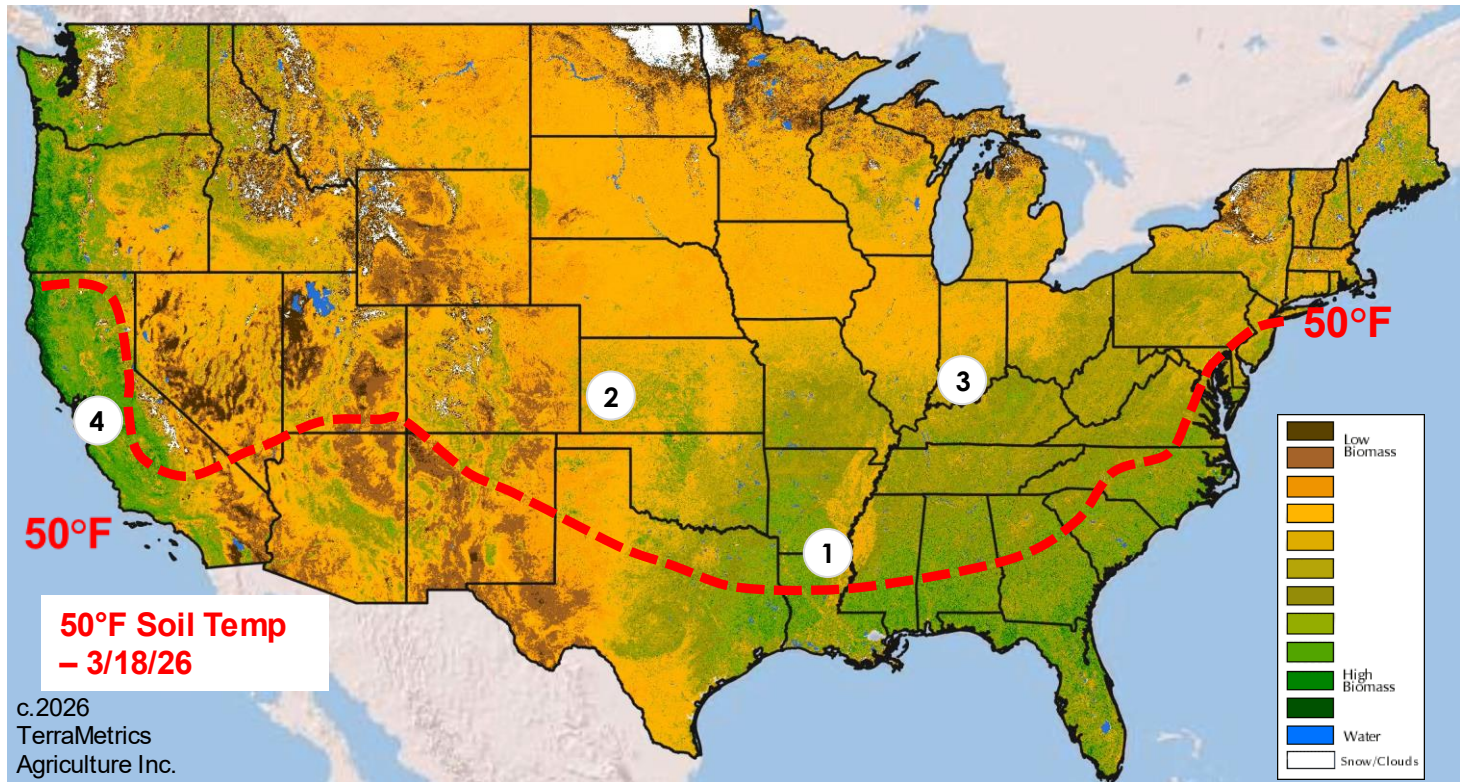


Normalized Differential Vegetation Index | Period 11, March 2 - March 15, 2026



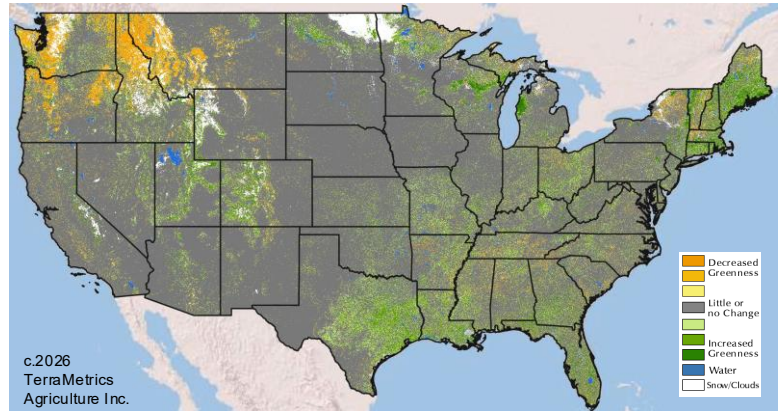
THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS...

