas, though locally strong storms are possible as the stormy weather advances eastward. Dry weather prevails from Kansas northward, while patchy snow cover lingers over Montana and North Dakota.

- In the Corn Belt, clear skies aid the final stages of Midwestern fieldwork, although rain is beginning to spread into the Ohio Valley.

- In the South, widespread, locally heavy showers cover a large area extending from the Gulf Coast into the mid-Atlantic Region. The rain in the Southeast is slowing the harvest of cotton and other summer crops still in fields. Some of the rainfall may lead to localized flooding, and warnings are currently underway in sections of Texas and Florida.

Outlook: The storm system currently impacting the Northwest will move farther inland over the next few days, generating a mixture of rain and high-elevation snow across the northern Rockies, followed by a second wave of precipitation over the weekend. Meanwhile, the storm currently developing over Texas is forecast to intensify and move northeastward into the Ohio Valley through the weekend, generating locally heavy rain over the Southeast after only a brief respite from the current showers. Despite a disruption in fieldwork, however, the rainfall depicted over the next 7 days in the Ohio Valley – approaching 2 inches locally – will benefit winter grains and eventually filter down into the Mississippi River Valley, helping to raise low river levels that have impeded transportation. Heavier rainfall (accumulations locally exceeding 3 inches) from the Gulf Coast to the Tennessee River Valley will have similar effects on crops and long-term moisture reserves. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for November 30 – December 4 depicts a distinct contrast between warmer-than-normal weather from the Gulf Coast to New England and cooler conditions ranging from the Pacific Northwest to the Great Lakes and southern Plains. Near- to above-normal precipitation is expected nearly nationwide, the exception being a small portion of the Southwest stretching from New Mexico into Kansas.

Contact: Mark Brusberg, Chief Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB, Washington, D.C. (202-720-2012)
Web Site: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/TODAYSWX.pdf

Product issued by USDA’s World Agricultural Outlook Board, Office of the Chief Economist.
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 Friday, December 9. On other weekdays, this product will be posted by 9 am EDT.