



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

### **Agricultural Weather Highlights – Wednesday - January 18, 2017**

- In the *West*, precipitation extends inland from the *Pacific Northwest and northern California to the northern Rockies and the western Great Basin*. High winds are raking coastal areas of the *Pacific Northwest*, while significant accumulations of ice and snow are occurring across interior sections of the *Northwest*.
- On the *Plains*, rangeland, pastures, and winter grains from *Nebraska southward* are benefiting from recent soil moisture improvements. Currently, a mild, mostly dry weather pattern has returned.
- In the *Corn Belt*, mild, dry weather prevails. However, widespread fog is occurring early today, especially across the *central and eastern Corn Belt*. In the wake of recent rainfall, several streams and rivers—also in the *central and eastern Corn Belt*—are running high.
- In the *South*, locally heavy showers and thunderstorms are developing *west of the Mississippi Delta*. In contrast, warm, dry conditions prevail across the *lower Southeast*. On January 15, topsoil moisture was rated 46% very short to short in *Florida*, with the most significant dryness affecting the peninsula.

**Outlook:** Multiple rounds of heavy precipitation will continue to overspread the *West* and the *Southeast*. The *Western* precipitation will fall in three primary waves, with 5-day totals in *California* reaching 4 to 12 inches in coastal and mountain areas as far east as the *Sierra Nevada*. Other areas *west of the Rockies* could receive 1 to 4 inches, with significant high-elevation snowfall expected. Farther east, *Southern* rainfall could reach 2 to 5 inches across a broad area, with some of the heaviest precipitation occurring late in the weekend. In contrast, mostly dry weather will prevail during the next 5 days across the *High Plains*, while only light precipitation will reach the *Northeast*. Elsewhere, generally cold weather will accompany multiple *Pacific* storms across the *West*, helping to maximize high-elevation snow accumulations, while mild conditions will dominate the *central and eastern U.S.* The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for January 23 – 27 calls for the likelihood of above-normal temperatures across the *eastern half of the U.S.*, while colder-than-normal conditions will cover the *West*. Meanwhile, wetter-than-normal weather across the majority of the country will contrast with below-normal precipitation in the south-central U.S. and along the *Canadian border from Washington to Montana*.

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

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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 Thursday, February 9. On other weekdays, this product will be posted by 9 am EST.