



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

## **Agricultural Weather Highlights – Tuesday - July 8, 2025**

- In the **West**, a hot, dry regime remains in place. In **California**, 20% of the cotton was setting bolls by July 6, nearly twice the 5-year average of 11%. An elevated wildfire threat exists **east of the Cascades** and across portions of the **Great Basin**, amid gusty winds, low humidity levels, and receptive fuels.
- On the **Plains**, widely scattered showers continue mainly from **Kansas southward**. Meanwhile, very warm weather is affecting the **northern High Plains**, where today's high temperatures should range from 90 to 100°F. Drought-related impacts remain apparent in **Montana**, which led the U.S. on July 6 with 37% of its spring wheat and 28% of its barley rated in very poor to poor condition. Additionally, 59% of **Montana's** rangeland and pastures were rated very poor to poor.
- In the **Corn Belt**, scattered showers are maintaining mostly adequate moisture reserves for summer crops entering or progressing through reproduction. By July 6, nearly one-fifth (18%) of the U.S. corn was silking, while 32% of the soybeans were blooming. On the same date, **Illinois** was the only **Midwestern State** with topsoil moisture rated greater than one-third very short to short, with a value of 43%.
- In the **South**, unsettled, showery weather continues to complicate recovery efforts in flood-ravaged areas of **south-central Texas**, where several locations have received more than 20 inches of rain since July 3. Meanwhile, hot, humid weather has settled across the **Atlantic Coast States** in the wake of Tropical Storm Chantal's departure, with today's high temperatures expected to approach 100°F in parts of the **Carolinas**.

**Outlook:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms will linger across flood-stricken **south-central Texas** through late Wednesday, followed by a period of favorably drier weather. More broadly, the focus for heavy rain will briefly shift into the **Southeast**, where 5-day rainfall totals should reach 2 to 4 inches or more in the **southern and middle Atlantic States**. However, showers and thunderstorms will return across the **northern and central Plains** and **upper Midwest**, starting Thursday, as a cold front surges eastward. In contrast, hot, dry weather will prevail for the next 5 days in most areas **west of the Rockies**, with temperatures routinely topping 110°F in the **Desert Southwest**. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for July 13 – 17 calls for the likelihood of near- or above-normal temperatures across most of the country. Cooler-than-normal conditions will be confined to the **southern High Plains**, while drier-than-normal weather should be limited to some areas of the **West**, including the **Great Basin** and portions of the **Intermountain region**.

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**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.

Next scheduled noon release of the "Agricultural Weather Highlights" will be Friday, July 11, 2025. On other weekdays, this product will be posted by 9 am ET.