January 4, 2022

For more information:
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• Overall wetter than average in northern/eastern areas.
• Drier than average plains into IA/MO.
• Overall normals are fairly low in December.
• Very typical La Niña pattern

https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps
• Very warm December – record or near record much of southern part of region. More details in the next few days.
• 6-12 F above average southern half
• Near normal to colder north.
Soil Moisture

- Drier soils in the plains with pockets other areas into IA/WI.
- Wetter areas in parts of Dakotas and eastern Corn Belt.

- Both percentile maps
- Upper – whole profile
- Lower – top 100 cm (~40”)
Drought in the Midwest

- Small changes in USDM coverage
- Some improvement north/worsening central plains to WI
- Worst still in Plains and far north.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/
Assorted AG Issues

• Large storm in mid-December caused a variety of issues
  • Fires burned around 180K acres (KS)
  • Estimated around 2000 livestock lost
  • Numerous structures lost

• Dust storm damaged winter wheat from same system.

• Strong winds from the storm in Iowa/Minnesota/Wisconsin damaged hoop barns exposing crops to damaging temperatures.

• Severe weather from the Dec. 15 storm and a previous system caused fairly widespread severe weather (Particularly for December)

• Excess wetness in OH/IN has damaged some winter wheat
1-7 Day Precip

Next 7 days
- Snows possible in the Northern Plains and Central Plains.
- Also around the Great Lakes (lake effect).
- Precipitation also up in the Ohio Valley.
- Quiet in between.

http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/day1-7.shtml
Temperature Outlook

- Warmer than average more likely over most of the Plains at 8-14 days.
- Near-normal east.

[Map of temperature outlook for 8-14 day period with color-coded regions indicating temperature anomalies]

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov
Precipitation Outlook

- All probabilities weak.
- Drier central-east
- Wetter north.

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/
1-Month Outlook

- January outlook
  - Outlooks continue with La Niña look
  - Better chance of cold Northern Plains into Midwest
  - Wetter more likely far NW Plains and Great Lakes/Ohio Valley.

- Lake effect snows still more likely around Great Lakes (warm water)

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/
January-March Outlook

- Still La Niña pattern.
- Slight chance warmer south/east returns.
- Slight chance wetter Great Lakes/Ohio Valley and far NW.

Northern Plains snow beneficial for drought
Could start causing more soil moisture problems for spring in eastern Corn Belt

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/
Drought in the Midwest/Plains

- Monthly outlook for January 2021
- Drought continues with little change in the plains
- Some improvements possible across parts of Wisconsin/Illinois.
Summary

• Despite off-season, still impacts to various crops around the region.
• Some drought shifting.
• La Niña impacting winter outlooks.
  – Could lead to excess wetness east.
  – More active could help dry northern areas.
Next MAC-T Monthly Call

Next Call

Early spring, with slides sent out monthly until then