



Satellite image with enhanced cloud-top temperatures for 6:45 a.m. EST (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights – Friday - August 7, 2009

- In the *West*, locally heavy rain is easing *Northwestern* drought but slowing winter wheat harvesting. Isolated monsoon showers continue in *central and southern portions of the Rockies*.
- On the *Plains*, locally heavy showers across *northern areas* are hampering winter wheat harvesting, while drier weather on the *central Plains* is allowing producers to resume fieldwork. On the *southern Plains*, hot, dry weather is promoting rapid development of cotton and other summer crops.
- In the *Corn Belt*, locally heavy downpours in *northern and western areas* are boosting soil moisture reserves for reproductive to filling corn and soybeans while easing drought in portions of *Minnesota* and *Wisconsin*. Dry, warm weather in the *Ohio River Valley* is accelerating crop development.
- In the *South*, scattered showers continue in the *Florida*, while mostly dry weather prevails elsewhere. Aside from drought-stricken *southern Texas*, most areas continue to experience relatively favorable conditions for pastures and immature summer crops.

Outlook: High pressure will provide mostly dry weather to the *southeastern quarter of the nation*, although afternoon showers are likely in areas adjacent to the *Gulf Coast*. Meanwhile, a slow-moving frontal boundary will generate heavy showers and thunderstorms from the *upper Midwest* into the *Northeast*. Cool conditions north of the front will contrast with 90-degree heat from the *central Plains* into the *Ohio Valley* and *Mid-Atlantic*, although a weak disturbance will produce thunderstorms in the *Corn Belt* during the latter half of the weekend. Meanwhile, a strong upper-air low will generate locally heavy rain from the *northern Intermountain West* into the *northern Plains*. Dry weather will prevail elsewhere, including *southern Texas*' extreme to exceptional drought areas (D3-D4). The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for August 12-16 calls for drier- and warmer-than-normal weather from the *High Plains* into the *Mid-Atlantic* and *interior Southeast*. In contrast, above-normal rainfall and near- to below-normal temperatures are expected in the *Northwest* and along the *central and eastern Gulf Coast*.

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Web Site: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather/pubs/Daily/TODAYSWX.pdf>