NATIONAL HYDROPOWER ASSOCIATION MEETING

December 3, 2008
Birmingham Alabama

Roger McNeil

Service Hydrologist

NWS Birmingham Alabama

There are three commonly described types of Drought:

- **Meteorological drought** is usually measured by how far from normal precipitation has been over a period of time.

- **Agricultural drought** occurs when soil moisture is insufficient to meet crops' needs to produce an average crop. It may occur in times of average precipitation depending on soil types. (Short Term)

- **Hydrological drought** refers to deficiencies in surface and Subsurface water supplies. (Long Term)

Droughts are normal climate features. They can occur almost anywhere.

Birmingham Historical Droughts

- Calendar year since 1900
  - 28.86 inches (2007)
  - 34.32 inches (1904)
  - 36.14 inches (1931)
  - 36.94 inches (1943)
  - 37.84 inches (1908)

Birmingham Historical Droughts

- 12 month droughts
  - Jan 2007 through Dec 2007 (28.86”)
  - Dec 1930 through Nov 1931 (30.29”)
  - Sep 1985 through Aug 1986 (31.84”)
  - Jan 1904 through Dec 1904 (34.32”)
  - Feb 1908 through Jan 1909 (36.54”)
  - Jan 1943 through Dec 1943 (36.94”)
  - Feb 1954 through Jan 1955 (38.98”)
  - Dec 1923 through Nov 1924 (41.43”)

Birmingham Historical Droughts

- 24 month droughts
  - December 2006 through November 2008 (77.91”)
  - December 1929 through November 1931 (78.42”)
  - January 1942 through December 1942 (81.03”)
  - May 1924 through April 1926 (82.30”)
  - February 1954 through January 1956 (82.48”)
  - November 1985 through October 1987 (85.22”)

Some Tools for Monitoring Drought

- Precipitation Totals/Anomalies
- Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI)
- Crop Moisture Index (CMI)
- Stream Flows

Standardized Precipitation Index

- The Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) is a relatively new drought index based only on precipitation.
- The SPI can be used to monitor conditions on a variety of time scales.
- Temporal flexibility allows the SPI to be useful in both short-term agricultural and long-term hydrological applications.

Standardized Precipitation Index

- Longer intervals affect groundwater, stream-flow and reservoir storage.

- Shorter intervals are helpful in estimating soil moisture, which is very important to farmers and responds fairly immediately to rainfall or the lack of it.

Standardized Precipitation Index

http://drought.unl.edu/monitor

Monitoring Drought

Because there is no single definition for drought, its onset and termination are difficult to determine. We can, however, identify various indicators of drought, and tracking these indicators provides us with a crucial means of monitoring drought. Determining which indicators to use poses more difficulties for planners: should they rely on data collected for specific parameters (such as streamflow and snowpack), or should they select one or more indices, which incorporate and weigh various types of data in various combinations? Equally important in choosing these indicators is a consideration of the type or types of water shortage facing the planner—an index or parameters well suited to agricultural concerns are of limited use to urban planners.

How to Use this Section

If you are new to the concept of monitoring drought, "Drought Indices", an NDMC white paper, will give you a good overview of the various kinds of drought indices and their uses. Two newer tools, the Standardized Precipitation Index and the Drought Monitor, are highlighted below. Use this section also to explore the many monitoring tools available on the web.

The Standardized Precipitation Index

The SPI is an index based on precipitation only. It can be used on a variety of time scales, which allows it to be useful for both short-term agricultural and long-term hydrological applications. You can download the SPI program and sample files here.

The Drought Monitor

A comprehensive drought monitoring effort between the USDA (JAWF/NRCS), NOAA/CPC (NCEP/NWS), NCDC (DOC/NOAA), and the National Drought Mitigation Center

Monitoring Drought

The Standardized Precipitation Index

Current SPI Maps

click on image for full-size map

What is Drought?

Planning for Drought

Monitoring Drought

Drought Risk and Impacts

Mitigating Drought

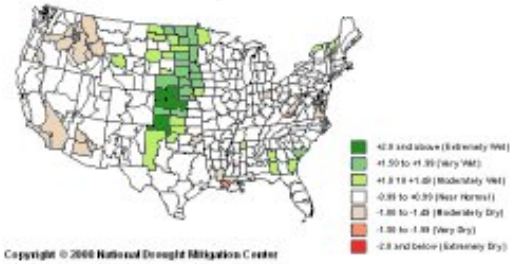
About the NDMC
Contact Information
What's New
Site Map
Search the Site
Publications
Photo Gallery

NDMC Home Page

Quick Links:

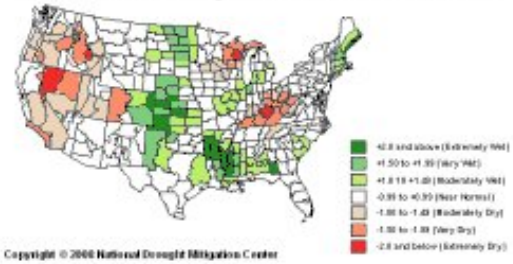
NDMC's Drought Impact Reporter
U.S. Drought Monitor
Drought for Kids
For Media
Other Drought-related Sites

