

Experimental Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

11 August 2003

National Ocean Service/NCCOS and CSC

NESDIS/CoastWatch and NDBC

Last bulletin: August 5, 2003

Analysis

Texas:

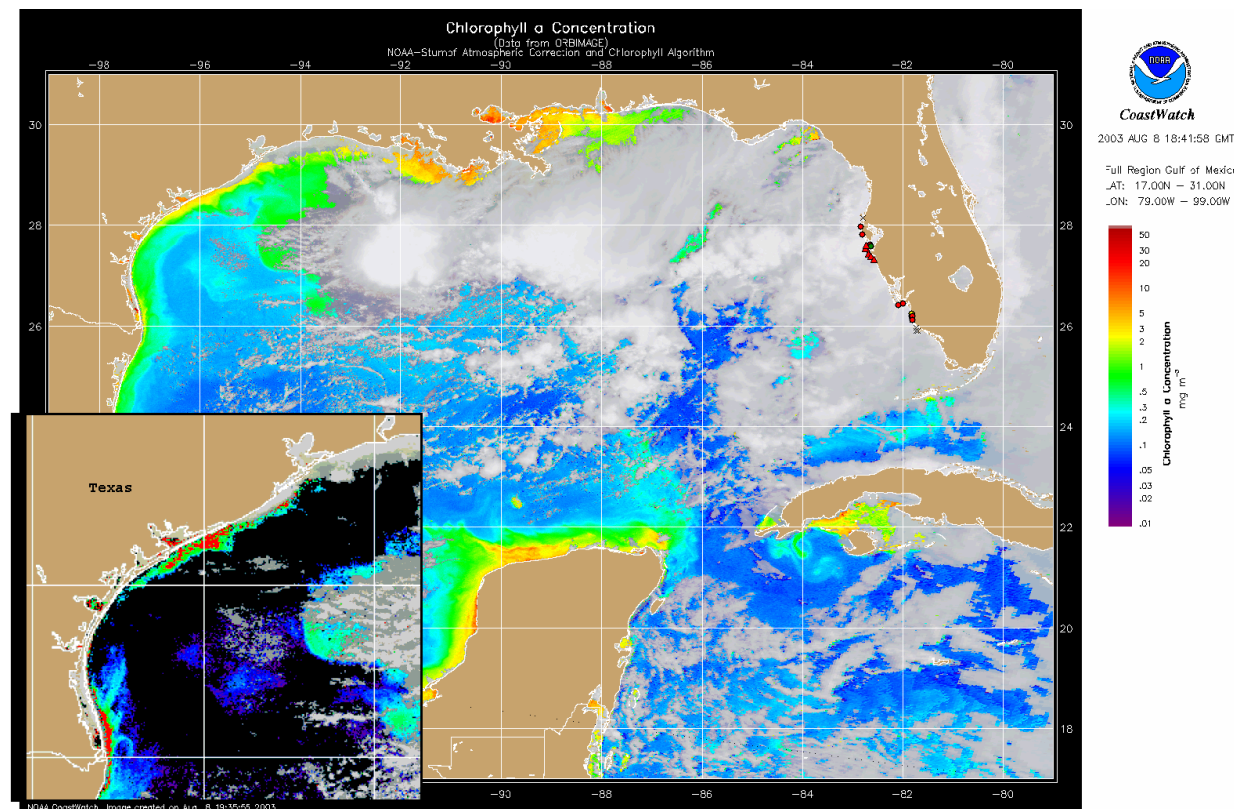
Imagery indicates the possibility of a *K. brevis* bloom along the coast outside Laguna Madre into Mexico (97d11'W 26d33'N to 97d9'W 25d32'N) and to the north from San Antonio Bay (95d37'W 28d39'N) to just north of Matagorda Bay (96d30'W 28d7'N). Chlorophyll levels have reached above 3 ug/L in some areas.

Since southwesterly winds would most likely transport aerosols and dead fish to the Matagorda region, and no complaints have been reported, the northernmost flag may represent a bloom of something other than *K. brevis*. However, upwelling favorable winds have been observed since July 17 in the Laguna Madre area. Although little is known about the transport of blooms to the coast of Texas, the potential for upwelling induced transport warrants monitoring of this area.

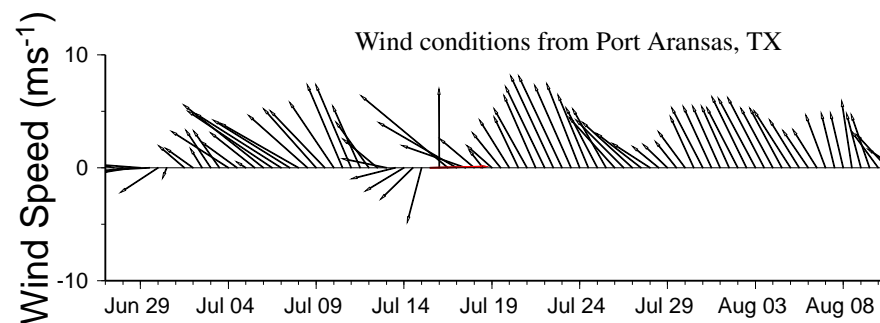
-Tomlinson

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Chlorophyll concentration (above) and possible HAB areas shown in red (inset). Cell concentration sampling data from July 31, 2003 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red circles (low), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on NOAA buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast.

Persistent southeasterly winds have occurred since July 17. Winds are forecasted to remain south to southeasterly through Thursday.