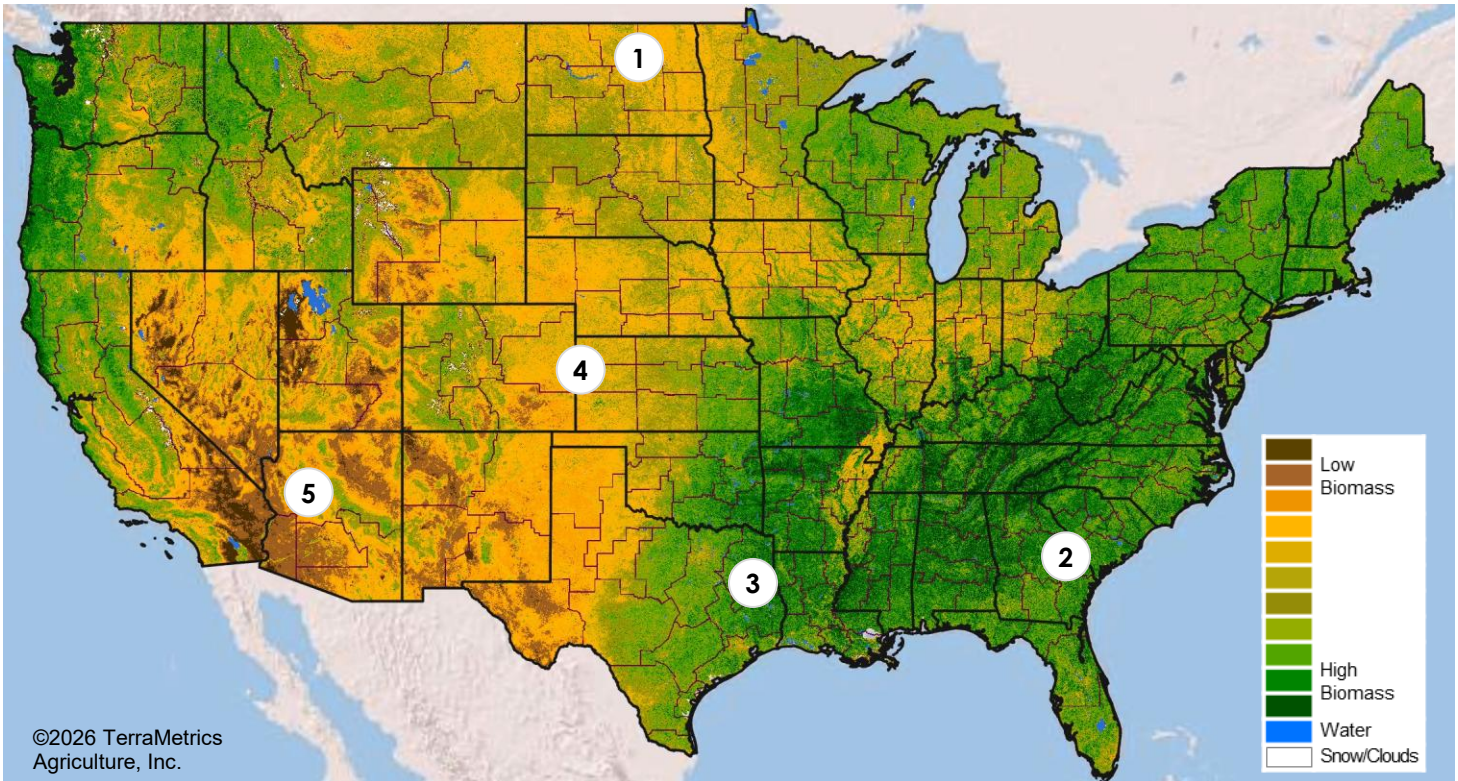


## Normalized Differential Vegetation Index | Period 21, May 11 - May 25, 2026



1. Soil temperatures have surged in the past week and, outside of the higher elevations of the West, are now well above the key 50°F threshold. In fact, readings for most of the U.S. are now 60°F or greater even to the northern border.. Except for Wisconsin and Michigan, all key producing states are reporting faster than normal pace of crop emergence and early development. Summer-like warmth in the days ahead will further accelerate this trend.
2. The news continues to get better for the previously parched Atlantic Southeast region. Waves of showers and storms have been frequent over the past couple of weeks, greatly alleviating severe drought conditions that had taken a toll on early crop development. More wet weather is in the near-term forecast, which will further improve the situation.
3. Eastern Texas and the lower Mississippi Valley have also been wet; in fact, overly wet for much of the area. Six to ten inches of rain have been reported for the month of May to date, and more is on the way in the near term. While abundant moisture is certainly welcomed as the