1-month SPI through the end of October 2008



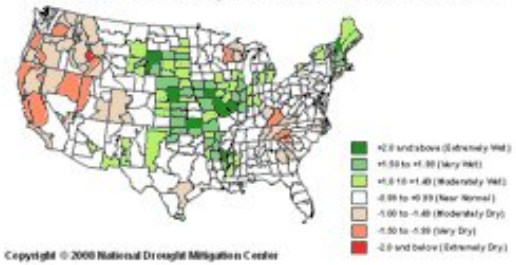
Interpretation of 1-month SPI

3-month SPI through the end of October 2008



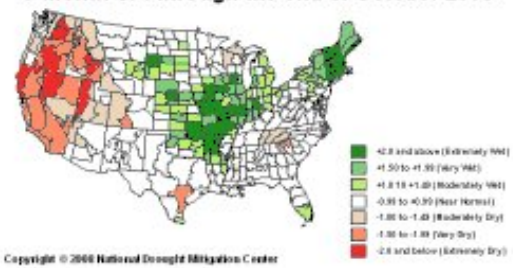
Interpretation of 3-month SPI

6-month SPI through the end of October 2008



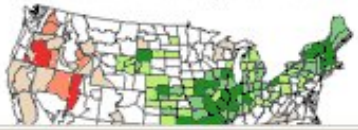
Interpretation of 6-month SPI

9-month SPI through the end of October 2008

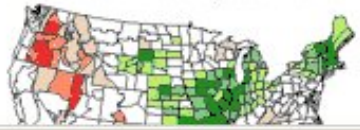


Interpretation of 9-month SPI

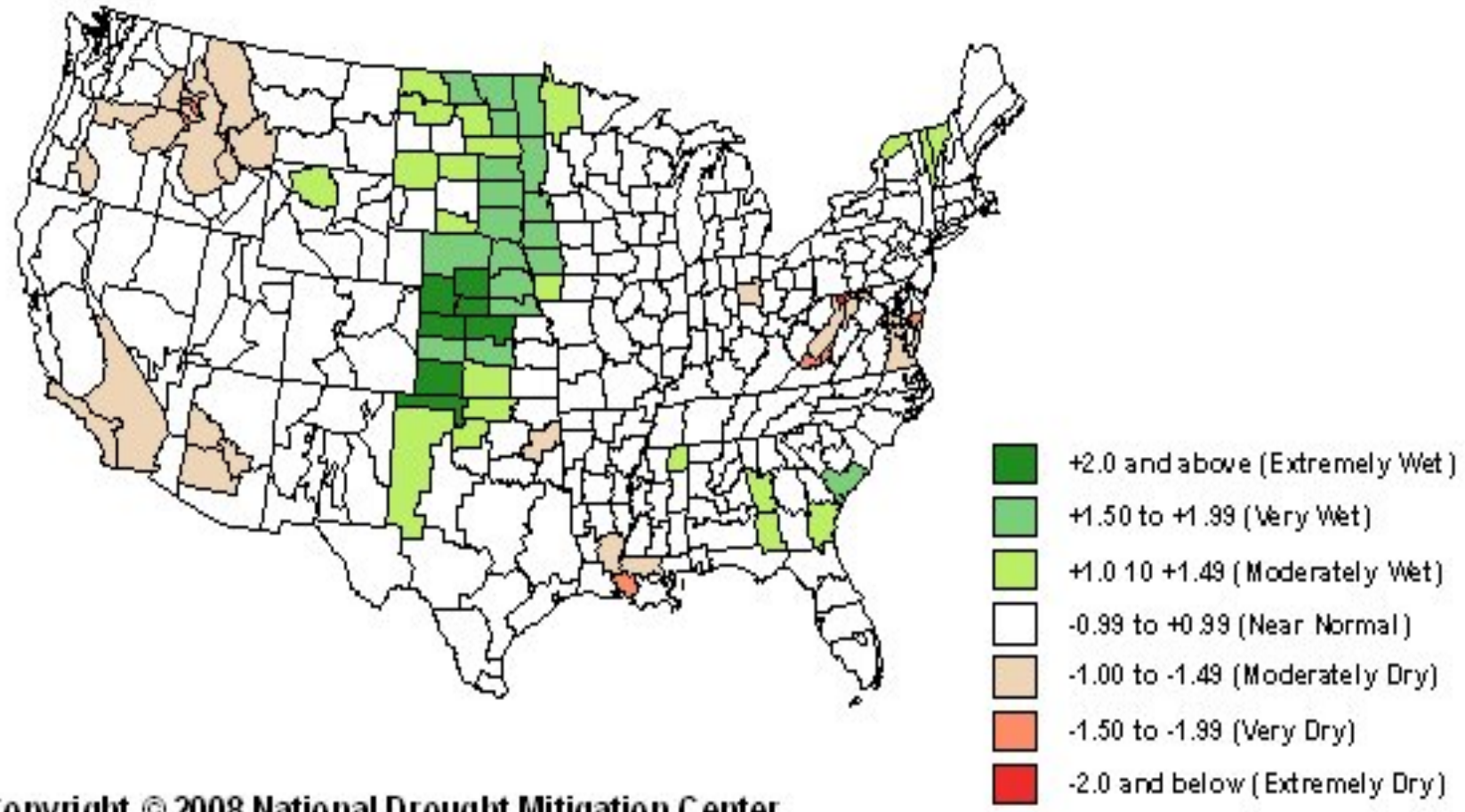
12-month SPI through the end of October 2008



