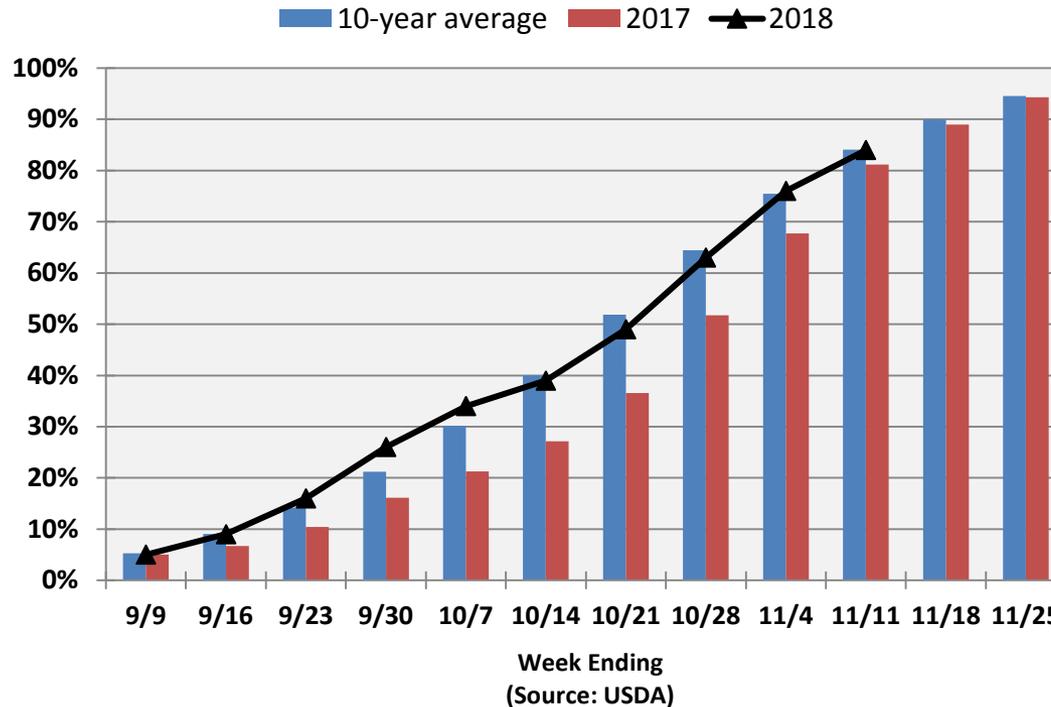




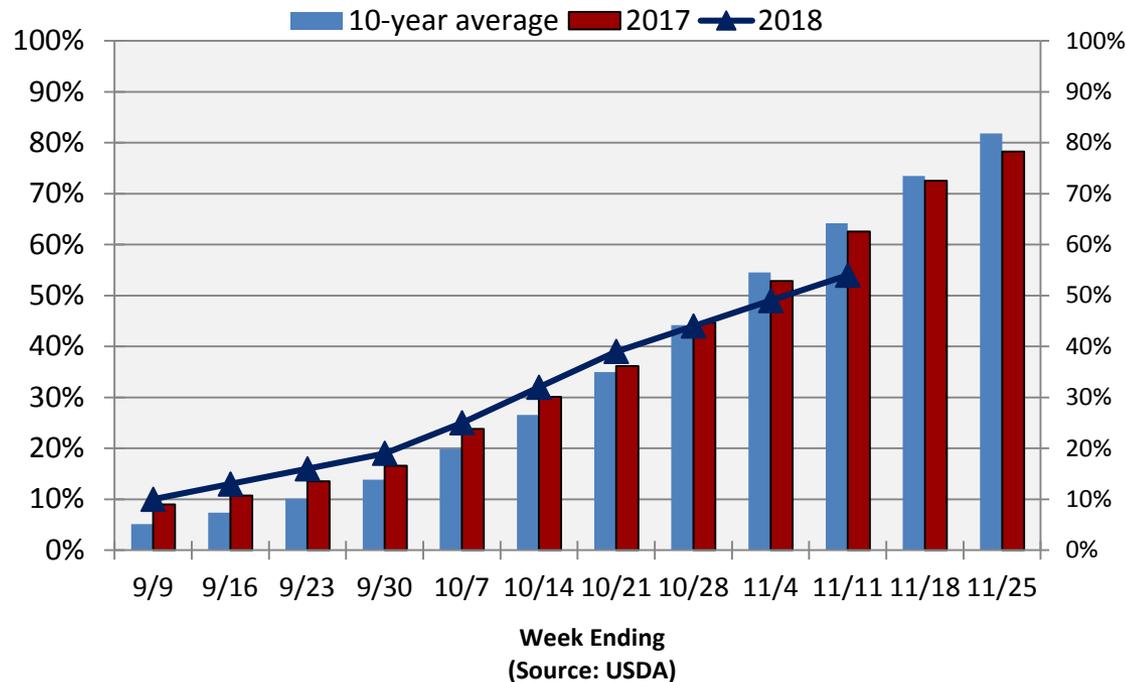
November 13, 2018

Crop / Weather Update

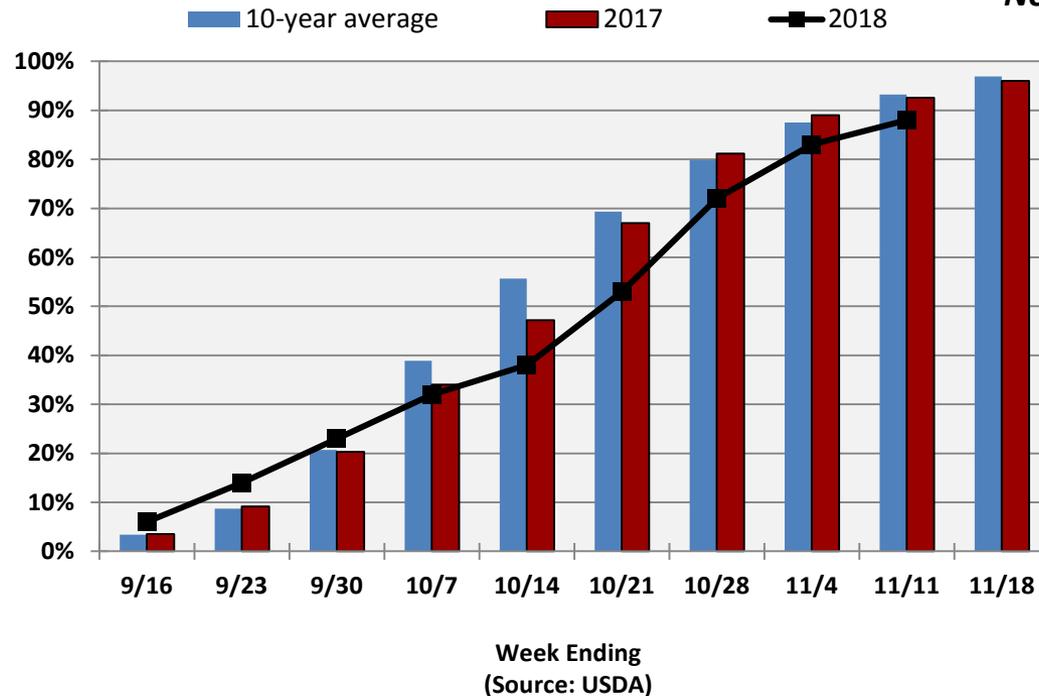
This is our last Crop/Weather Update for the 2018 planting, growing and harvesting seasons. USDA will publish their Crop Progress Report again in April 2019, and we will continue our coverage sometime in mid-April 2019. We wish you a wonderful holiday season and safe, peaceful winter.



This week, corn harvest came in at 84% complete, which is right in-line with the 10-year average and ahead of last year's harvest by 3%. Analysts expected a higher percentage completed, with a prediction of 87% for the 18 major corn-growing states. Many states are right where they need to be, in spite of the unseasonably cold and in some places, snowy, weather this past week, including: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee and Texas. In some states, however, corn producers have fallen behind their 5-year-average of completion, and slow progress is being made in Iowa (-5% behind), Kansas (-6%), Nebraska (-9%), North Dakota (-16%), Pennsylvania (-7%) and South Dakota (-14%). There's more chance for abandonment or damaged crops because of the combination of the slow progress and early winter weather.



The cotton harvest remains quite slow, even by its own laggardly standards. The USDA's weekly Crop Progress Report stated the average for the 15 main cotton-producing states as being 54% complete as of November 11, which compares rather poorly to last year's 63% completion rate and to the 10-year average figure at 64% done. As pointed out last week, the 2018 pace started off pretty well, with the late-September pace about 6% ahead of the historical norm, but persistent autumn rains slowed things down. Even the states where picking had progressed past the 90% level showed little progress last week, with the Missouri harvest rate rising just 1% to 93% done, the Arkansas figure inching up 2% to 93% and Louisiana edging up 3% to 92% complete. No other states are over 90% complete. As one would expect, the Texas harvest, due in part to the sheer size of that state's acreage and partially due to its southerly location, gained just 4% last week to 42% complete.



