

## Midwest Ag-Focus Climate Outlook

### Main Points



- Crop harvest is mostly ahead of average
- Soil moisture recharge is quite good, and too much in some places
- La Niña is affecting winter outlooks
- Wet locations are at somewhat increased risk heading into spring

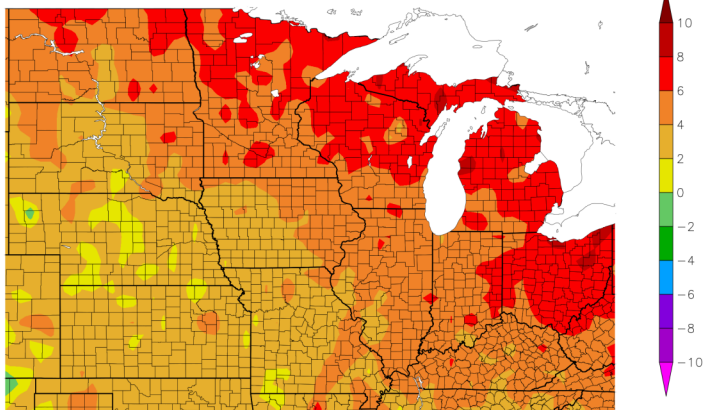


Image from Lynn Betts, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service



### Current Conditions

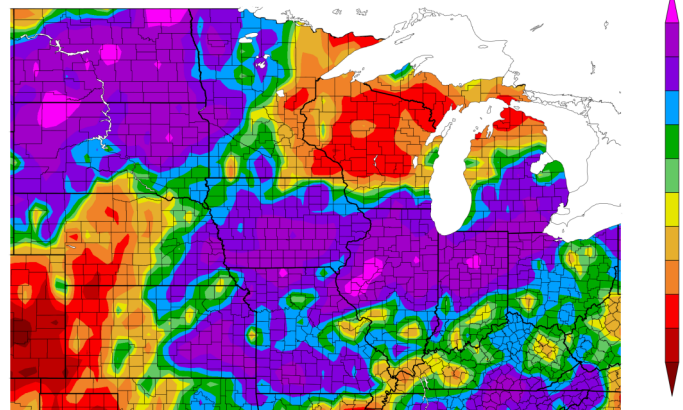
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
10/3/2021 - 11/1/2021



Generated 11/2/2021 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
10/3/2021 - 11/1/2021



Generated 11/2/2021 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

The last 30 days (most of October) have been much warmer than average throughout the region by up to 6 to 8°F in northern areas. The warmth made for later first freezes over most of the area, extending the growing season and helping dry crops more quickly. Most of the area also has received well above-average precipitation with several storms bringing rains to much of the region. Areas in the western central plains and Wisconsin have missed some of the recent rains. Final October precipitation totals are being compiled, but many areas of the region will likely have had a top-5 or top-10 record.

Images from High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC), Online Data Services: [ACIS Climate Maps](https://www.climatehubs.usda.gov/hubs/midwest). Generated: 11/02/2021