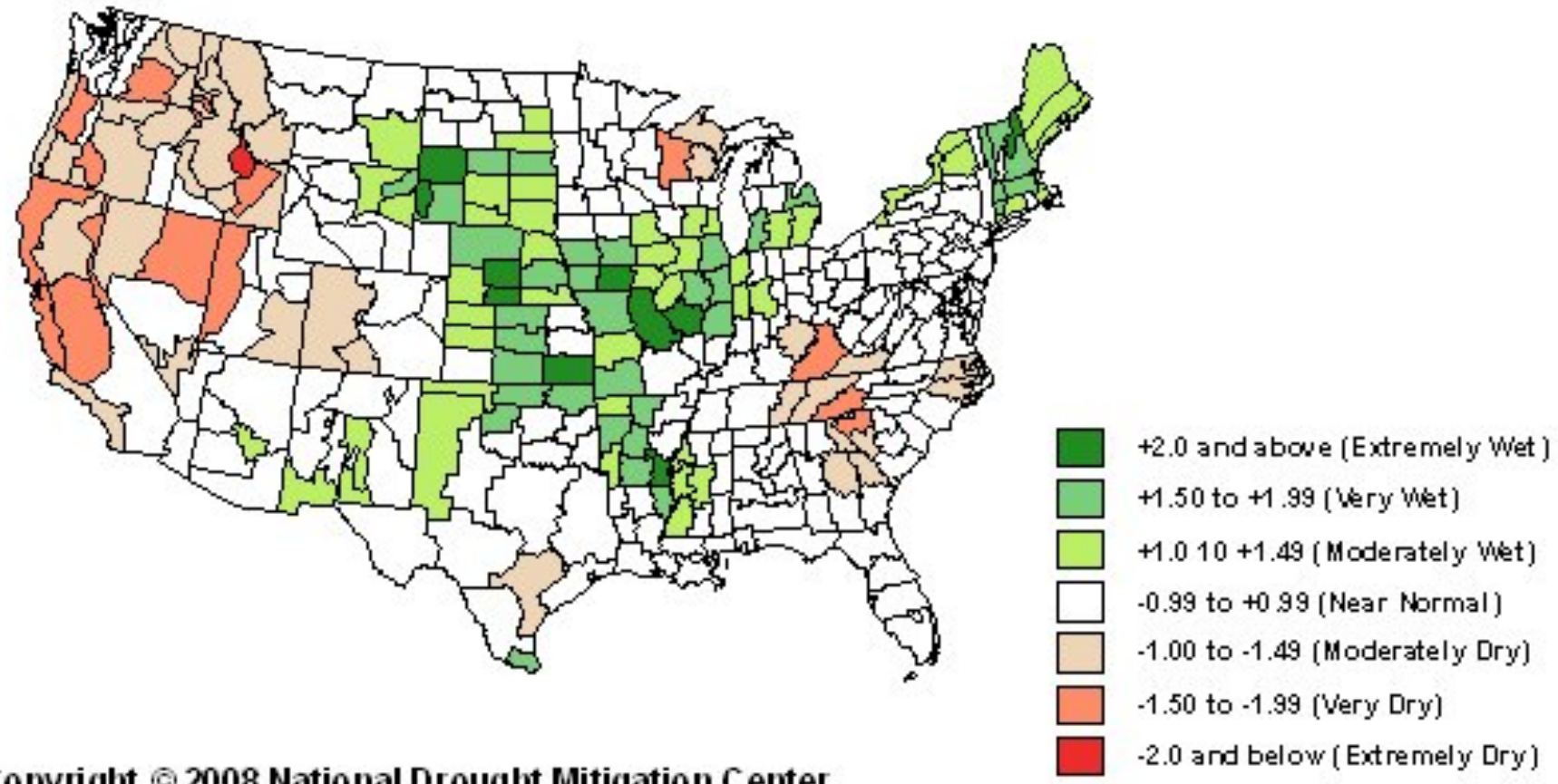
10-month SPI through the end of October 2008



