

# Excessive Southern U.S. Plains Heat To Expand North, East

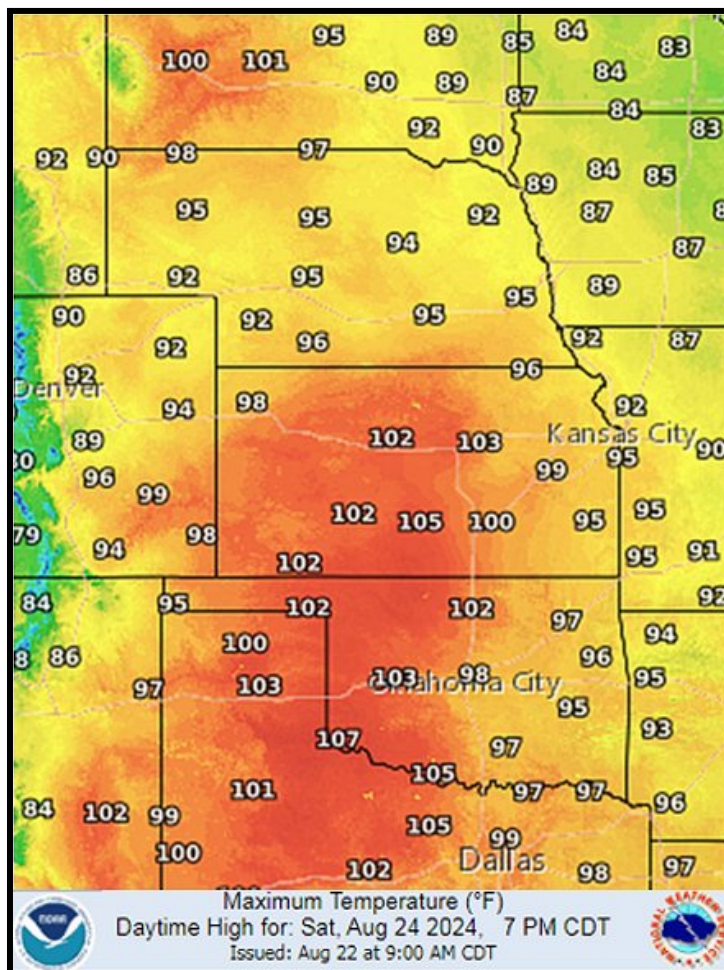
By Scarlett Waters and Drew Lerner

Kansas City, August 22 (World Weather Inc.) – A long week of excessive heat has occurred in the southern half of the U.S. Plains this week. Daily high temperatures of 95 to 110 Fahrenheit occurred nearly every day since the end of last week in Texas and Oklahoma with extremes of 111 to 117 in southern Oklahoma and areas south into central Texas. **The heat will remain in the southern Plains today and Friday, but a building ridge of high pressure aloft this weekend and early next week will expand the heat into the central Plains and the southwestern Corn and Soybean Belt before moderating and spreading to the east through the lower Midwest, Delta and Tennessee River Basin. The heat and high relative humidity will induce a very stressful environment for all living things.** Some partial relief is expected next week with scattered rain, but Texas to the southeastern states may stay dry into the U.S. Labor Day holiday weekend.

This week's heat has had a negative impact on all forms of agriculture production hurting livestock weight gains, milk and egg production and the development of most grain, oilseed and even cotton. Human activity has slowed as well and some businesses have had to suspend activity during the hottest hours of the day cutting into productivity.

The excessive heat is prevailing this afternoon with mid-day temperatures already back into the range of 95 to 109 in the southern Plains and there are several more hours of heating yet to come.

