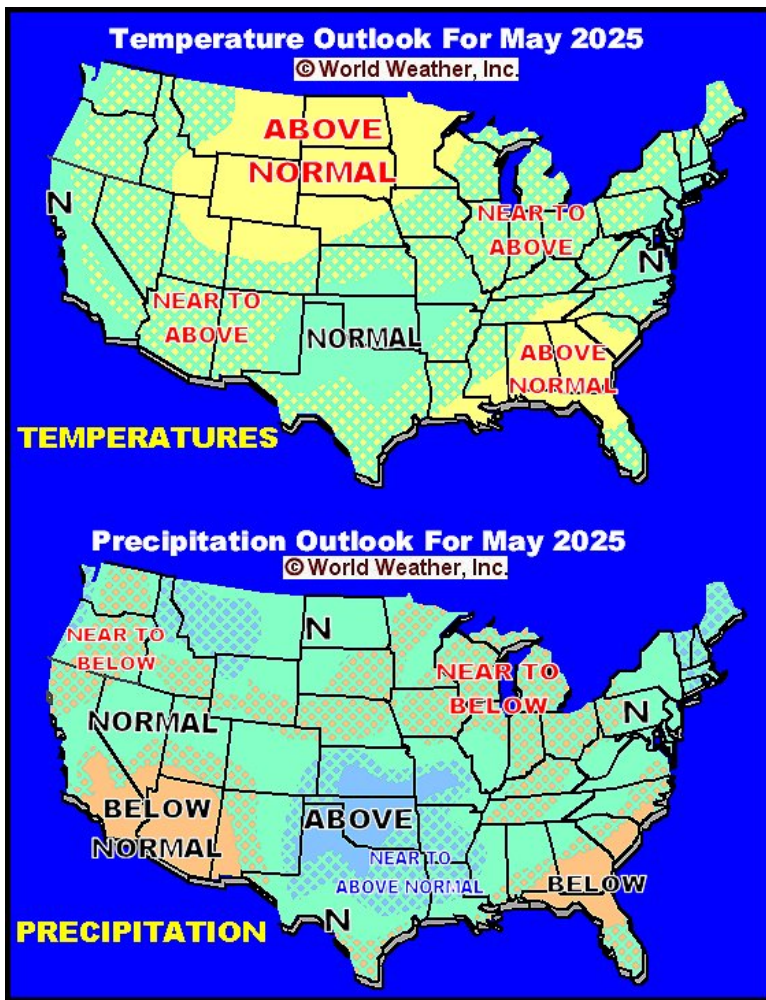


# U.S. May Weather Warmer Biased, Drier In Parts of Midwest

By Drew Lerner

Kansas City, April 30 (World Weather Inc.) – *The most anomalously great precipitation in U.S. crop areas during May will be that which occurs in the southern Great Plains over the coming week to ten days. There will also be a boost in rainfall across the northern Plains and in Canada's Prairies during the middle to latter part of the month while the Midwest experiences a lighter than usual precipitation bias after this first week.* Temperatures will be warmer than usual in many areas during May excepting the rainy areas of the southern Plains and some coastal areas in the west and eastern states where readings will be close to normal on average for the month.

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A spring parallel to 1968 will continue over the next few weeks. The month of May will be warmer than usual in much of the contiguous United States with some early month cooler than usual conditions likely in the southern Plains and immediate neighboring areas resulting from great cloudiness and frequent precipitation. A drier and warmer pattern should evolve later in the month that will bring temperatures more in line with normal

Rainfall will not only be greater than usual in the southern Plains, but into a part of the lower Delta as well. In contrast, the southeastern states from central Gulf of Mexico coast region into northern and central Florida and the Carolinas will receive less than usual rain as will a part of the central Plains and

upper Midwest. There is some potential that the World Weather, Inc. precipitation outlook in the upper Midwest is too dry, but the reason for the outlook is the lighter than usual precipitation that is slated for the early part of this month.

Weather in the western United States is expected to dry biased in the southwestern desert region and southern California and near to below normal precipitation is also expected in a part of the Pacific Northwest. However, the northwestern U.S. will see increasing rainfall during the middle and latter part of May as a persistent ridge of high pressure sets up

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in the Great Plains. That ridge of high pressure should also help generate greater rainfall in late May and June across the Canadian Prairies as well as a part of the northern Plains.

The eastern and northern Midwest may experience less rain less often during May, although the environment will be very good for spring planting. There may be some increasing need for late month precipitation, although none of that region is expected to be too dry.

*The outlook is expected to support good planting progress across most key U.S. crop areas, although there will be some growing need for greater rain by the end of the month in parts of the Midwest and certainly in the southeastern states. The wet bias in the southern Plains will eventually support better planting conditions for summer grain and cotton, although there may be some concern for wheat quality and the protein levels if the rainy weater does not shut off soon.*

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