1-month SPI through the end of October 2008



6-month SPI through the end of October 2008



Monitoring Drought

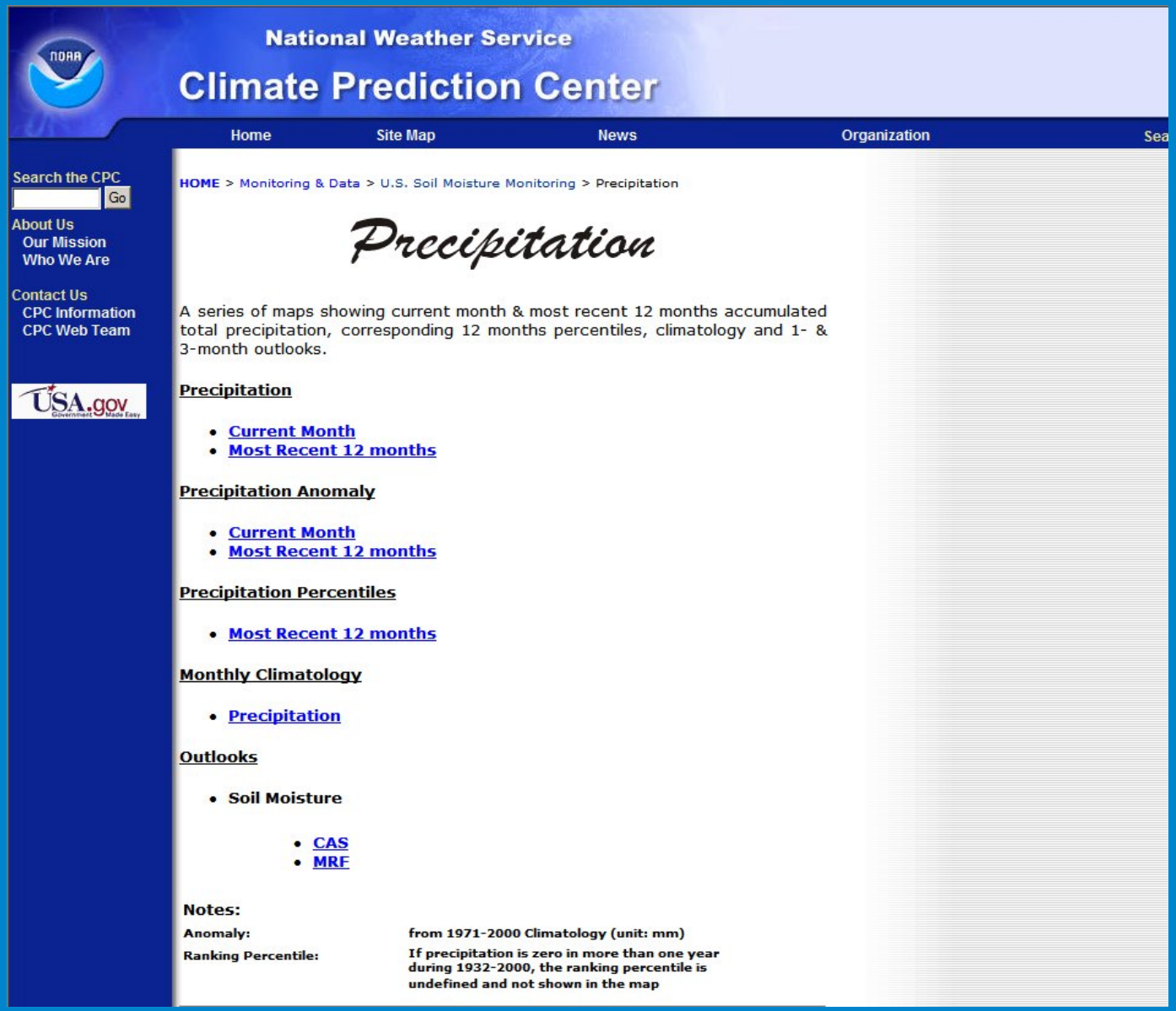
The Standardized Precipitation Index

Interpretation of a 6-month SPI

The 6-month SPI compares the precipitation for that period with the same 6-month period over the historical record. For example, a 6-month SPI at the end of September compares the precipitation total for the April–September period with all the past totals for that same period.

The 6-month SPI indicates medium-term trends in precipitation and is still considered to be more sensitive to conditions at this scale than the Palmer Index. A 6-month SPI can be very effective in showing the precipitation over distinct seasons. For example, a 6-month SPI at the end of March would give a very good indication of the amount of precipitation that has fallen in California during the very important period from October through March (see 6-month SPI for the end of March 1996). Information from a 6-month SPI may also begin to be associated with anomalous streamflows and reservoir levels.

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/soilmst/p.shtml



National Weather Service
Climate Prediction Center

Home | Site Map | News | Organization | Sea

Search the CPC
Go

About Us
Our Mission
Who We Are

Contact Us
CPC Information
CPC Web Team

USA.gov

HOME > Monitoring & Data > U.S. Soil Moisture Monitoring > Precipitation

Precipitation

A series of maps showing current month & most recent 12 months accumulated total precipitation, corresponding 12 months percentiles, climatology and 1- & 3-month outlooks.

