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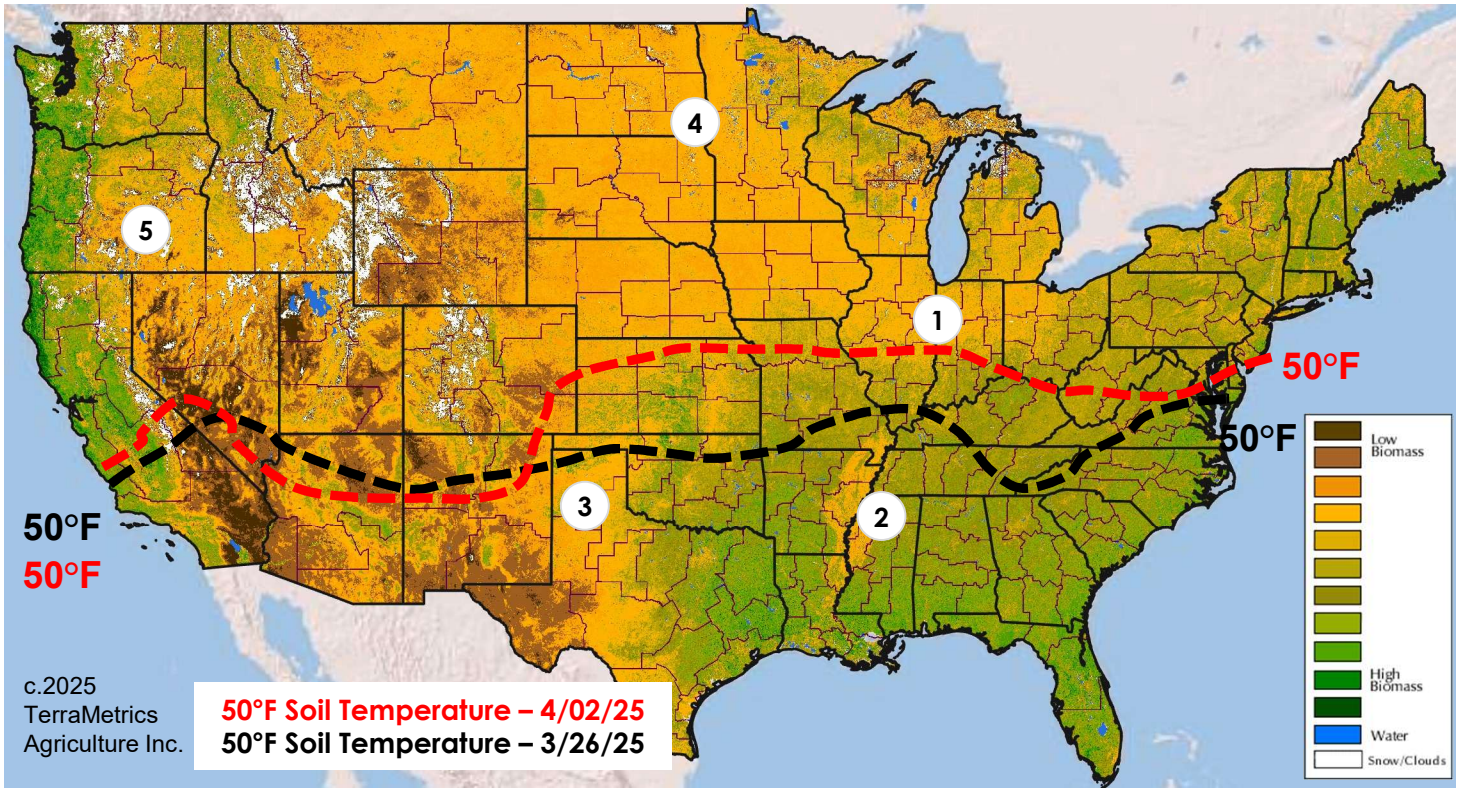
GREENREPORT®

Issued: April 2, 2025

Produced in collaboration with Planalytics, Inc.

Normalized Differential Vegetation Index | Period 13, March 17 - March 31, 2025



THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS…

1. The key 50°F soil temperature threshold has surged northward in the past week given very warm readings most days in the 70s and 80s. It's now made it across the I-70 corridor running from northern Kansas eastward through the lower Corn Berlt states. As a result, planting will soon become optimal for these key growing areas as field conditions allow. That said, an extended cooler period is on tap later this week into early next for the entirety of the Plains and Corn Belt regions.

