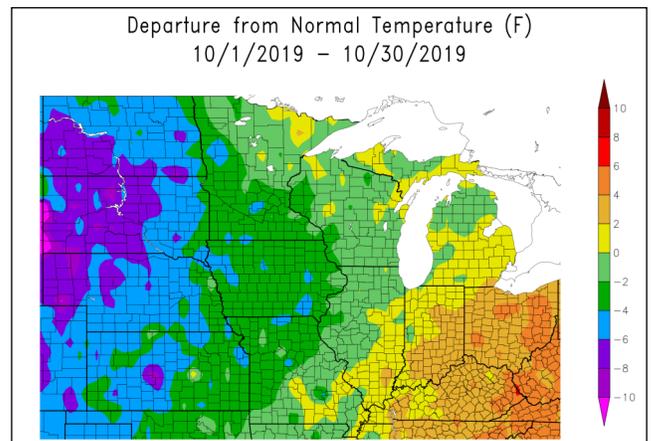
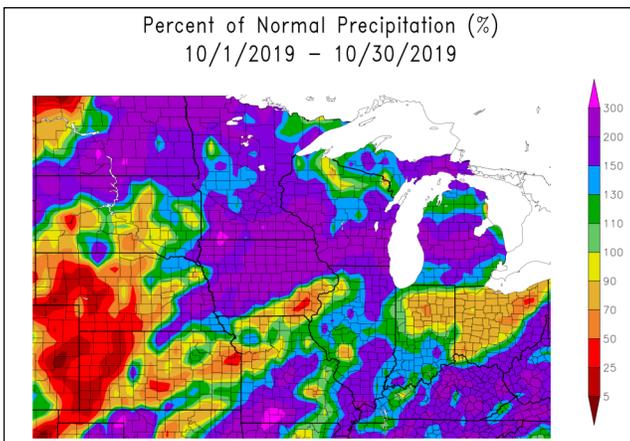


## Midwest Ag-Focus Climate Outlook

### Current Conditions



Colder-than-average conditions have spread over most of the plains during October (up to 10°F below avg.) with warmer than average (up to 4°F above) in the eastern Corn Belt. Freezes in early to mid-October ended the season with hard freeze conditions reaching the eastern and southern areas at the end of the month, allowing the growing season to continue a bit longer in other areas. Much wetter-than-average conditions existed over most of the region with 2-3x average precipitation common for October. Several stations set all time wettest Octobers with many more in the top 10. Drier-than-average conditions were most severe in the central Plains (< 25% avg.) and less severe pockets spreading eastward. Several October snow events covered much of the region with at least measurable snow.



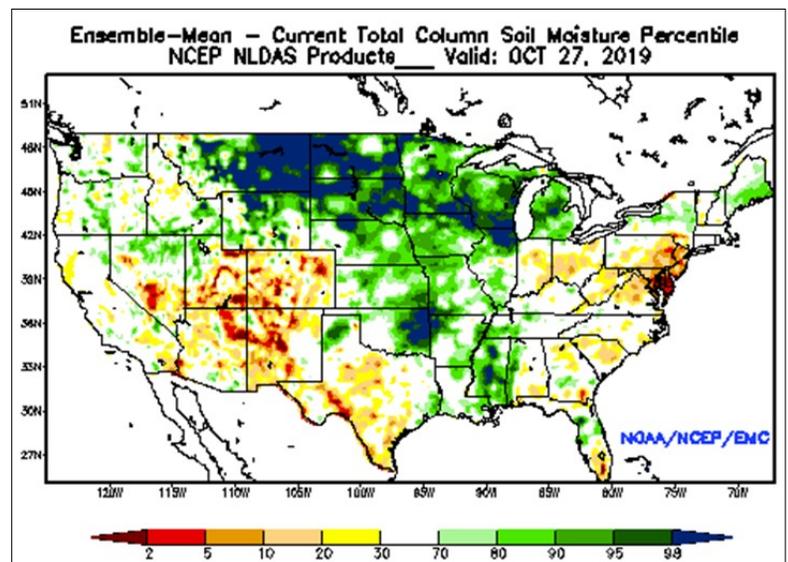
Images from High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC), Online Data Services: [ACIS Climate Maps](#). Generated: 11/1/2019



### Impacts

The overall wet conditions (precipitation and wet soils) along with slow developing crops and crops that are drying in-field have kept harvest progress slow, but progressing. Nationally corn harvest was at 41% as of Oct. 27 (see crop progress, pg. 3). This was 20% behind the 5 yr average. Soybeans were at 62%: 16% behind average. Other crops were seeing similar delays. Even some small grains were not yet harvested in some northern states. These numbers were typically 2–2.5 weeks behind. Snows, along with adding moisture, have caused lodging problems, additionally slowing harvest and likely causing some yield loss. The cold (after freezing) overall has been somewhat beneficial reducing toxin and disease issues and causing soils to reach near freezing already in North Dakota.