Precipitation

- Current Month
- Most Recent 12 months

Precipitation Anomaly

- Current Month
- Most Recent 12 months

Precipitation Percentiles

- Most Recent 12 months

Monthly Climatology

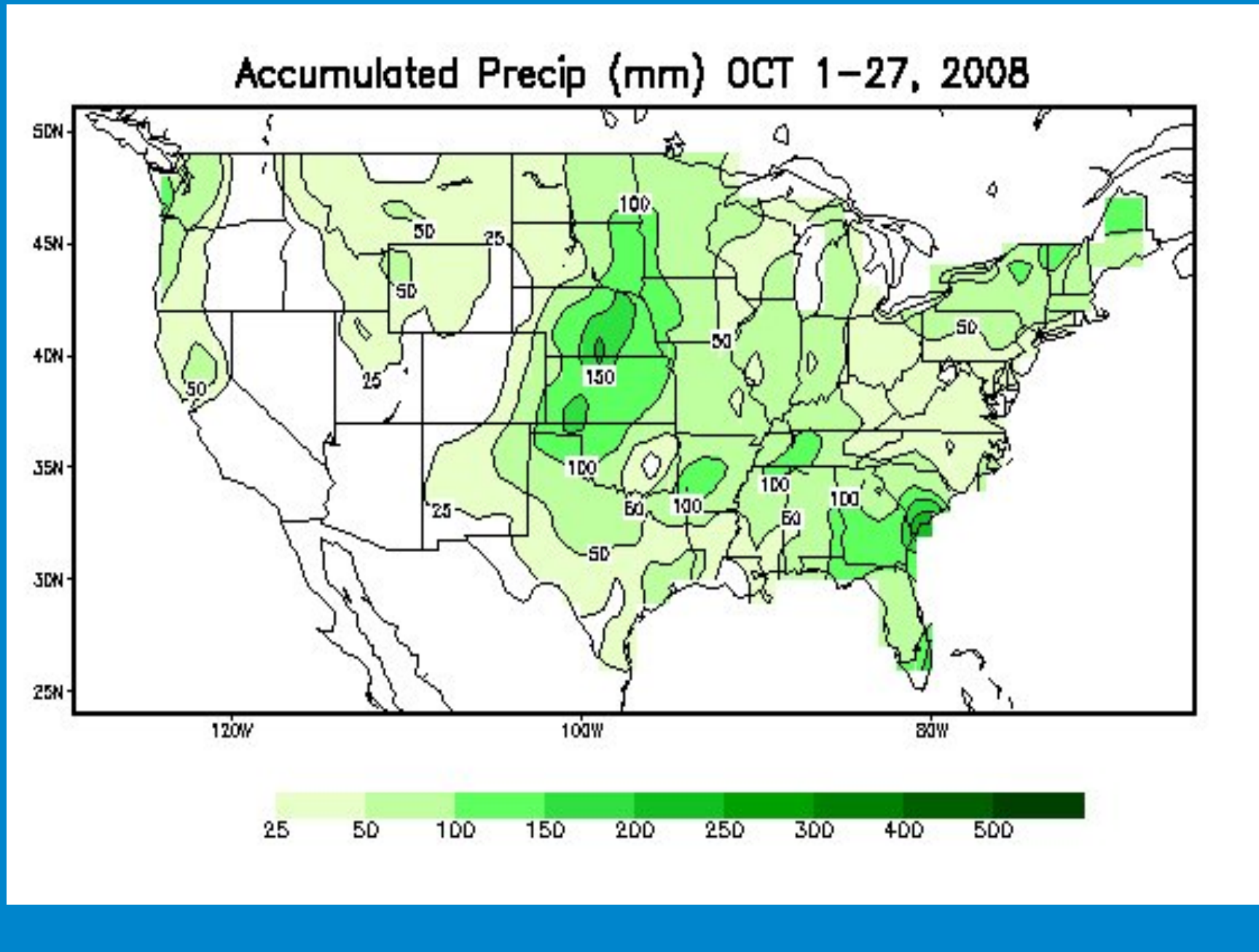
- Precipitation

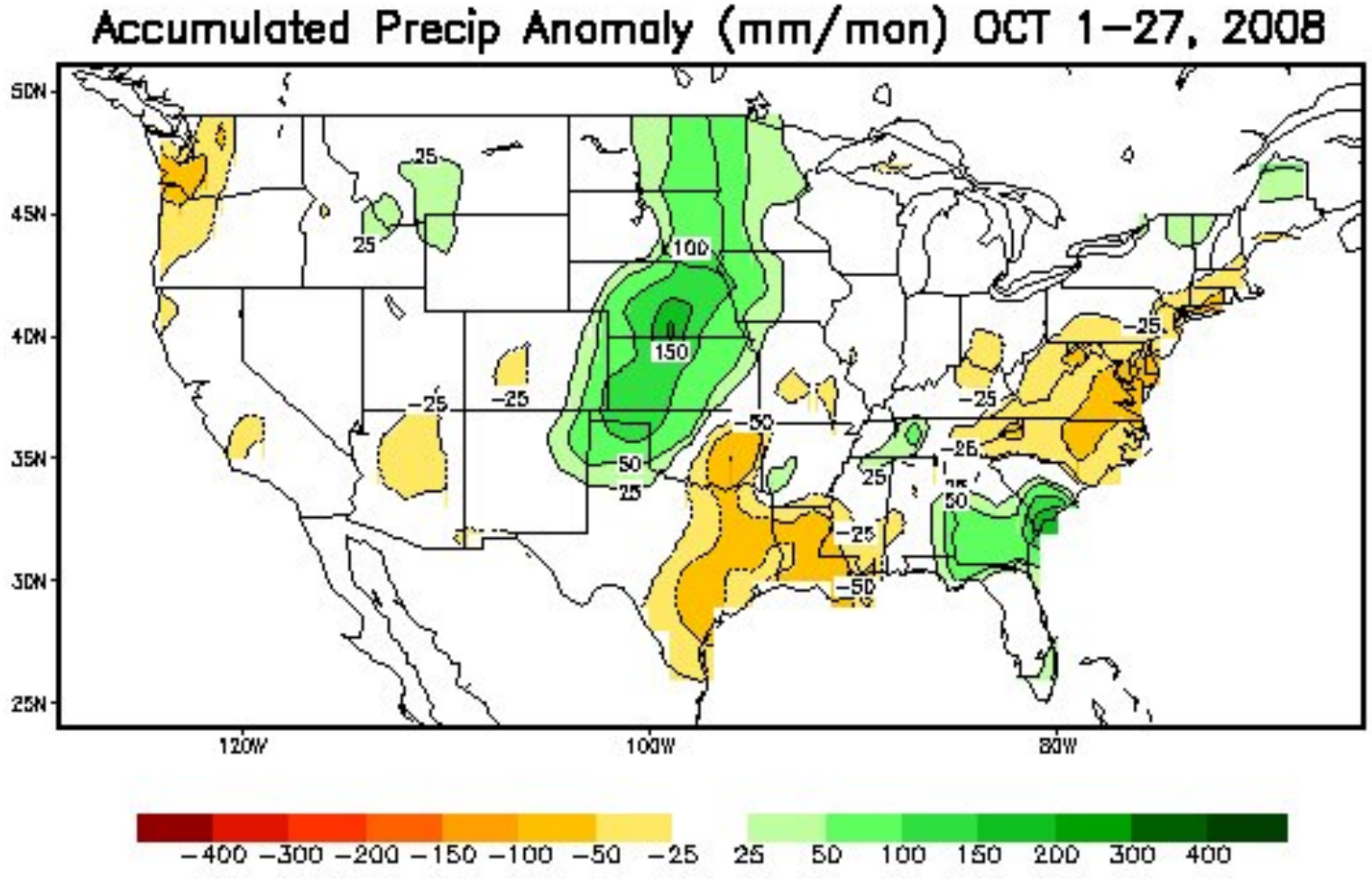
Outlooks

- Soil Moisture
  - CAS
  - MRF

Notes:

Anomaly:	from 1971-2000 Climatology (unit: mm)
Ranking Percentile:	If precipitation is zero in more than one year during 1932-2000, the ranking percentile is undefined and not shown in the map


Accumulated Precip (mm) OCT 1-27, 2008
50N
45N
40N
35N
30N
25N
120W
100W
80W
25
50
100
150
200
250
300
400
500


Accumulated Precip Anomaly (mm/mon) OCT 1-27, 2008
50N
45N
40N
35N
30N
25N
120W
100W
80W
25
25
100
150
-25
-25
-50
50
25
-25
-25
-25
25
50
-25
-50
-400 -300 -200 -150 -100 -50 -25
25 50 100 150 200 300 400

Palmer Drought Severity Index

- *Overview:* The Palmer is a soil moisture algorithm calibrated for relatively homogeneous regions.
- *Who uses it:* Many U.S. government agencies and states rely on the Palmer to trigger drought relief programs.
- *Pros:* The first comprehensive drought index developed in the United States.
- *Cons:* Palmer values may lag emerging droughts by several months; less well suited for mountainous land or areas of frequent climatic extremes.