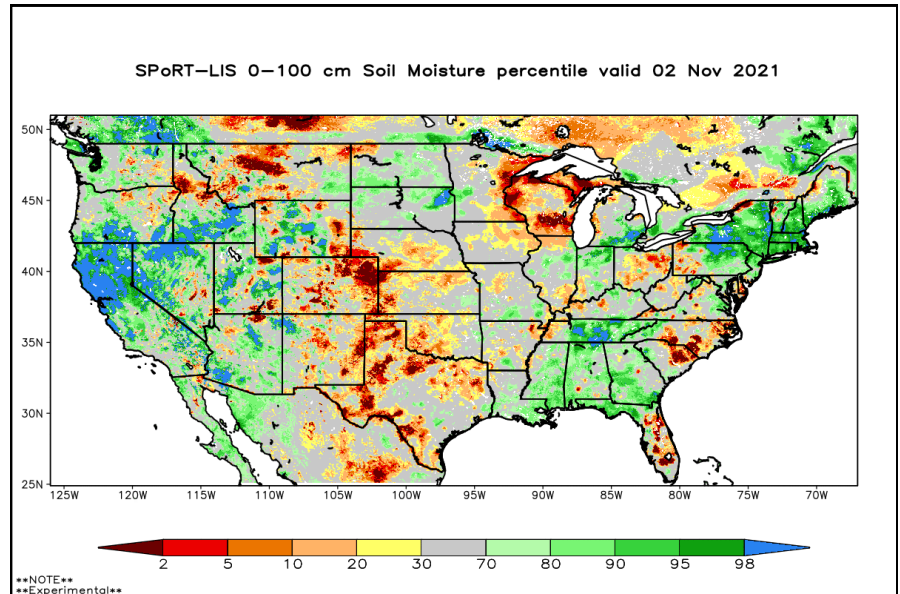


**Impacts**

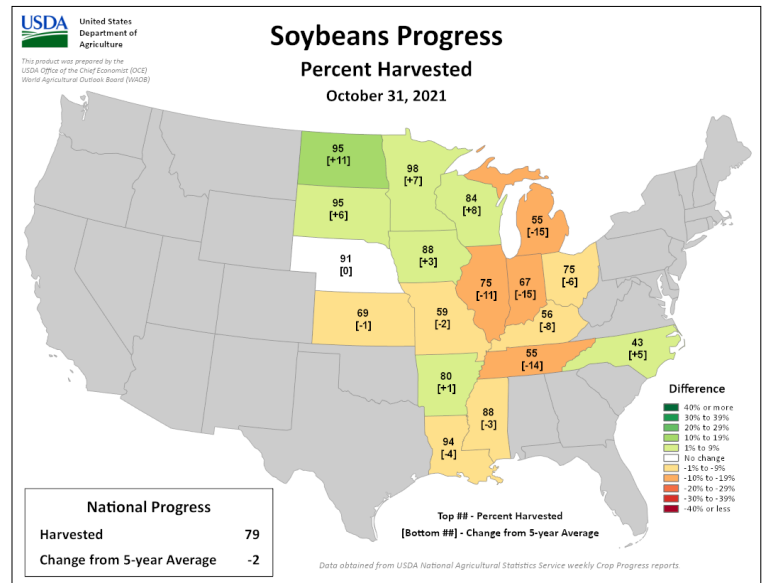
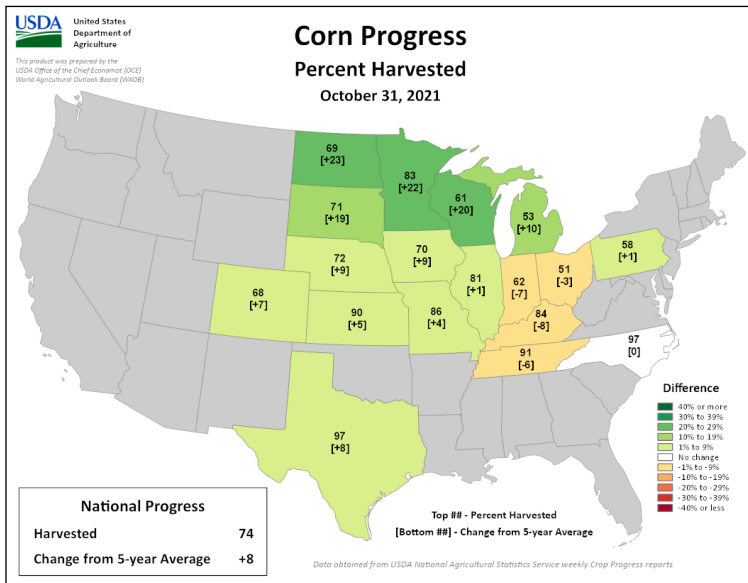
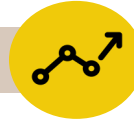
The dry early fall (warm and dry air) and dry soils allowed for quick harvest progress in the northwestern Corn Belt. Eastern areas have lagged somewhat, especially more recently with precipitation and increasingly wet soils. Harvest is nearly finished in the Northern plains, but still has some time to go in the eastern Corn Belt. The lack of a freeze was causing some greening issues on soybeans, and resprouting was occurring in places also.

The increased rainfall in late fall has had a dual effect across the region. Widespread, very dry soil conditions have been mostly alleviated. Some locations continue to dry or have not recovered completely. In contrast, excess moisture is a problem in several areas across the region – and may continue to be a problem into the spring. This issue should continue to be monitored.

Soil temperatures are generally below 50°F except for the southern part of the region.



**Crop Progress**



U.S. Agriculture Progress Maps Supplied by Brad Rippey, USDA World Agricultural Outlook Board.



