

## Midwest Ag-Focus Climate Outlook

### Main Points

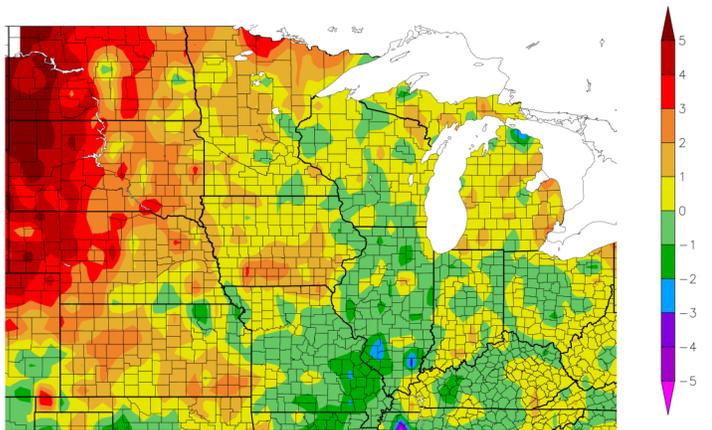


- ◆ Warmer than average west with widespread dry areas. Spottier east with some very dry areas but also much wetter than average locations.
- ◆ Crop conditions generally unchanged over the last week – corn and beans particularly are in best condition in central Corn Belt. Crop progress moving ahead but still a little behind overall. Harvest beginning.
- ◆ Drought conditions continue western areas with some expansion/worsening. Most of the east only minor drought areas with some general dryness.
- ◆ Outlooks indicate unlikely to see a major shift in conditions soon. Warmer more likely whole region. Drier slightly more likely varying by outlook period. Will help crop progress and dry down. But soil moisture recharge and fire potential are issues.



### Current Conditions

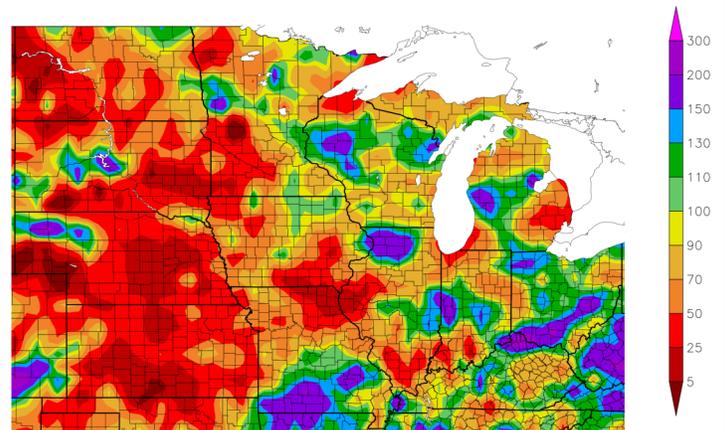
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
8/8/2022 – 9/6/2022



Generated 9/7/2022 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
8/8/2022 – 9/6/2022



Generated 9/7/2022 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

A similar temperature pattern has continued to dominate the Corn Belt. Mostly warmer than average west with near to slightly below east. Areas from the western Plains to around the Great Lakes have been several degrees above average while Missouri and Illinois east have been slightly below average. Precipitation has been an interesting mash of conditions with spotty wetter areas east and north and widespread dryness continuing over much of the west. Large areas of the Plains and into IA/MO has had 25% of average precipitation or less (0.5" or less in some areas). Wettest areas have had 2-3x average precipitation or 7-9" or more.

Images from High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC), Online Data Services: [ACIS Climate Maps](https://www.climatehubs.usda.gov/hubs/midwest). Generated: 9/7/2022.