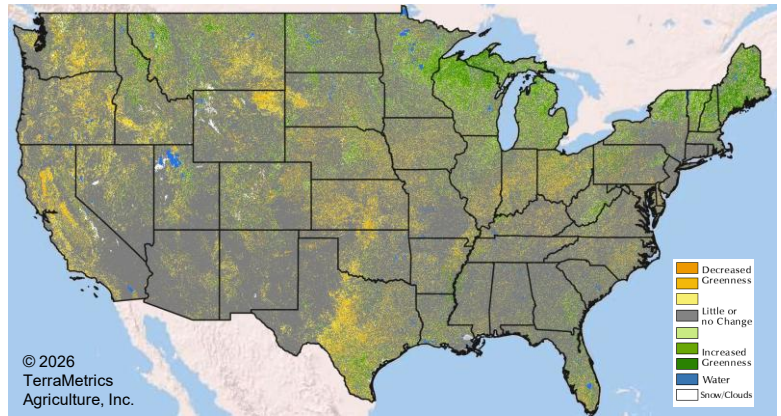
heat of summer approaches, it is producing lowland flooding in spots increasing the potential for replant. The Mississippi River and many of its tributaries are currently at or approaching flood stage.

4. The wheat areas of the Western High Plains are still struggling with overly dry conditions and drought. Recent showers have helped to moisten topsoils but deficits run deep. There are showers in the forecast for many areas, although generally light and widely scattered. Wheat has historically been able to bounce back quite well with even a little bit of moisture, so producers are still hopeful. The lack of heat stress has helped.
5. Moisture has been at a premium across the Southwest in recent weeks, and moisture reserves have been dwindling, as a result. Crop and grasslands have been increasingly stressed. However, the short-term outlook is more bullish for scattered rains as we head into June given an active subtropical jet stream. While typically too early for the Southwest Monsoon, forecasts suggests an active one developing this season.

**Vegetation Index Difference Maps | Period 21, May 11 - May 25, 2026**

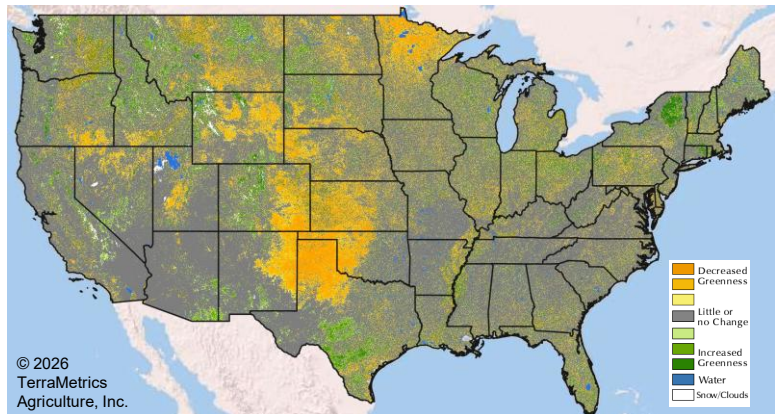
**Change from Last Week**

Greening is quite evident across the far north as turf and deciduous vegetation accelerates its development and emergence of row crops begins. Also, it is somewhat greener across the Atlantic Southeast and Florida given recent rains, which have continued to be very beneficial in alleviating drought. However,, the Plains wheat areas are still struggling, and drier weather across the West is causing pockets of trouble.



**Change from Last Year**

Early Greenness trends in and around Corn Belt states continue to look quite mixed, although decreased Greenness is quite evident in portions of the Northern Plains and Rockies. Western states continue to trend greener overall, there are areas of trouble given recent dry weather. However, the majority of the Plains wheat area continues to greatly suffer from increased drought conditions, though recent rains did help a bit.



**Change from Normal**

This comparison also shows a more mixed Greenness profile for the eastern half of the U.S. although crops are reportedly developing on time and are healthy. The Northwest has benefited from the very warm winter and early spring, and moisture reserves, despite drier conditions of late, are still good overall. Conditions clearly remain very poor for winter wheat and other biomass from western Nebraska on south into the Texas Panhandle.

