



Experimental Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

24 October 2003

National Ocean Service/NCCOS and CSC

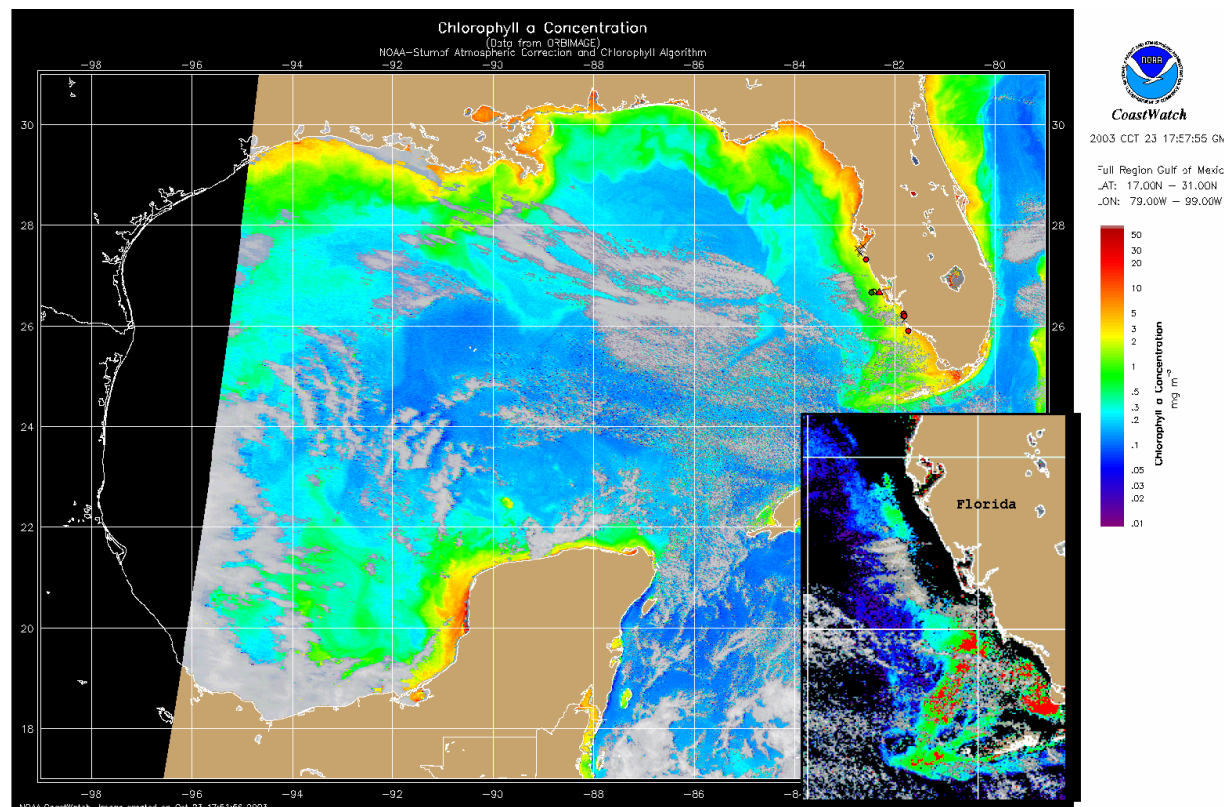
NESDIS/CoastWatch and NDBC

Last bulletin: October 20, 2003

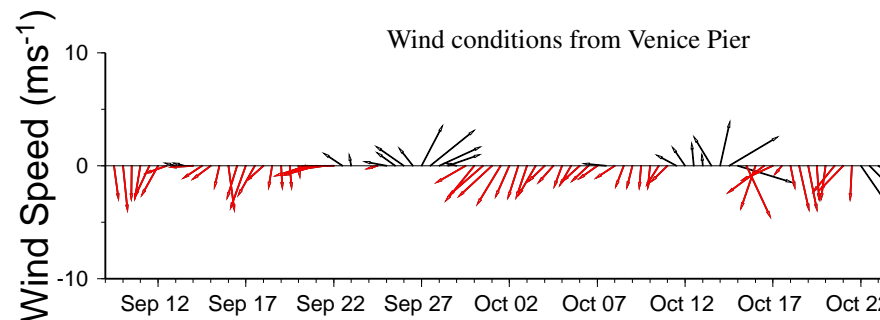
Analysis

SW Florida, The possible HAB has stretched toward the Tortugas from offshore of Sanibel (inshore edge is above 26dN and obscured by clouds). This bloom has associated discoloration with the discoloration highest at north end and decreasing southward (anomaly image is the best indicator of the axis of the bloom). The southerly and now easterly winds should have kept any HAB impacts offshore. A bloom of confirmed non-harmful *Rhizozolenia* is slightly north of Key West and Marquesas (~25dN). A separate bloom, possibly of *Rhizozolenia*, is off of Cape Romano. Blooms in the Cape Romano area are not usually HABs, unless originating outside that area.

-Stumpf



Chlorophyll concentration (above) and possible HAB areas shown in red (inset). Cell concentration sampling data from October 17, 2003 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), 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.

Southward transport should end over the next several days. Easterly winds through Sunday, Oct 26.

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. These data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Distribution for military, international, or commercial purposes is NOT permitted.
3. There are restrictions on Internet/Web/public posting of these data.
4. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.

