Agricultural Weather Highlights – Friday - November 5, 2021

- In the West, unsettled, showery weather continues along the northern Pacific Coast. Cool air has spread inland across the Pacific Coast States, but the remainder of the western U.S. is experiencing warm, dry weather. Southwestern warmth favors fieldwork, including cotton harvesting, which in Arizona was 45% complete at the end of October.

- On the Plains, dry, breezy conditions accompany unusual warmth. Later today, high temperatures should reach or exceed 70°F as far north as southern South Dakota. In areas with adequate soil moisture, above-normal temperatures are promoting winter wheat development. However, in drier areas—including the central and southern High Plains and portions of Montana—proper autumn establishment of winter wheat remains a concern.

- In the Corn Belt, a slow warming trend has commenced. Chilly conditions linger, however, in the eastern Corn Belt, where today’s high temperatures should range from 50 to 55°F—and some fields remain unfavorably wet. Meanwhile, harvest activities continue (or have resumed) in the western Corn Belt, where mild, dry weather prevails.

- In the South, a storm system crossing the eastern Gulf of Mexico is producing widespread rain across Florida. Farther north, however, freezes occurred this morning along and north of a line extending from Arkansas to central North Carolina, ending the growing season in those areas.

Outlook: Rain across Florida will shift northeastward, lingering along the southern Atlantic Coast into the weekend. Storm-total rainfall could reach 1 to 3 inches or more from Florida to the coastal Carolinas. Meanwhile, chilly conditions across the remainder of the eastern U.S. will ease, with above-normal temperatures returning by early next week. In fact, warmer-than-normal weather will prevail nationwide for several days next week, aside from below-normal temperatures in the Pacific Coast States. In addition, dry weather will cover much of the country, including the Plains, Midwest, mid-South, Northeast, and Southwest, during the next 5 days. Showery weather will continue, however, in the Northwest, with precipitation spreading as far south as central California and the northern Intermountain West by early next week. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for November 10 – 14 calls for near- or above-normal temperatures nationwide, with the greatest likelihood of warmth occurring in California and the middle and northern Atlantic States. Meanwhile, near- or below-normal precipitation from California to the southern half of the High Plains should contrast with wetter-than-normal weather in much of the eastern half of the U.S. and throughout the North.

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