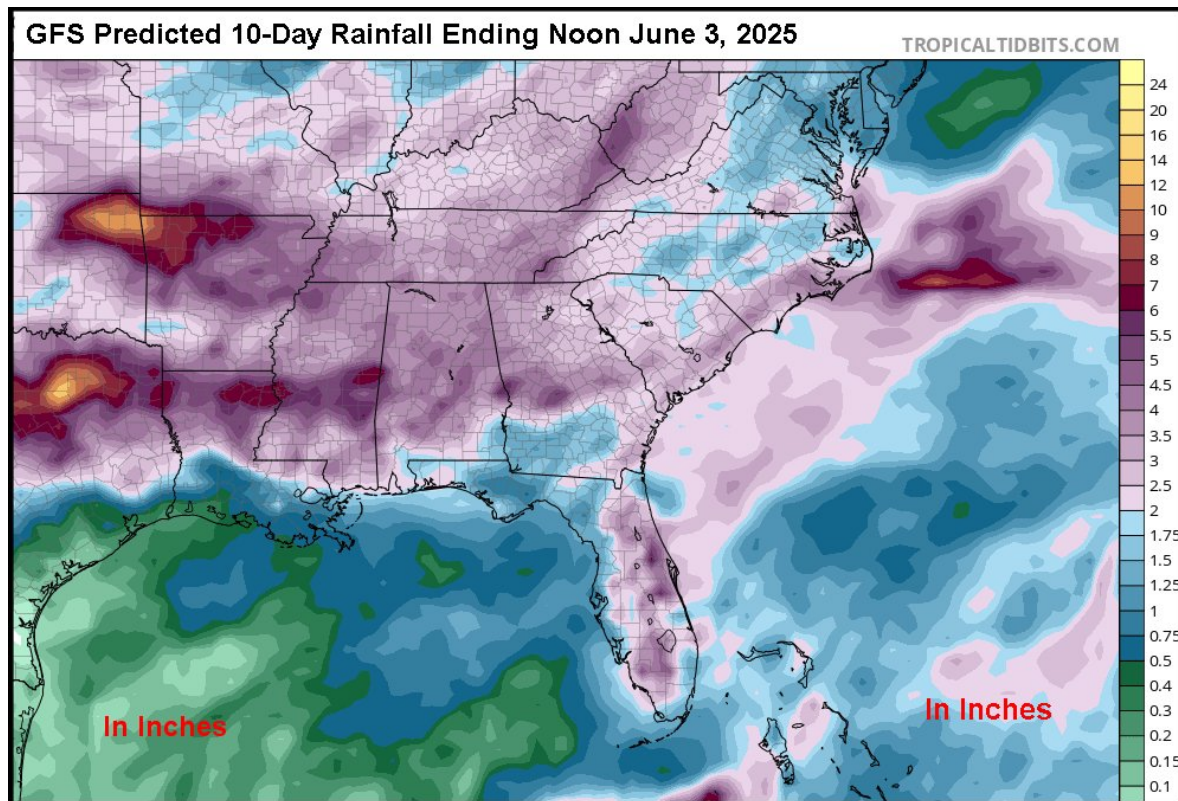


U.S. Mid-South Wet Spring To Last Another Week

By Drew Lerner

Kansas City, May 23 (World Weather Inc.) – Anomalously wet spring conditions this year from the lower Ohio River Valley into the northern Delta, Tennessee River Basin and southeastern Plains has been a frustration for many farmers. Planting delays have been ongoing since the initial flooding rain event occurred in late March and early April. Rain continued to evolve each time fields became firm enough for a little fieldwork to begin and the same phenomenon is occurring this week. **Recent drying was welcome, but now there will be a full week of frequent rain that will reverse all of the drying that has occurred recently and raise the potential for new flooding. This week's rain may be “the last straw” for producers in parts of the region that may have to abandon their fields or at least fall back to a possible late-season, short variety, soybean crop if they believe drying will eventually come to the region.**



The spring weather pattern this year has followed trends from the past including a parallel to 1968, the solar cycle and lunar or 18-year cycle. These patterns all suggested a wet bias would dominate the spring in at least portions of the mid-south crop region and that forecast has certainly verified well. [World Weather, Inc. early April comments about the potential for field abandonment and/or changes in planting intentions for this year in the Mid-South region have certainly verified well. Another week of rain is only going to further delay fieldwork and induce some flooding that will further raise the potential for at least some abandonment.](#)

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Another 2.00 to 4.00 inches and locally more rain will fall across the Delta, Tennessee River Basin, lower Ohio River Basin and southeastern Plains over the next week. After that, some drying is expected; however, the damage will already have been done. ***If that much rain falls as predicted, all of the recent drying in the region will be reversed and soggy field conditions will extend at least another full week into June and more likely a second week. Planting in mid-June would be a risk for many crops especially since there is potential for dryness to develop later this summer. There is also the risk of tropical cyclones in late summer that might also negatively impact the region.***

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