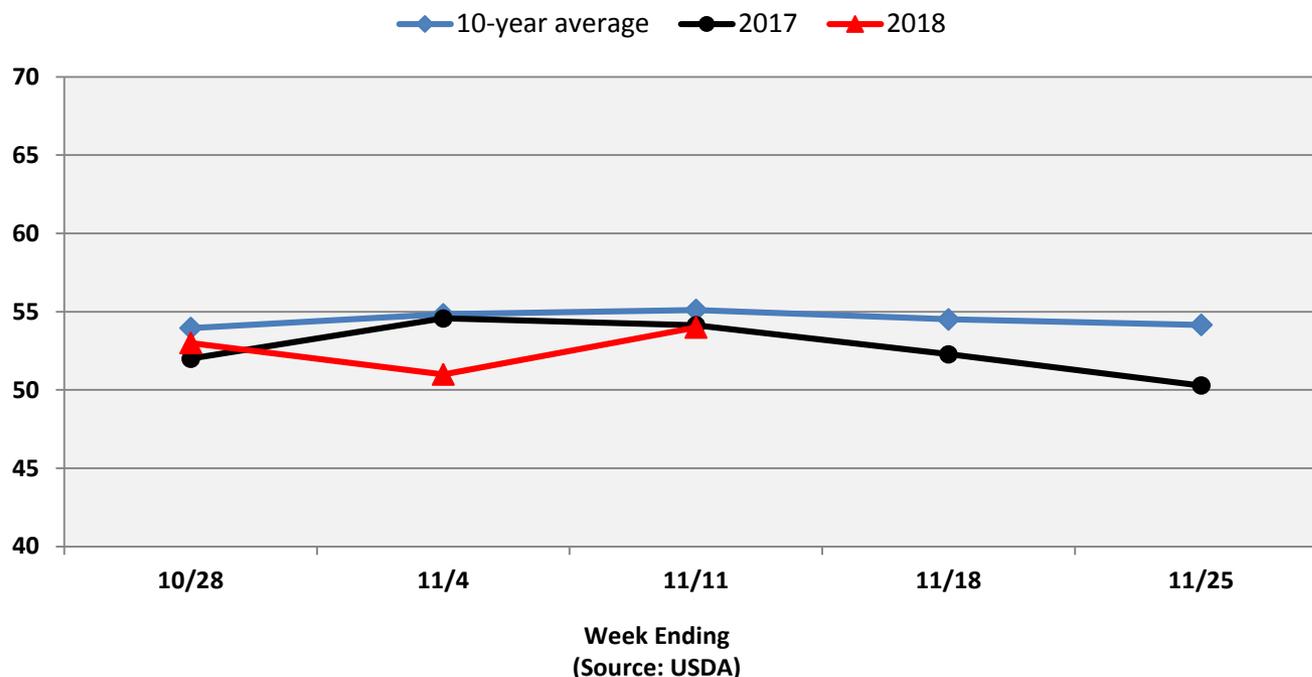
It seems as if no one expected the soybean harvest completion rate to come in as low as USDA reported today. Industry analysts predicted soybean harvest to be at 92% complete. However, USDA's Crop Progress Report stated that the harvest is only 88% complete as of November 11, 2018, which is behind both last year's harvest and the 10 year-average of 93%. When looking at the individual states and the unseasonably cold weather and snow many of the states have experienced in the beginning of November, it's not surprising the harvest is only 88% complete. Producers in only 1 state, North Carolina, out of 18 major soybean-growing states are ahead of schedule. All other states are behind their 5-year average, with percentages in the negative double-digits, such as Arkansas (-15% behind the 5-year average), Kansas (-16%), Michigan(-10%), Missouri (-15%) and Ohio (-10%). Soybean crop damage could be a real concern in these states.