Impacts

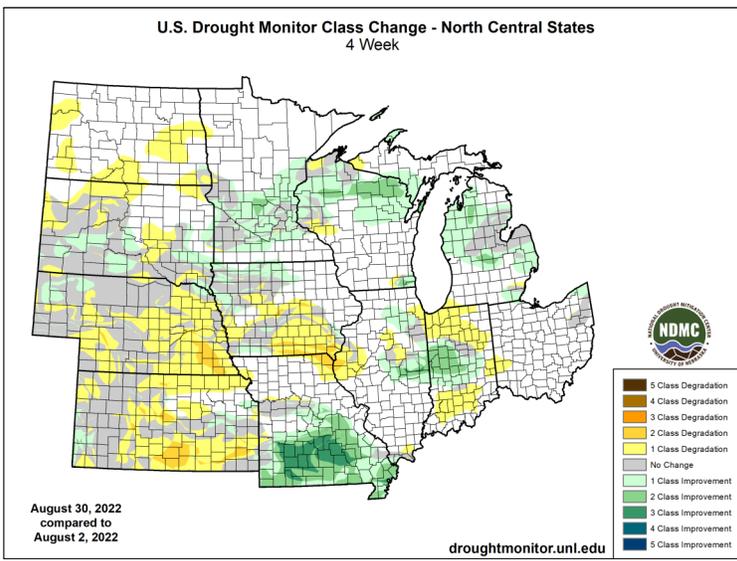
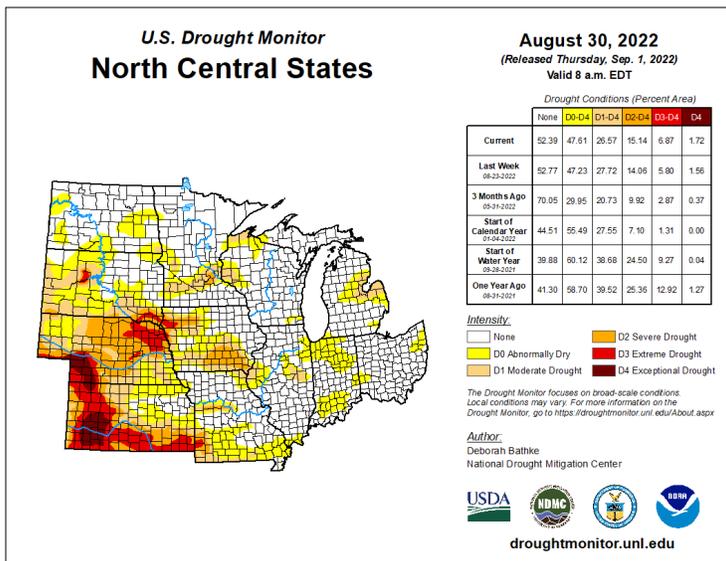
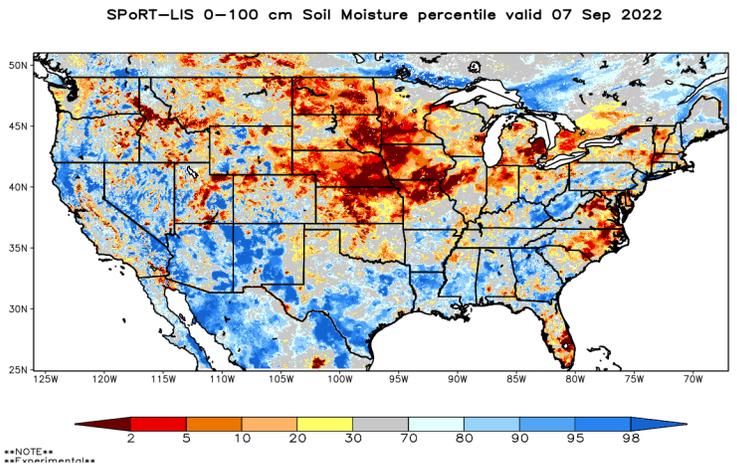
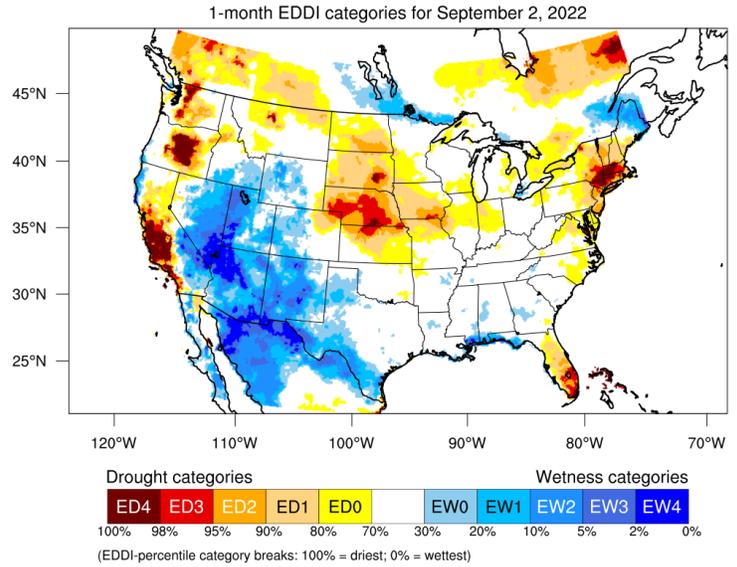
The dry conditions have helped maintain or worsen drought conditions – again mainly west. The eastern Corn Belt has some isolated dry spots, though of limited significance. The biggest drought impacts have been west with crop yield reductions or some complete crop loss or chopping corn for silage. Crop conditions over the whole region have generally gradually worsened with the drought conditions.