2. Across the lower Mississippi Valley region, spring planting has begun and progress has been reported faster than normal for those states. It's been an area, however, that's been overly wet at times in recent weeks. The week ahead looks exceptionally wet, with several inches expected and with flooding possible in the wettest sports. Low-lying fields will be especially vulnerable, risking early crop health. Severe storms have been an issue as well, with another major outbreak for today into tomorrow.

3. Winter wheat is emerging out of dormancy in relatively good shape across the Plains, although not so good in Texas given severe drought. There is good news for producers in the area as beneficial rains are expected in the coming days. However, that will come with the chance for severe storms.

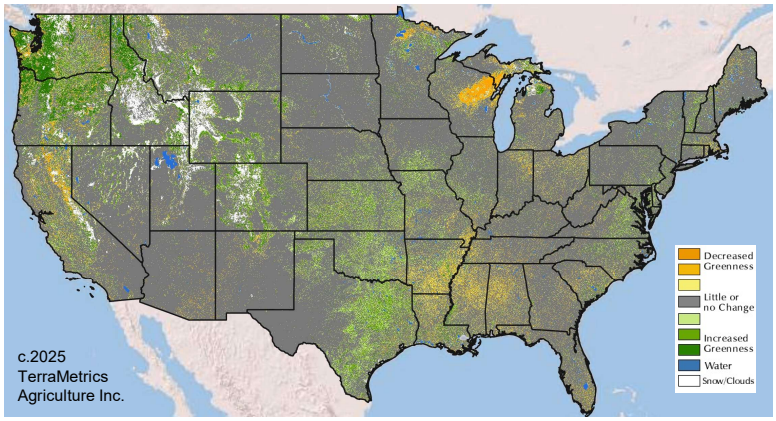
4. The Northern Plains have been overly dry through the winter into early spring. However, a storm system will bring several inches of snow to the area through the day today, which is a moisture bonanza for this dry region. That snow could be slow to melt given cooler temperatures for the week ahead, allowing it to get deep into the soil, a very good development.

5. The Pacific Northwest region has been the recipient of regular rain and mountain snow, greatly boosting moisture reserves in advance of the season. A warmer, drier period ahead should accelerate greening of turf, rangelands, and deciduous vegetation.

Vegetation Index Greenness Map | Period 13, March 17 - March 31, 2025

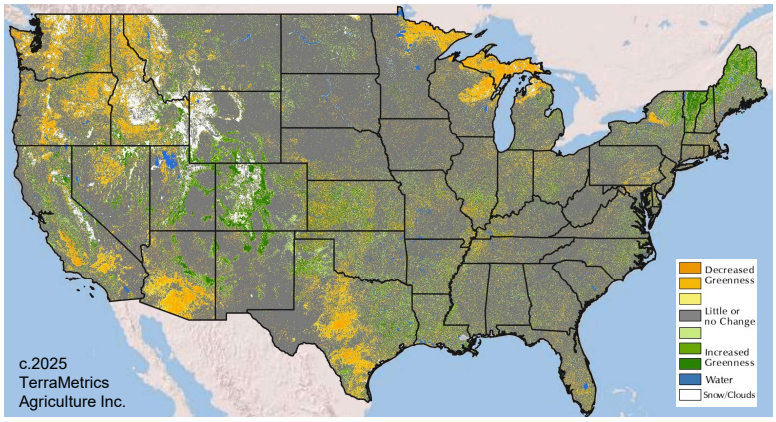
Change from Last Week

Week on week Greenness trends are showing good early greening, centered over the wheat areas of the Plains, an indication the crop is coming out of dormancy looking quite good overall. Positive Greenness is also notable for eastern states given a good week of warmth. The northwest quadrant, the beneficiary of regular storms. Is now looking quite green given some recent warmth. Negative Greenness is seen across the lower Mississippi Valley, which could be the result of heavy rains and flooding.



Change from Last Year

Greenness trends appear mixed for much of the Corn Belt on south. Storm frequency has been picking up of late, but moisture deficits still run deep. The wheat areas of the Western High Plains are greening, but Texas is dealing with the negative impacts of significant drought conditions. The challenging conditions extend back into parts of the Southwest and southern California; also in the relatively cooler Pacific Northwest, Far northern Great Lakes areas have snow cover.



Change from Normal

Greenness trends are more mixed for Corn Belt states back into the Plains wheat areas, but a notable area of decreased Greenness over a large area of western Texas indicates the wheat crop and other biomass is suffering from severe drought conditions. That negative trend includes much of the West, particularly the Southwest. The dark green across northern states indicates the snowless comparison to normal snow cover.