● Winter Wheat Crop Condition-Fall

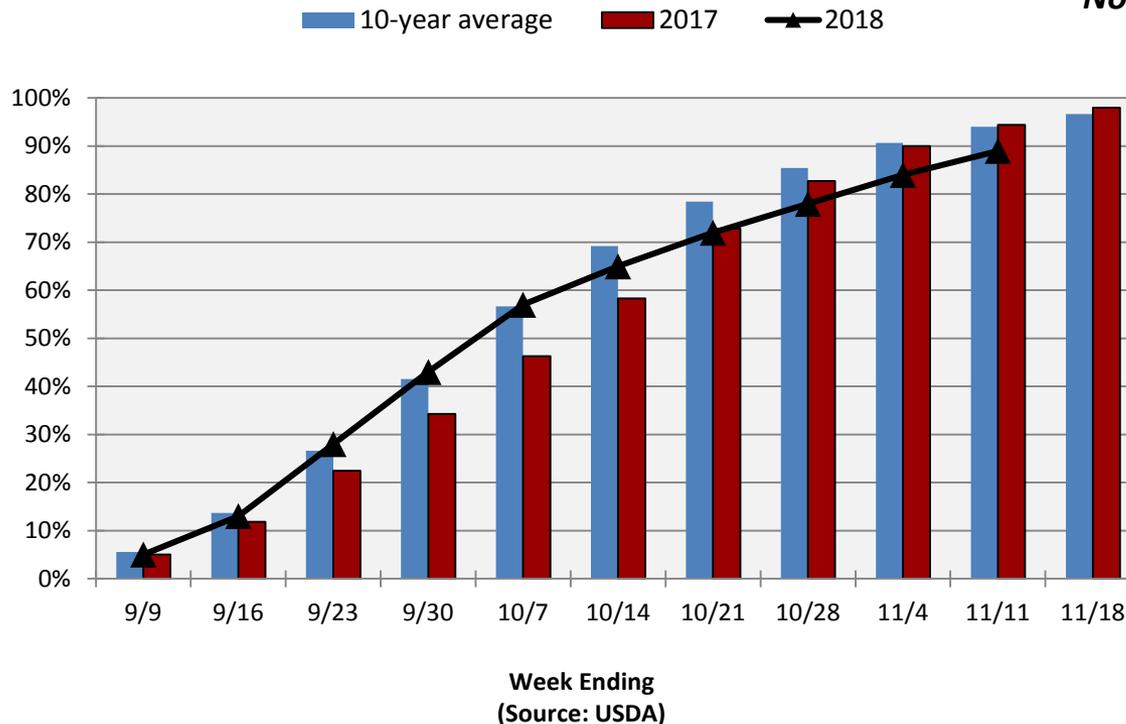
Crop/Weather Update

Percent of Acreage Rated Good or Excellent

November 13, 2018

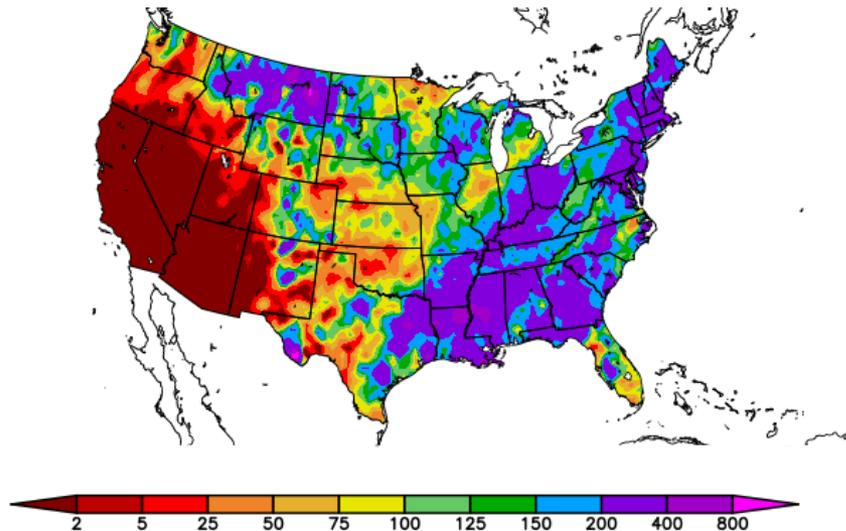


USDA pegged 54% of the winter wheat rated in either good or excellent condition as of November 11. This was up 3% from the previous week and was modestly higher than trade expectations for stable conditions. The current ratings are now on-par with last year and stand just one percentage point below the ten-year average for the week. Looking at the aggregate, 3% of the crop moved from the “Fair” to the “Good” category, while the proportions of the crop rated in the other categories were left unchanged. Five of the eighteen states reporting saw conditions rise in the past week, while four states saw conditions slip. It is concerning to have seen sizable drops for SRW in Illinois, Michigan and Ohio this week. HRW conditions saw a modest up-tick in the week, likely as a result of recent moisture as the crop established ahead of winter dormancy. USDA is scheduled to provide another update of winter wheat conditions next week, while this will be the final weekly update from Doane until national ratings return next spring.