Several reports have noted some reduced foliar disease issues with somewhat drier conditions. Crop progress continues to lag in places that were planted late. Current outlooks don't indicate issues with those crops reaching maturity at this point.

Soils west are particularly dry, adding to the crop loss issues for this growing season. The lack of soil moisture may possibly start to impact some of the next growing season with winter grain seeding coming. Soil moisture recovery for next year may also take some time.

We cannot point to timing for first frost at this point. Climatology is the first guess at this point. But that climatology is shifting in the fall and spring. The Midwest Climate Hub and the Midwest Regional Climate Center have teamed to create a suite of maps showing trends and averages of first fall and last spring dates at a county level across the whole Corn Belt.

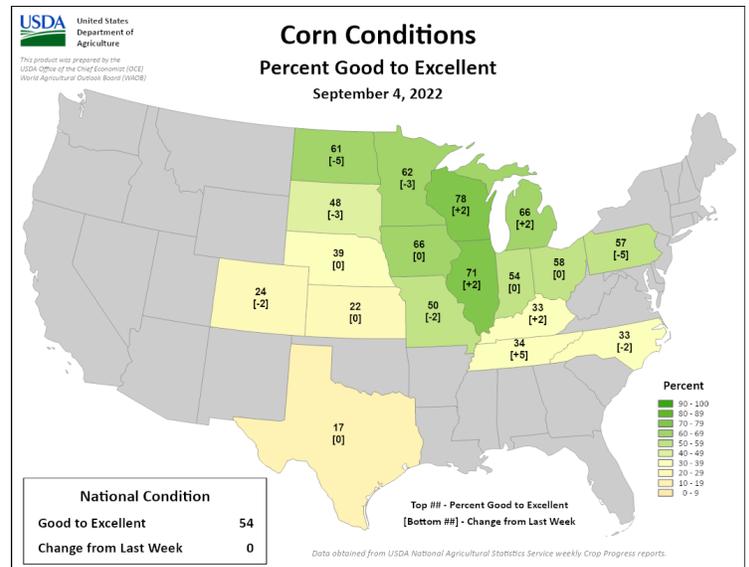
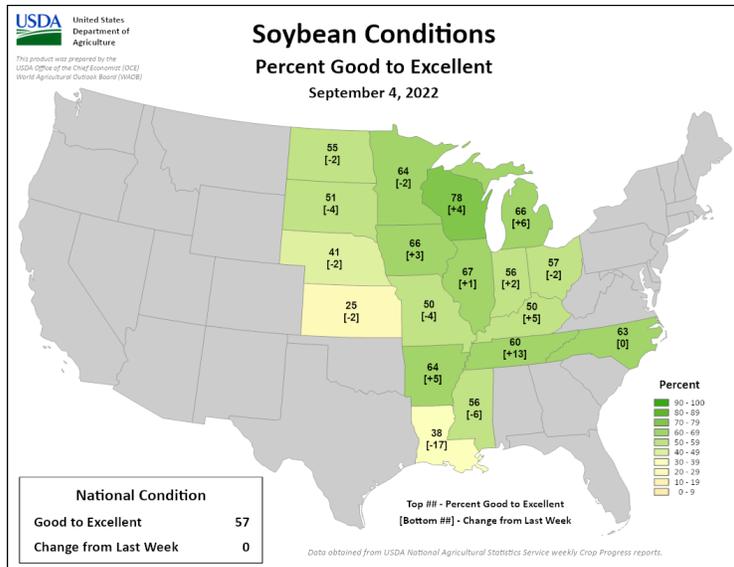
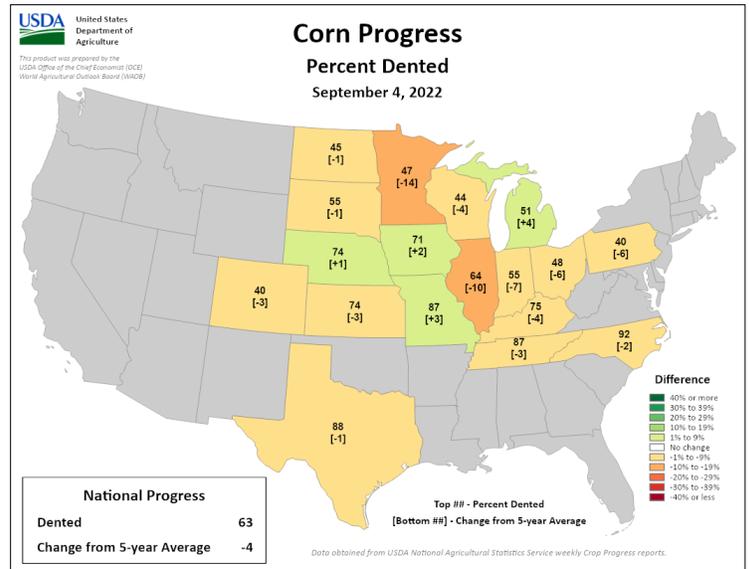
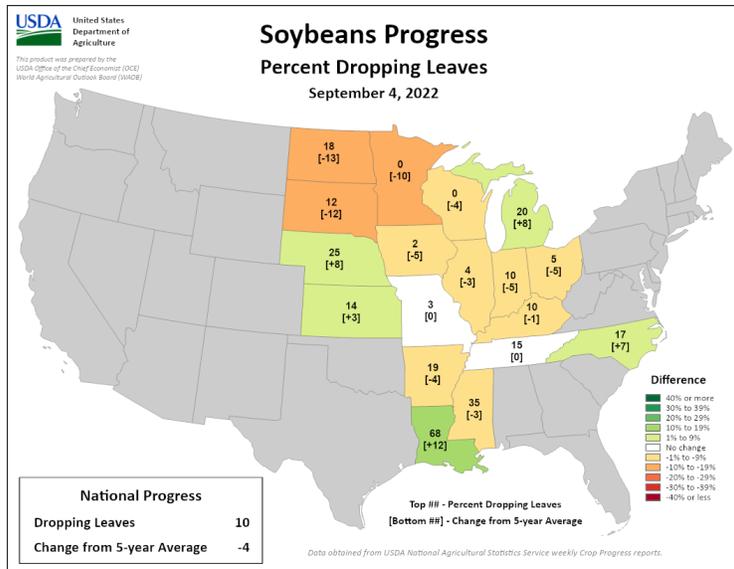
Check out how your area is changing here: <https://mrcc.purdue.edu/freeze/freedatetool.html>



Maps Generated by the National Drought Mitigation Center, the Short-term Prediction Research and Transition Center, and the NOAA Physical Sciences Laboratory.