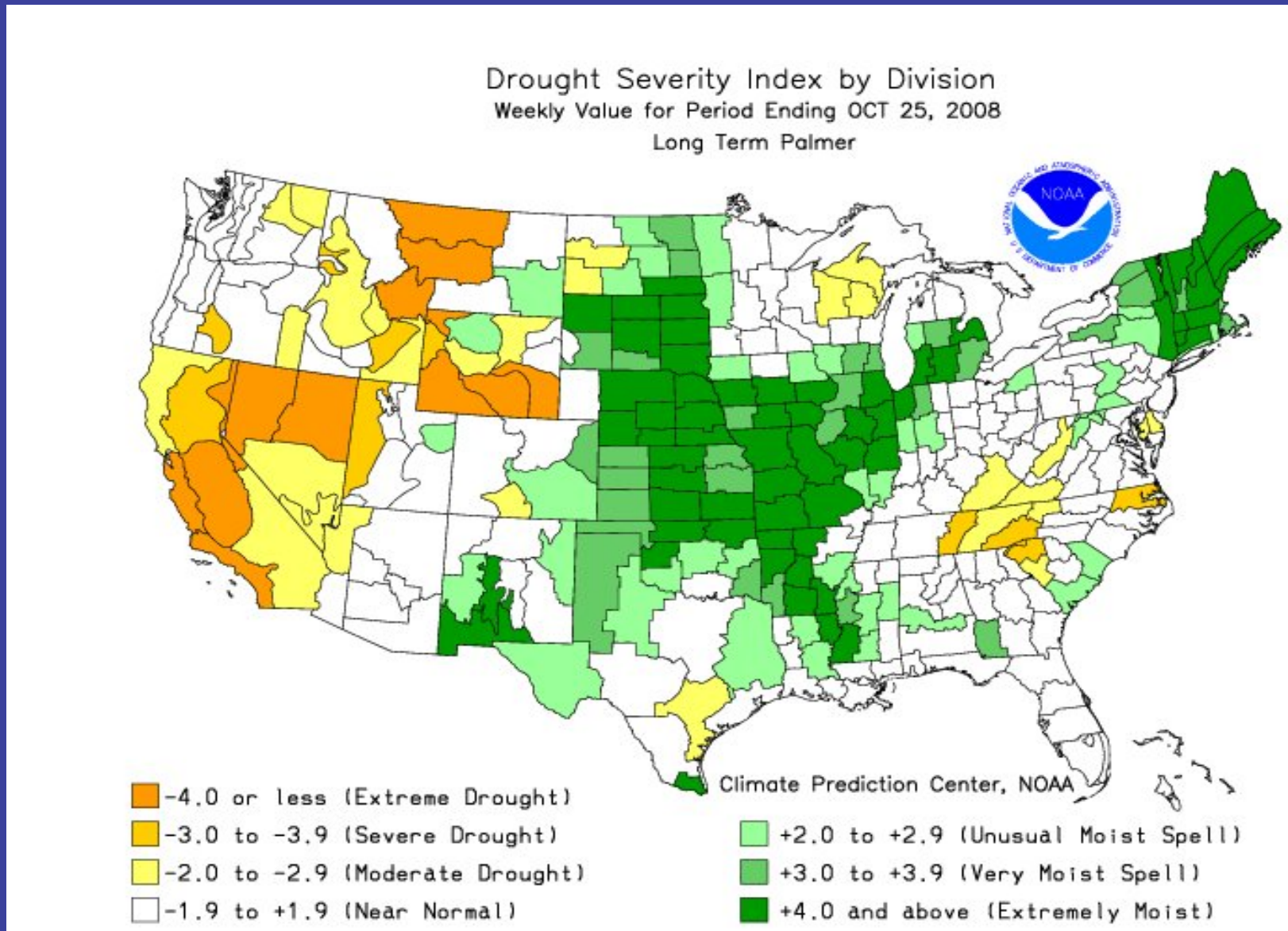
Palmer Drought Severity Index

- The PDSI is a meteorological drought index, and it responds to weather conditions that have been abnormally dry or abnormally wet.

- When conditions change from dry to normal or wet, the drought measured by the PDSI ends without taking into account stream flow, lake and reservoir levels, and other longer-term hydrologic impacts.

- The PDSI is calculated based on precipitation and temperature data, as well as the local Available Water Content (AWC) of the soil.

Palmer Classifications	
4.0 or more	extremely wet
3.0 to 3.99	very wet
2.0 to 2.99	moderately wet
1.0 to 1.99	slightly wet
0.5 to 0.99	incipient wet spell
0.49 to -0.49	near normal
-0.5 to -0.99	incipient dry spell
-1.0 to -1.99	mild drought
-2.0 to -2.99	moderate drought
-3.0 to -3.99	severe drought
-4.0 or less	extreme drought


Drought Severity Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 25, 2008
Long Term Palmer
NOAA
Climate Prediction Center, NOAA
-4.0 or less (Extreme Drought)
-3.0 to -3.9 (Severe Drought)
-2.0 to -2.9 (Moderate Drought)
-1.9 to +1.9 (Near Normal)
+2.0 to +2.9 (Unusual Moist Spell)
+3.0 to +3.9 (Very Moist Spell)
+4.0 and above (Extremely Moist)

Crop Moisture Index (CMI)

http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/products/monitoring_and_data/drought.shtml

