



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures for 6:10 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights – Monday - August 21, 2023

- In the **West**, the remnants of Hurricane Hilary continue to produce locally heavy showers, flash flooding, and gusty winds. This morning's final position update for Post-Tropical Cyclone Hilary placed the dissipating center of circulation over **western Nevada**, moving northward at nearly 30 mph. On Sunday, wind gusts associated with then-Tropical Storm Hilary were clocked to 69 mph in **Yuma, Arizona**, and 66 mph in **Imperial, California**. Some high-elevation sites in **southern California** received at least 4 to 8 inches of rain, while August 20 totals topped 3 inches in **California** locations such as **Palmdale** (3.93 inches), **Burbank** (3.28 inches), and **Palm Springs** (3.18 inches).
- On the **Plains**, any rainfall is light and confined to **Montana** and **North Dakota**. Elsewhere, hot, dry weather favors fieldwork and summer crop maturation. Crop and pasture stress is increasing in areas where soil moisture is lacking.
- In the **Corn Belt**, sunny weather favors a rapid pace of summer crop development. However, lingering cool weather across the **northern tier of the Corn Belt** contrasts with building heat farther south. Today's high temperatures will top 100°F in parts of **Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska**, and **South Dakota**. The heat is increasing stress on filling corn and soybeans.
- In the **South**, an extraordinary, late-season heat wave continues in the **western Gulf Coast region**, with hot, humid conditions extending eastward to the **southern half of the Atlantic Coast**. On August 20 in **Texas**, locations such as **College Station** (112°F) and **Lufkin** (110°F) tied all-time station records. The long-running hot spell has adversely affected rangeland, pastures, and any immature summer crops.

Outlook: The threat of flash flooding and debris flows will continue today as the remnants of Hilary race northward into the **northern Intermountain West**. Additional rainfall totals of 1 to 3 inches may occur from **California and Nevada to the northern Rockies**. Meanwhile, a strong ridge of high pressure parked over the **nation's mid-section** will subtly shift southward late in the week, with a corresponding **Midwestern** heat wave expected to end by Friday or Saturday. However, record-setting heat will persist through the weekend across the **Deep South**, from **Texas to the southern Atlantic Coast**. As cooler air arrives, showers will sweep eastward across the **Great Lakes and Northeastern States**, although much of the remainder of the **central and eastern U.S.** will stay dry during the next 5 days. A notable exception will be **southern Texas**, where a potential tropical cyclone could deliver at least 2 to 6 inches of rain over the next couple of days. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for August 26 – 30 calls for the likelihood of near- or above-normal temperatures nationwide, except for cooler-than-normal conditions in parts of **central California, western Nevada**, and from the **lower Great Lakes region into the Northeastern and mid-Atlantic States**. Meanwhile, near- or below-normal rainfall in much of the **eastern half of the U.S.** should contrast with wetter-than-normal weather along the **Atlantic Seaboard** and most areas from the **Pacific Coast to the High Plains**.

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Web Site: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/TODAYSWX.pdf>