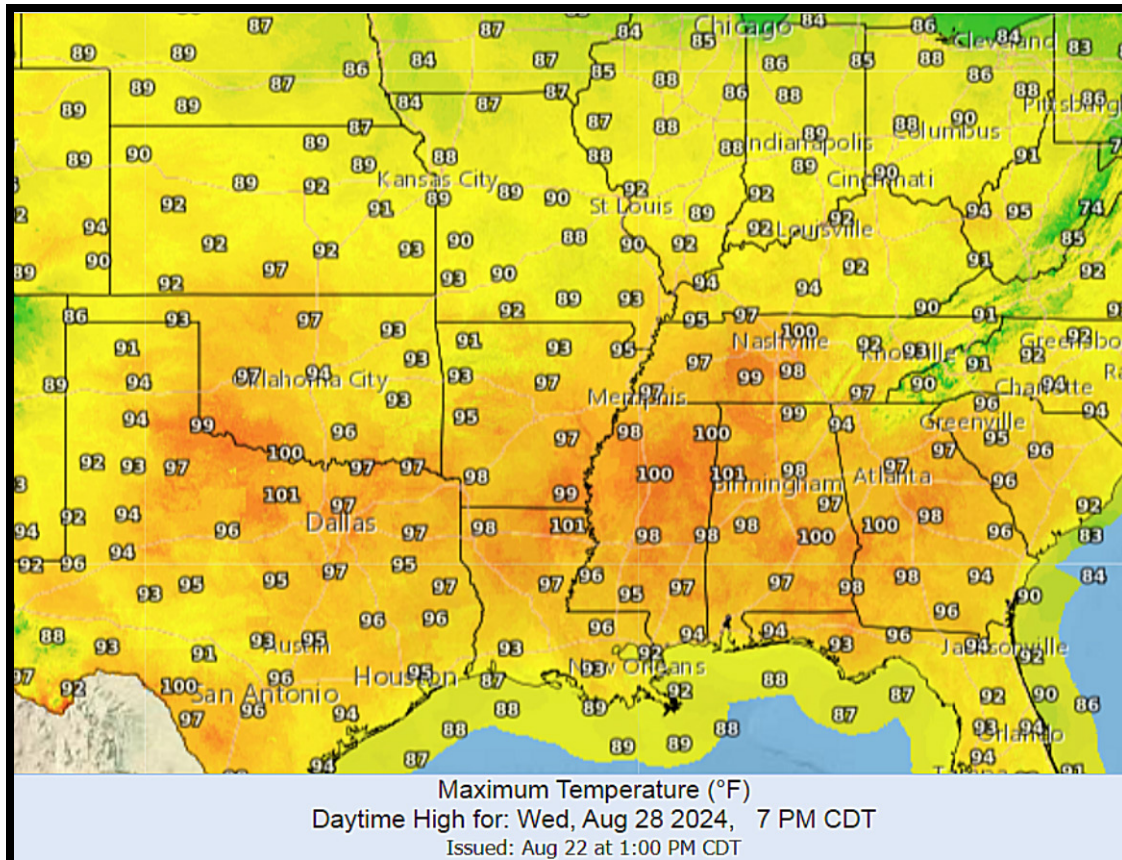
A ridge of high pressure has been associated with the past week of excessive heat, but it has most recently been confined to the southern Plains missing all of the key grain and oilseed production areas of the Midwest, Delta, Tennessee River Basin and southeastern states. The ridge has been reduced in intensity and overall size this week forcing most of the excessive heat that occurred from the northern Plains to Texas last weekend to mostly the southern Plains today. The ridge is getting ready to expand to the north and east once again and that will send the hottest weather surging to the north again with some of the heat spreading to the east as the ridge



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### shifts eastward out of the Plains next week.

The warmest temperatures are expected to occur over the next few days. Highs between 95 and 110 will occur Friday in central and northern Texas crop areas, along with western Oklahoma, southwestern Kansas, and southeastern Colorado. Some extreme highs to 114 are possible once again. Excessive heat will disperse farther north over the weekend, with highs in the mid-90s to 105 degrees occurring from north-central Texas into southern Nebraska by Sunday. Upper 80s to upper 90s will also occur this weekend across much of South Dakota, Iowa, and Missouri. Some low 100s are also expected in western South Dakota on Saturday.