US winter wheat seedings advanced by 5% in the week ending November 11 to reach 89%-complete. This compares to 94% both for last year and for the recent ten-year average pace. The greatest weekly advances came from states that have been lagging their respective historic pace. Arkansas farmers were the only state to make double-digit gains at +10%, while North Carolina (+9%), California (+8%), Missouri (+8%) and Texas (+8%) saw notable weekly gains. Oklahoma saw planting expand just 2% in the latest week at 84%-seeded versus 93% last year, and cold temperatures this week suggest that sizable planting progress may not occur this fall. Just 77% of the wheat crop had emerged as of Sunday, which is running 6 percentage points behind last year's pace. Isolated reports of winter-kill have begun to circulate in the market, following the recent cold snap in temperatures; but we see slow-planting pace a larger concern at this point in the growing calendar. USDA is scheduled to provide another update of winter wheat plantings and emergence next week, while this will be the final weekly update from Doane until national ratings return next spring.

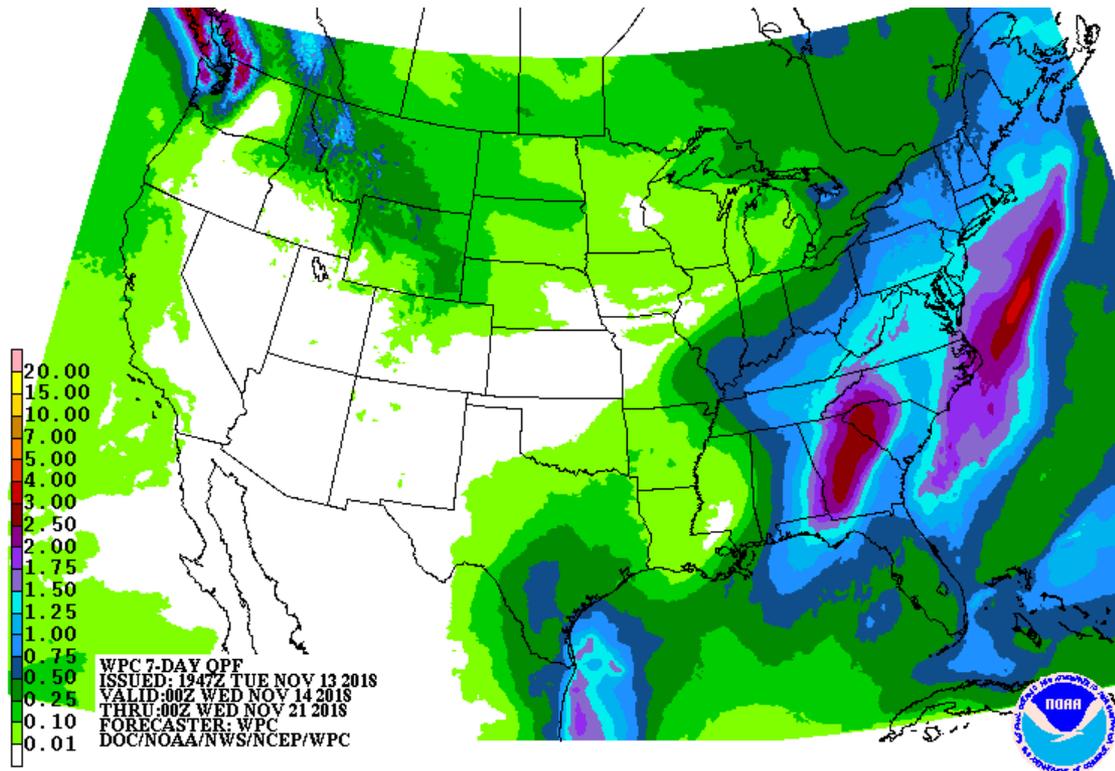
Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
11/1/2018 – 11/12/2018



Generated 11/13/2018 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

We are almost half way through the month of November and for most of the eastern half of the country, rainfall has been abundant. November rains to date have totaled far in excess of normal in the Delta, Southeast and Ohio River Valley. The weather conditions continue to present harvesting challenges to any number of corn and soybean farmers in the Midwest. Precipitation was far above average last month in the central and southern Plains, as well as reaching into portions of the central and western Midwest. The Plains have seen some drier weather conditions this month, but there is talk that last month's rains hindered winter wheat plantings and now much colder conditions are largely calling a halt to final wheat planting intentions.



The map displays Tuesday's seven-day rainfall forecast to next Tuesday. If the forecast pans out, then there will be more opportunities for most farmers west of the Mississippi River to make progress on remaining corn and soybean harvesting. It is the opposite for the eastern half of the country, especially from the Ohio River Valley south and east. The majority of the precipitation in the forecast is expected over the next two to three days. Some areas of the Midwest can anticipate a wintry mix with snow along with rains. It is surely a disappointing outlook for cotton and soybean harvests along the East Coast.

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MARKETS. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE CAREFULLY STUDY COMMODITY TRADING BEFORE YOU TRADE.

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