



Global assessment of vegetation condition. This polar stereographic image of the northern hemisphere was produced from two weekly summaries of NOAA/AVHRR data furnished by the Satellite Data Services Division of NOAA. The image indicates changes that have taken place between the weeks of 9 May 1983 and 15 August 1983. The colors are interpreted as follows: red areas were dominated by green vegetation in May, but not in August; green areas were dominated by green vegetation in August, but not in May; yellow areas had green vegetation on both dates; cyan areas were covered by snow in May and green vegetation in August. Clearly visible in this image are (1) the winter wheat growing region in the southern U.S. Great Plains (red); (2) the summer (corn) growing region south and west of the Great Lakes (green); and (3) changes in vegetation condition

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# PHOTOGRAMMETRIC ENGINEERING & REMOTE SENSING



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in the grasslands of Africa (green fringe just south of the Sahara, and red area in Somalia).

This image was prepared by ERIM by creating vegetation indices (Ch2 - Ch1/Ch2 + Ch1) for May and August, and subsequently merging and color coding three channels of digital data. A vegetation index for May was color coded red; a vegetation index for August was color coded green; and the visible channel for May was color coded blue. The resolution of the data varies from approximately 15 kilometres at the equator to approximately 30 kilometres near the poles. It is believed that these data will be most useful for monitoring changes which are very large in areal extent. One advantage of using AVHRR data in this form is that the weekly composite is prepared from the most cloud-free acquisitions during the week-long period. This image was processed and submitted by the Environmental Institute of Michigan at Ann Arbor.