



# 3F Forecasts Futures · Farming · Finance

LARRY ACKER • 1710 NORTH SUMMER HILL ROAD • POLO, ILLINOIS 61064-9263  
(815) 946-3001 • Fax (815) 946-2003 • (E-Mail) Lacker@essex1.com • (Web Site) www.3FForecasts.com

## 3F Weather Hotline

March 25, 2017

Thank you for subscribing to 3F Forecasts Weather Hotline. This is the update for March 26-28, 2017. The next update will be on March 28 about 9-10 PM CDT. Be advised that I will be in Springfield, Illinois on March 29 and coming back on March 30 on State of Illinois business. I will not be available for consultation until Friday morning, March 30—just ahead of the USDA crop reports. Sorry to cause any possible inconvenience.

On this update, we will look at the local weather, the US weather including the jet stream map, the oceans, South America and—if a little room is left—look at other items of interest.

Locally, the weather has been topsy turvy with the temperatures up and down and now rainfall variables. An example would be the record high temperature of 81 on March 24. Today (March 25), the daily high was only 60°F. at midnight on March 24-25. As we go to press, the current temperature was only 44°F. and dropping. The record 81°F. broke the 80°F. set back in 1939. This is the way the temperature range will be into summer. Until today, the only rainfall total for March is .77 inch or 34% of normal. We are still running up the totals today so we won't know. Farmers were putting on anhydrous ammonia this week until today when the rain stopped all fieldwork. Today was cloudy, wet and a blustery day. With soil temperatures at 46°F., it's not quite time to start planting corn.

The US jet stream map shows the northern branch doing all kinds of funny things. The only consistent movement is blowing north along the East Coast of the US—making it warmer. The Western US is blowing all directions. The southern jet stream is maintaining its path across Northern Mexico, the Big Bend of Texas and across the northern part of the Gulf of Mexico towards southern Florida. The northern branch flow may stay unstable for awhile longer.

The snow cover of the US is now mostly reserved to New England, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, a little along the North Dakota-Canada line and in the Rocky Mountains. Maine and Yellowstone Park-Jackson Hole have the deepest snows—ranging from about 15 inches to 3 feet or so. The snow is mostly melting but some has fallen in the last 24 hours—particularly in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, northeast New York State, Colorado and Washington State. So snow is not a dead issue yet for this winter-early spring.

The oceans are about the same. The Atlantic Ocean continues rather stormy especially east of the Virgin Islands and north of Puerto Rico. Normally, it is too early for a tropical storm to develop and the surface temperature of the ocean is too cold. Even so, we are watching this. Our forecasted first storm is about May 14—which is over two weeks earlier than the official opening of the hurricane season on June 1 in the Northern Hemisphere. The Gulf of Mexico is nearly clear and so is the Northeast Pacific. Only west of 140 W. Long. do many clouds show on the satellite.

Looking at the water temperatures off the South America coast, the waters of Peru and Ecuador showed very warm as of March 20, 2017. However, this freak warming has cooled in the last week. Here are the readings as of last Friday (yesterday) for the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) and notice the change. The 30-day SOI average is currently at +3.02 vs. last week's -5.30. The 90-day SOI was +0.70 vs. +0.24 last week. The 180-day SOI is +0.14 vs. +0.36 last week and the 360-day SOI average was +0.86 vs. last week's +0.15. A year ago the SOI was -13.07.

A look at the satellite map of South America shows scattered cloud cover but not much rain as of Saturday, March 25. The Pacific Ocean west of Peru and Ecuador is cloudy, rainy and pushing rain into the two countries. Peru especially has had some heavy rains causing flooding, landslides and serious property damage. The interior of Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil are into the high 80s and 90s or even warmer. Remember fall has begun in the Southern Hemisphere. Over the next 2-3 days, most areas in South America may expect one-half to 1½ inches of rain with a few heavier showers. The best location for heavier rains will be in northern Argentina-southeast Paraguay where at least four inches may fall. Southern Argentina and Chile will not get much—if any at all. The Southern Ocean has a little storminess to the area, but is nothing unusual at this time of year. Generally speaking, weather conditions are favorable for the corn that's planted, harvesting soybeans and developing the second crop corn for winter harvest.

There are some volcanoes erupting around the world this month that are worth watching. Three are in the Aleutian Islands area off the coast of Alaska. Mt. Bogoslof in Alaska and Russia had Klyuchevskoy and Bezymianny. All three blew ash to heights from 18,000 to 35,000 feet. Mt. Elna erupted again for the second time in March. Down in central Chile, the Chillan Volcano erupted with deep movement of magma and shot dark columns of ash thousands of feet above the peak. Chillan is about 250 miles south of Santiago, Chile. The real earthquake and volcanic cycles are supposed to start in 2018.

The Disease Cycle is firing up with a new or mutant strain of H7N9 bird flu. This strain is easier to transmit to humans—even though it is only a tiny change in the virus. So far more than 460 people in China have contacted this virus with 140 people already dead in January and February. This virus mutant is deadly to humans. It may get much worse if cycles are right.

The next update will be on March 28 about 9-10 PM CDT. Thank you.

**This analysis is made from information believed reliable but accuracy and completeness are not guaranteed.**