The wet soils will continue to slow harvest progress. Frozen soils could allow more harvest in the fall. Conditions still seem to indicate some crops will not be able to be harvested this fall.

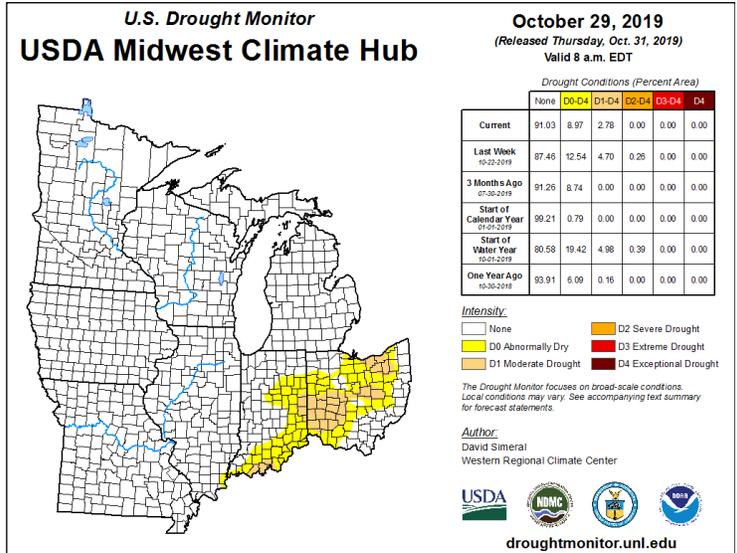


[NLDAS Drought Monitor Soil Moisture](#)

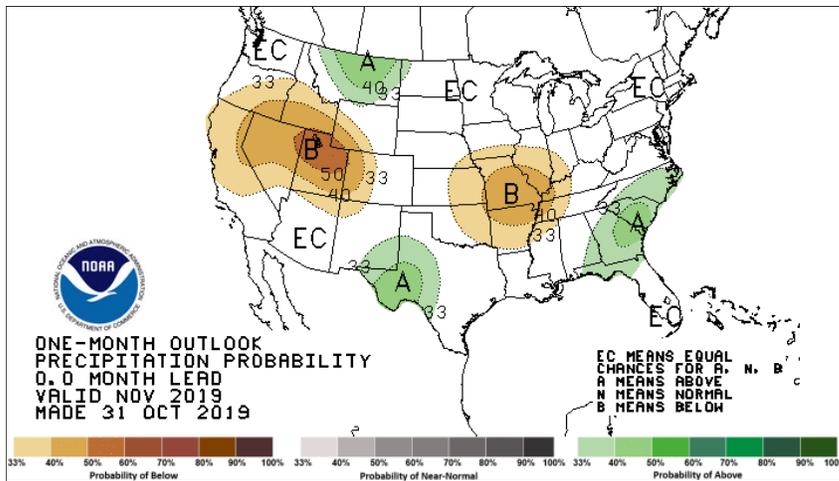
(Impacts Cont.) Drought conditions are mostly relegated to the central plains (NE-KS where precipitation has been limited recently) and carry-over drought conditions in the eastern Corn Belt and Ohio River area. The impacts here have mainly been drier soils. The western dryness has been noted as an issue with winter wheat seeding. Conversely, excess moisture further north has also limited some winter wheat seeding.

High moisture grains along with various disease/toxicity issues have been noted because of freezing immature grain and overall wet conditions. Some problems with livestock have been noted because of the large temperature flips early in the cold season (Ohio). Wet feedlots have also been a problem in several states. Propane shortages have also been noted due to the large amount of crop drying required.

