Analysis
An extensive high chlorophyll event along the Mississippi Delta and extending from Baratarra Bay to the Mississippi Sound began in early May. Imagery shows it was not present on April 27 and was extensive by May 6. Samples collected by the state of Louisiana and LUMCON indicate that the event appears to be a result of a combination of a non-toxic diatom bloom with a "mucousy-sediment type" slurry. This may be caused by a combination of Trichodesmium and the brown diatoms (most likely Guinardia delicatata). Although the event appears to be non-toxic, it is a concern as large blooms like this can lead to low oxygen events in the bottom waters, which was observed off Atchafalaya and Terrebonne Bay in April (18-19) and May (13) samples. The event is continuing with high chlorophyll around the Delta on May 24. A bloom, probably of similar characteristics, is developing in Mississippi Sound.

-Tomlinson