1. The key 50°F soil temperature threshold is positioned unusually far south for mid-March, extending across central Texas and Deep South states given frequent periods of strong cold. This is a considerable change from last year at this time when that threshold was positioned much further north across the Missouri Valley and Mid-South regions. Still, corn is reportedly being planted across south Texas and the lower Delta regions. Dry soils could be posing an early problem without irrigation, and the outlook for the remainder of March is looking warm, but quite dry.
2. The primary winter wheat areas of the Western High Plains have been seeing pressure from drought conditions, with 30 percent of crop health is considered Poor to Very Poor. Fortunately, top-producing Kansas is in much better shape given more ample moisture reserves. Still, warm, dry and windy conditions in the near term will bring added stress. Also, wildfire activity has been considerable, particularly in western
3. There is not much to report across Corn Belt states at this time, but soils remain very cold given frequent cold outbreaks and wintry weather for some. We are still weeks away from planting. Temperatures in the near term will be quite variable, but there is suggestion of more sustained warmth in April closer to typical planting time.
4. California and the Southwest have been unusually warm for most of the winter, and that has certainly contributed to earlier greening across the region. In fact, temperatures have soared into the 90s and low 100s in the area recently and expected to continue into early next week before easing. While moisture reserves are currently in good shape, there may be trouble ahead given much less snowpack in the region than typical.

Vegetation Index Difference Maps | Period 11, March 2 - March 15, 2026

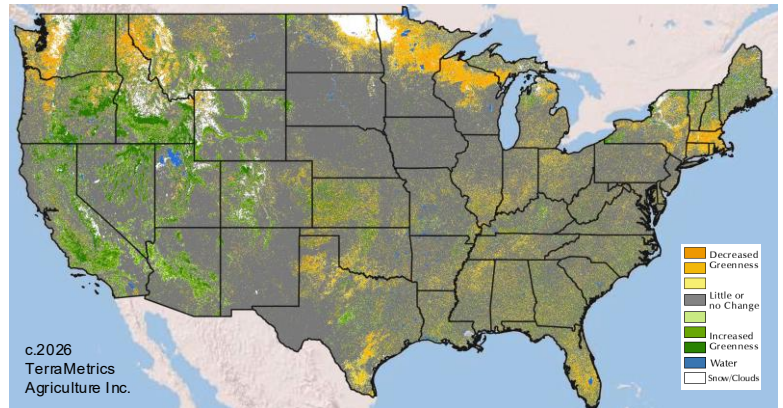
Change from Last Week

Our initial week on week Greenness is showing good greening for most southern states extending north into the Mid-South and lower Corn belt regions. This is clearly turf and early deciduous vegetation as spring planting has just begun across the Deep South. Seeing pockets of increased Greenness for parts of the Southwest, which have been unusually warm most of the winter into early spring. Snowpack is evident across the ranges of the Northern Rockies, and also the California Sierras.



Change from Last Year

While Greenness has been increasing overall, the large area from the southern Plains eastward into the lower Corn Belt on south, is running considerably behind given what have been more frequent cold air outbreaks. Too dry conditions are also contributing to issues with winter wheat development, particularly in Texas. Conversely, the persistent above normal warmth across western states has biomass considerably greener, mainly turf, pasture, and rangelands.



Change from Normal

Greenness trends are generally close to normal for much of the eastern half of the U.S. Of particular note, however, are the significant deficits seen for the winter wheat areas in Texas, which have been suffering from extended dry conditions and drought. A more positive signal is evident for Kansas given a better moisture profile. Meanwhile, western states have benefited from persistent warmth and regular moisture events, and biomass of all types is flourishing, as a result.