[United States Drought Monitor](#)



**Outlook**

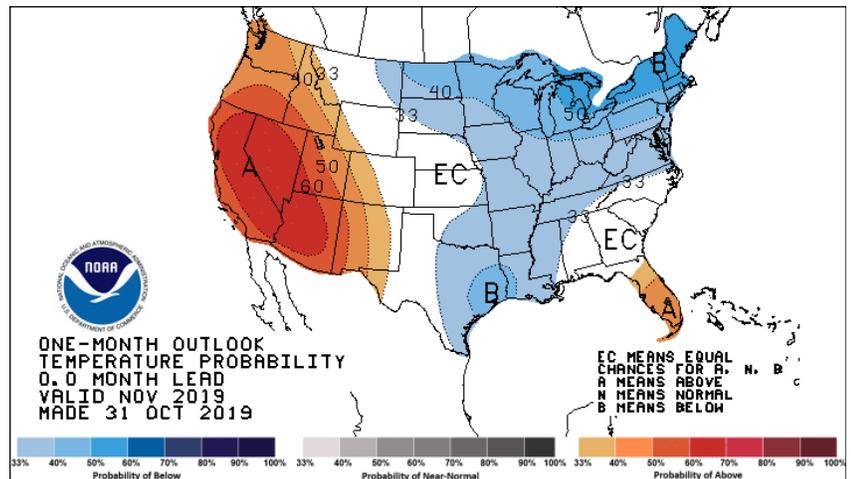


The updated November outlook from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center did not contain many surprises. The temperature outlook flipped from the mid-month outlook to being slightly more likely colder than average over most of the states in the region. Much of this seems predicated on more highly likely colder-than-average conditions into the middle of the month. With the start of the month cold, even some recovery later in the month may not be enough to overcome the colder start. The 6-10 day and 8-14 day outlooks have been consistently cold with some extreme cold likely for this time of year into early November.

The cold will start having an impact on the precipitation with lake effect snows likely to start early in the month (also noted by CPC). The overall monthly outlook has some dryness noted, centered on Missouri with little else noted.