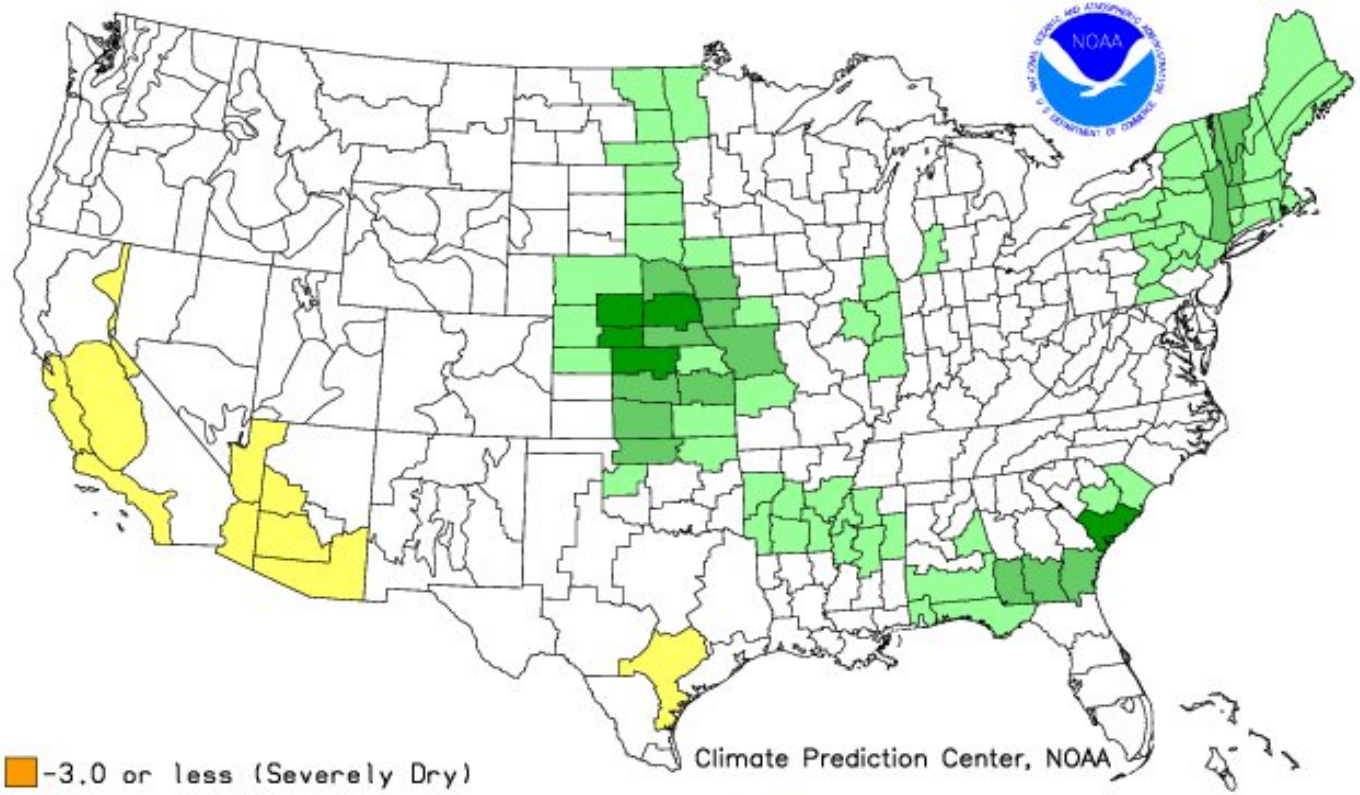
- ***Description:*** A Palmer derivative, the CMI reflects moisture supply in the short term across major crop-producing regions and is not intended to assess long-term droughts.

- ***Pros:*** Identifies potential agricultural droughts.

Crop Moisture Index by Division

Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 25, 2008

Short Term Need vs. Available Water in 5 Ft Profile



-3.0 or less (Severely Dry)

-2.0 to -2.9 (Excessively Dry)

-1.0 to -1.9 (Abnormally Dry)

-0.9 to +0.9 (Slightly Dry/Favorably Moist)

+1.0 to +1.9 (Abnormally Moist)

+2.0 to +2.9 (Wet)

+3.0 and above (Excessively Wet)

Stream Flows

http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/rt

Stream flows are sustained by ground water discharge

Long term stream flows are better indicators for long term drought than daily stream flows

Rapid return to much below normal stream flows following significant rainfall usually is a good indicator of longer term drought conditions

http://water.usgs.gov/waterwatch/?m=dryw&w=map&r=us

USGS science for a changing world

USGS Home
Contact USGS
Search USGS

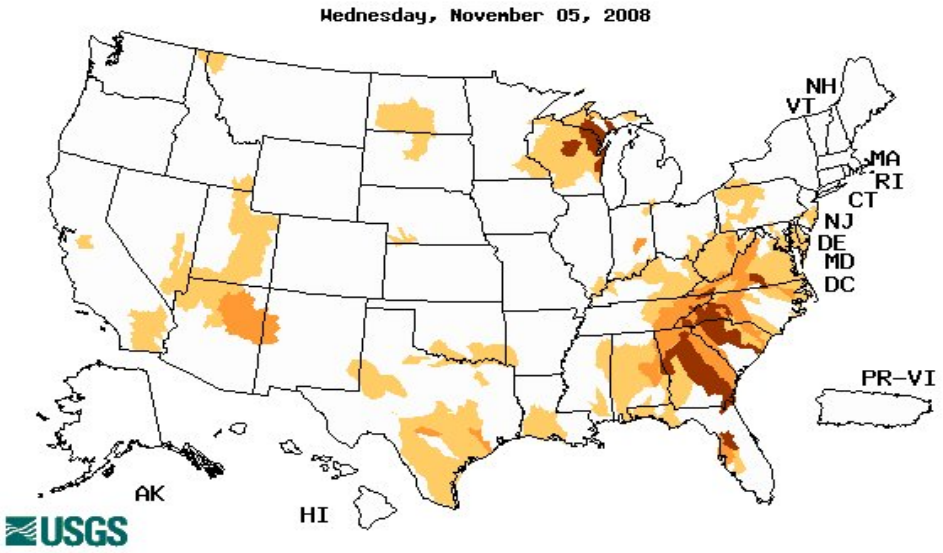
WaterWatch -- *Current Water Resources Conditions*