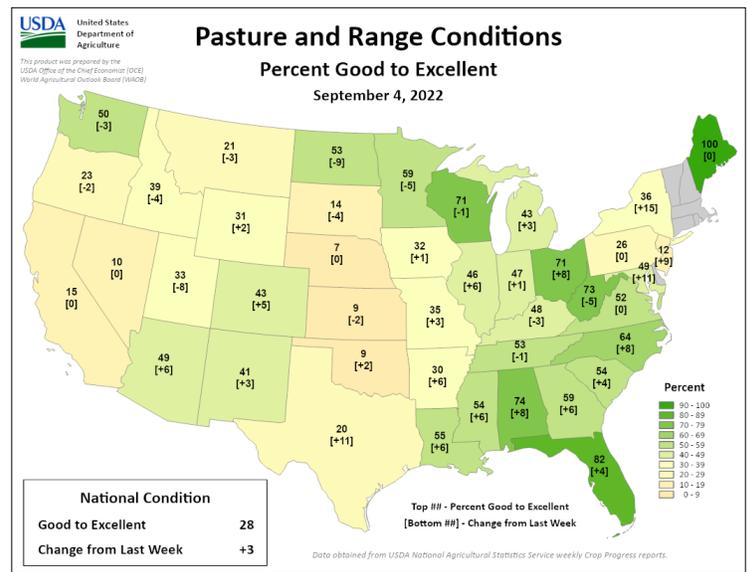
For more information, please visit:  
<https://www.climatehubs.usda.gov/hubs/midwest>



## Outlook



The new monthly and seasonal outlooks from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center again do not vary a great deal from previous ones. Nearer term outlooks into the middle of September indicate more likely warm conditions with equal chance to slightly better chances for drier across the Corn Belt. Similar patterns exist also in some form for the September and seasonal outlooks. The more likely warmer areas tend to focus more west, while the more likely drier area shift around. The take-aways from the outlooks are that widespread wetness seems unlikely in the near-term and could be a problem through the fall. Some rains will occur into the fall, but the chances for drought improvement are more limited.