For more information, please visit:  
<https://www.climatehubs.usda.gov/hubs/midwest>

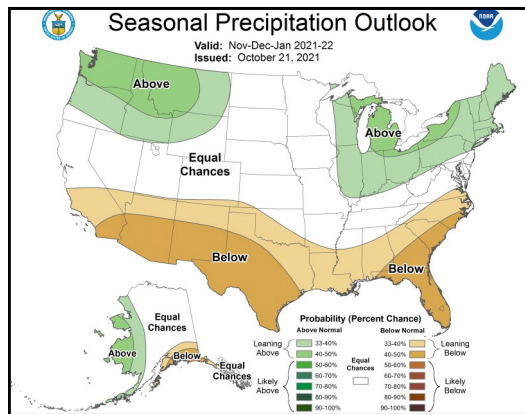
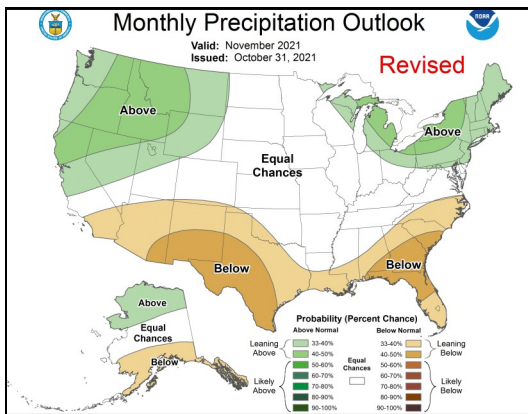
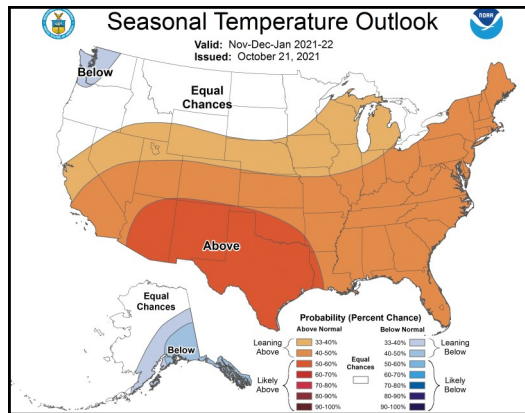
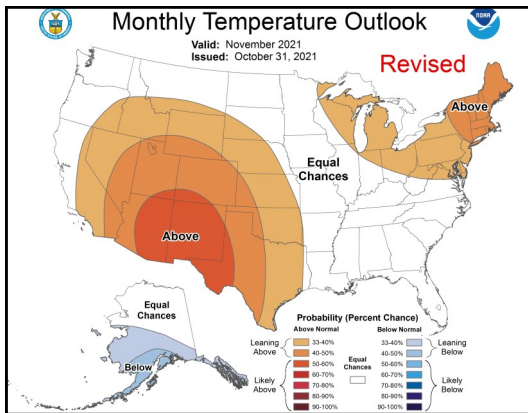
Outlook



The November and winter outlooks from the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center reflect La Niña conditions, which are developing quickly in the central Pacific Ocean. Both the monthly and seasonal outlooks have a distinct “flavor” of typical La Niña conditions. The probabilities for regional temperature and precipitation predictions are not very strong (and all La Niña patterns look a little different) but they do have some tendencies across the region that can impact agriculture.

The central plains have a slightly better chance of being warmer and drier, which may increase drought issues in that region with potential impacts to winter wheat. The northern plains region has a slightly increased chance of colder than average conditions mid-winter. The far west northern plains and the Great Lakes/Ohio Valley have increased chances of precipitation. Over

parts of the northern plains, the additional precipitation would be welcomed for spring runoff in very dry areas; however, over the Great Lakes/Ohio Valley, wet soils with increased winter precipitation may cause spring wetness problems for agriculture.



Outlooks provided by the [Climate Prediction Center](https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/)

Partners and Contributors



[United States Department of Agriculture \(USDA\)](https://www.usda.gov/)

[National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\)](https://www.noaa.gov/)

[Climate Prediction Center \(CPC\)](https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/)

[National Weather Service \(NWS\)](https://www.weather.gov/)

[National Center for Environmental Information \(NCEI\)](https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/)

[National Drought Mitigation Center \(NDMC\)](https://www.ndmc.gov/)

[National Integrated Drought Information System \(NIDIS\)](https://www.nidis.noaa.gov/)

[Midwestern Regional Climate Center \(MRCC\)](https://www.mrcc.org/)

[Midwest State Climatologists](https://www.mscclimate.org/)

[High Plains Regional Climate Center \(HPRCC\)](https://www.hprcc.org/)



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