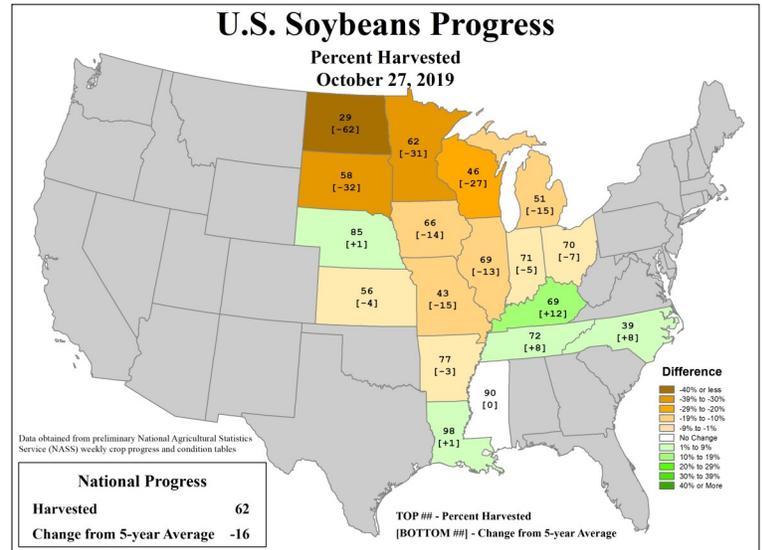
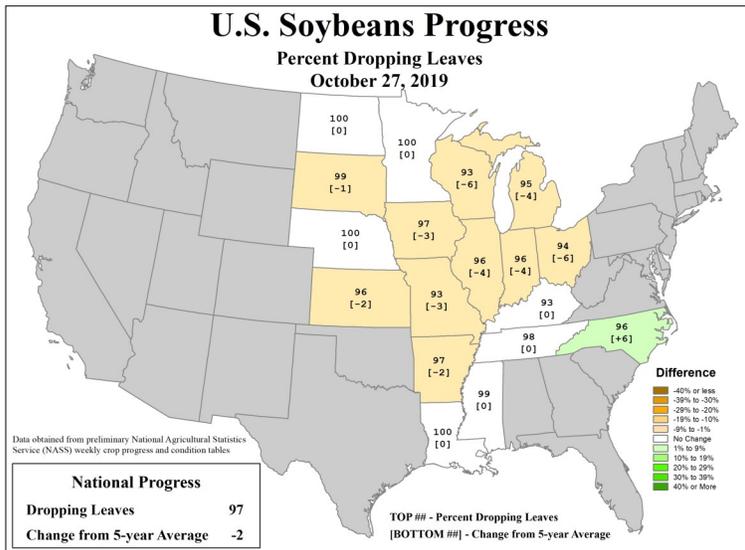
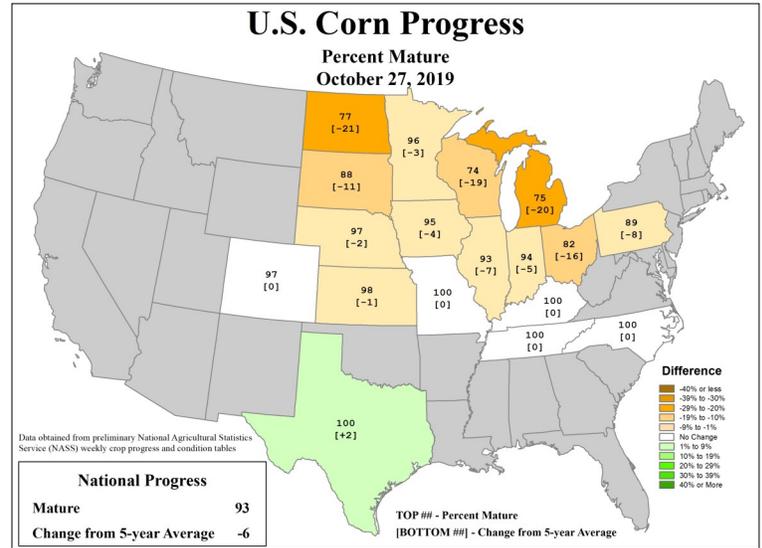
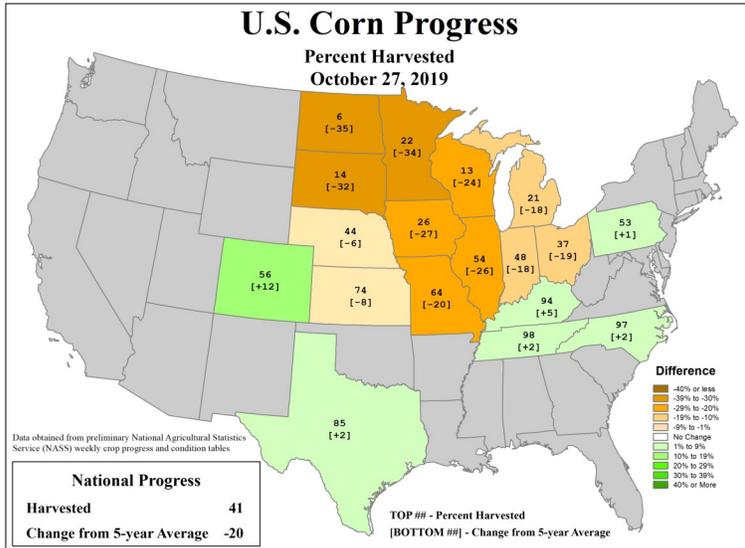
These conditions again may be beneficial to continued crop harvest progress as long as snow is limited. Ongoing flooding is likely to continue along several rivers in the region including the Mississippi, Missouri, and some Missouri tributaries.

[Climate Prediction Center](#)



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

**Crop Progress**



For more on the [North-Central U.S. Agricultural Update](#), select [here](#).

U.S. Agriculture Progress Maps Supplied by Brad Rippey, USDA [World Agricultural Outlook Board](#).

**Partners and Contributors**



- [United States Department of Agriculture \(USDA\)](#)
- [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\)](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center \(CPC\)](#)
- [National Weather Service \(NWS\)](#)
- [National Center for Environmental Information \(NCEI\)](#)
- [National Drought Mitigation Center \(NDMC\)](#)
- [National Integrated Drought Information System \(NIDIS\)](#)
- [Midwestern Regional Climate Center \(MRCC\)](#)
- [Midwest State Climatologists](#)
- [High Plains Regional Climate Center \(HPRCC\)](#)



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