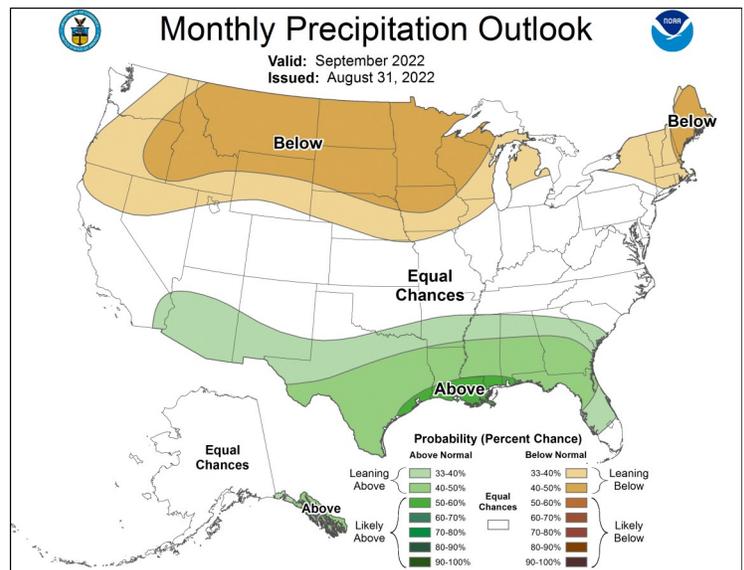
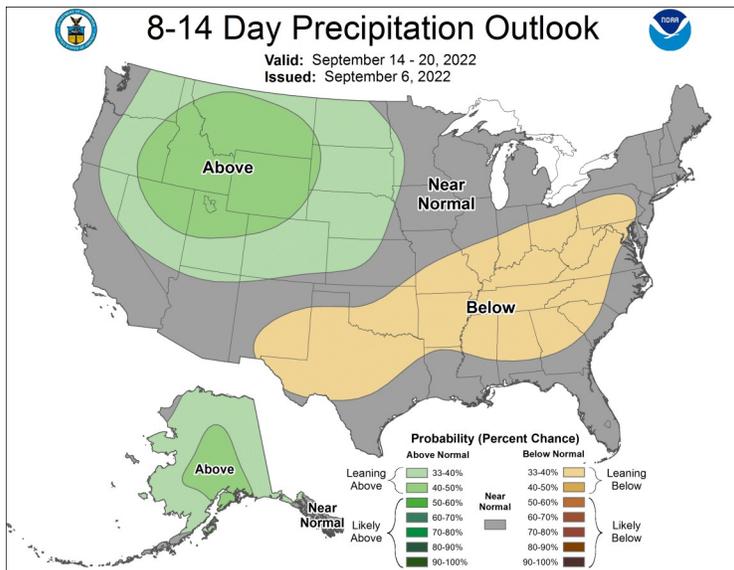
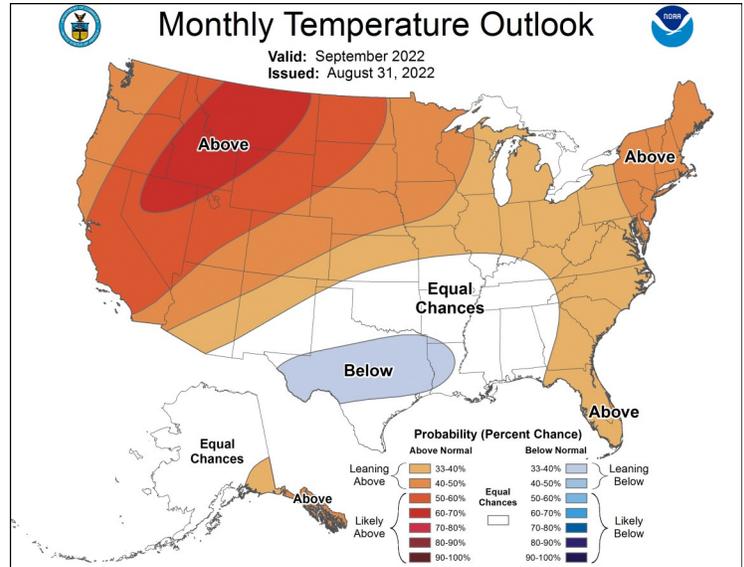
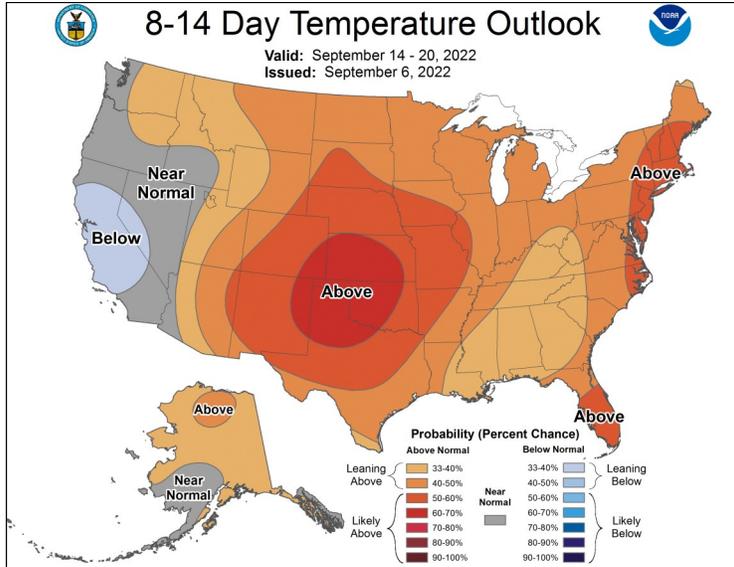
Maps Generated by the *National Agricultural Statistic Service*.



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

From an agricultural standpoint, we expect to continue pushing crops toward maturity either by heat or a combination of heat and dry leading to early maturity in some cases. Favorable crop dry down would also seem more likely.

Soil moisture recharge – especially in the driest areas will be more limited. And seeding of cover crops/winter grains should be timed when rainfall is available to take advantage of wetness. In the driest areas care should be taken to monitor harvest to avoid fire issues. **Check the most recent outlooks here: <https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>**



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 Center \(NDMC\)](https://www.ndmc.gov/)

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

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

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

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



**For More Information**

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