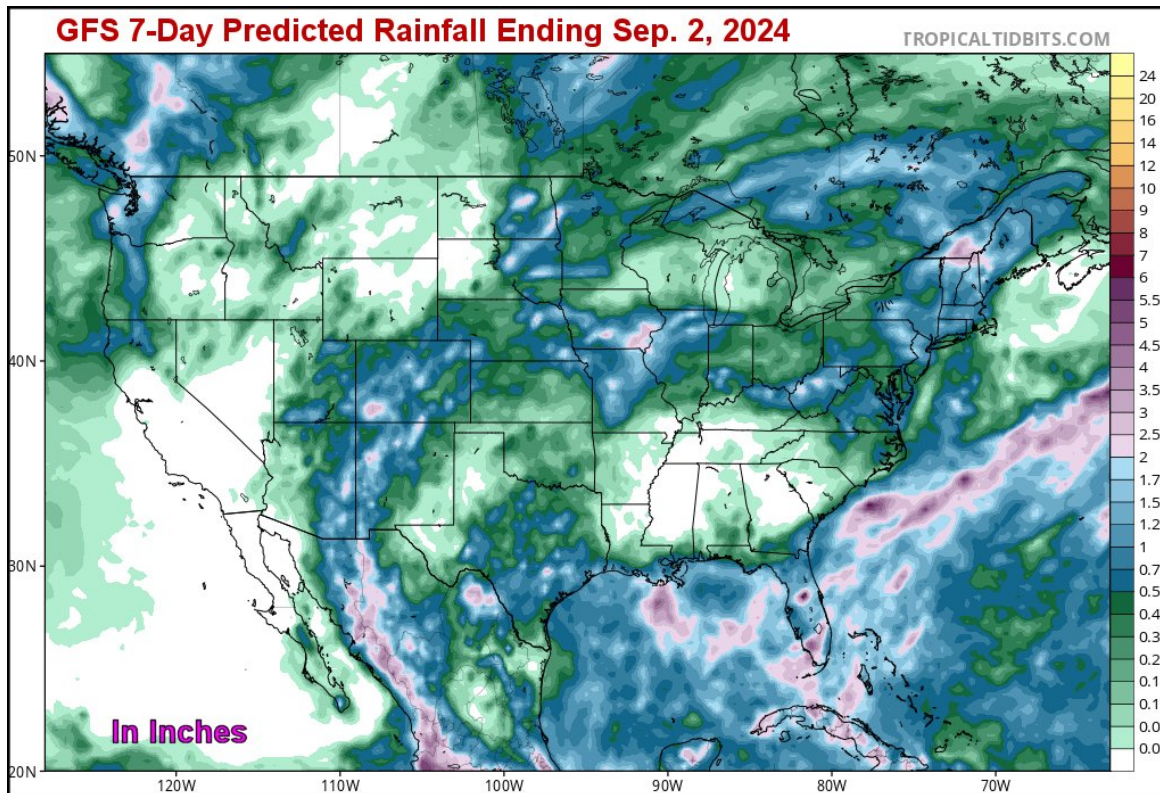
A wave of showers and thunderstorms in the North-Central Plains will cool temperatures slightly into the mid-80s to low 90s in Nebraska and Iowa early next week, though low 90s to low 100s will linger in central and southern Kansas, as well as Oklahoma and Texas. [These hot temperatures will amplify evaporation and contribute to some additional crop and livestock stress across the crop region in the next week; particularly in the Southern Plains where soil conditions are already very dry.](#)

Cooler air will follow a frontal system and trough of low pressure that will pass through the Plains next week. This system will shift the ridge to the east and south pushing most of the hottest air off to the east where higher relative humidity is expected that will moderate the air temperatures. The combination of high temperatures and high humidity, though, will be oppressive for a few days during the week next week across the central and lower Midwest, Delta and southeastern states. Most of the afternoon temperatures in these



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areas will be in the 90s, but the humidity may make those temperatures feel as bad as or worse than the 100 to 114 degree highs expected in the central and southern Plains in the next few days.



Scattered showers and thunderstorms will move through the Midwest next week attempting to cool some of the heat, but they may only bring slight cooling and will add to the humidity that is already present. Temperatures should remain warmer than usual in the Midwest into the latter days of this month including highs in the upper 80s and lower to middle 90s daily with low temperatures at night in the 60s and lower to a few middle 70s.

Meaningful rainfall will be needed throughout the Great Plains and Midwest following this excessive heat event to counter the negative impacts on agriculture and to induce a better environment plants, animals and humans.

In the next 7-days, trace amounts to 0.20 inch of total rain are expected across a most of the Southern Plains, with scattered storms bringing mostly between 0.50 and 1.20 inches of total rain to Nebraska and Iowa, with locally greater totals in excess of 2.00 inches in some areas. These amounts will reduce some of the crop stress caused by the heat in Nebraska and Iowa, though minimal rainfall in the Southern Plains will continue to amplify stress in the region as amounts are unlikely to counter evaporation rates due to the heat. More rainfall and cooler biased temperatures will be needed in the Southern Plains to reduce crop and livestock stress.

Notice that there is no significant rain advertised for the Delta and Tennessee River Basin. These areas will stay very dry and quite warm for an extended period of time.

World Weather, Inc.'s Trend Model has suggested below average rainfall will continue in this region well into the autumn season. Totally dry weather is not expected, but a drier bias

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will remain and that certainly reinforces the coming seven days of dry and very warm weather.

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