Current Maps/Graphs: | Flood Watch: | Drought Watch: State Drought Information | Recent/Historical Maps/Graphs: | Search WaterWat

State information | United States | *Special Features* | Contents | Additional Information

Drought Watch -- *USGS State Information on Drought*

Map of below normal 7-day average streamflow compared to historical streamflow for the day of year (United States)

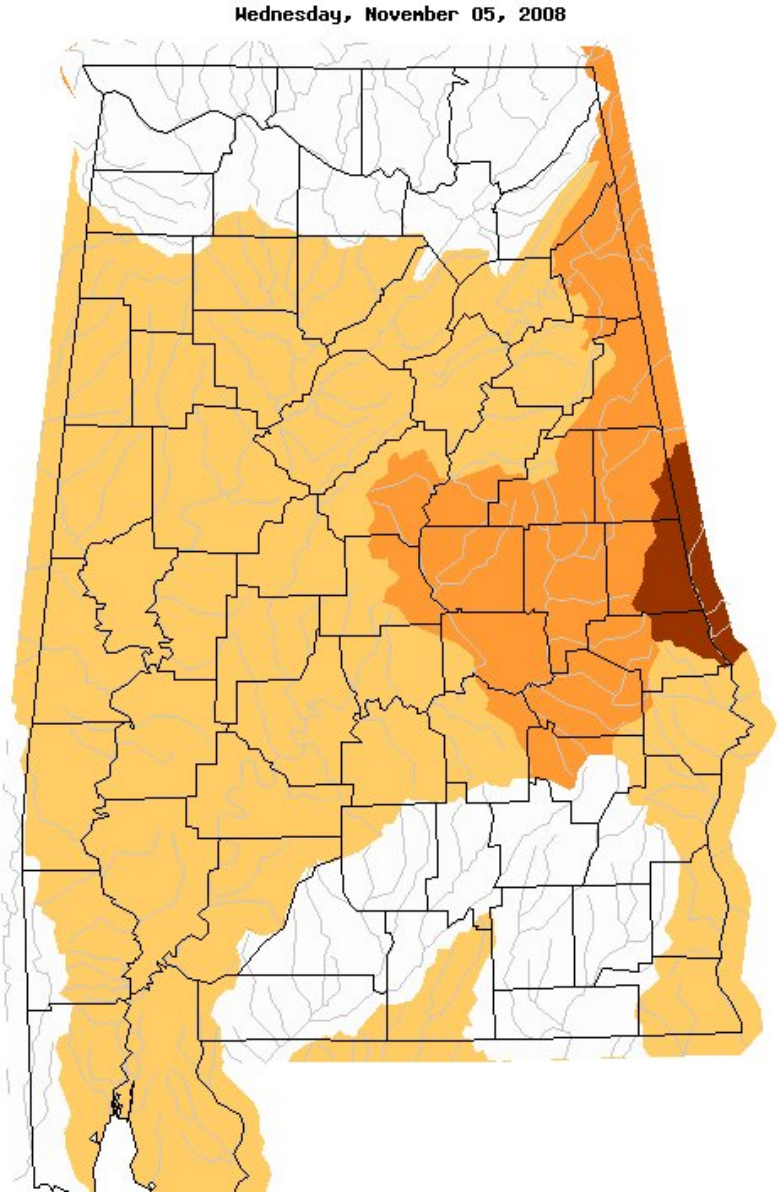


Choose a data retrieval option and select a state on the map
○ **State DroughtWatch,** ◉ **State map**

Explanation - Percentile classes				
Low	<=5	6-9	10-24	Insufficient data for a hydrologic region
Extreme hydrologic drought	Severe hydrologic drought	Moderate hydrologic drought	Below normal	

Drought Watch -- *USGS State Information on Drought*

Map of below normal 7-day average streamflow compared to historical streamflow for the day of year (Alabama)



http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/rt

USGS science for a changing world

USGS Home | Contact USGS | Search USGS

National Water Information System: Web Interface

USGS Water Resources

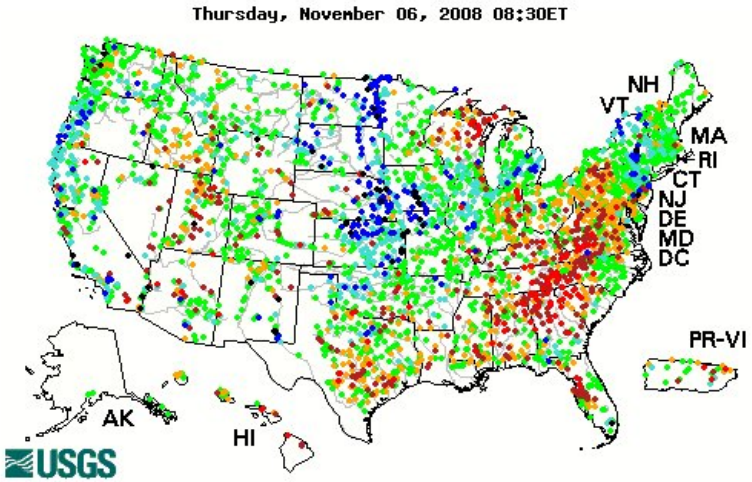
Data Category: Real-time | Geographic Area: United States | GO

News: Recent changes

USGS Real-Time Water Data for the Nation

--- Predefined displays --- : Introduction | Group table by: -- no grouping -- | Select sites by number or name: go

Daily Streamflow Conditions



Explanation

- High
- ≥ 90th percentile
- 75th - 89th percentile
- 25th - 74th percentile
- 10th - 24th percentile
- < 10th percentile

The colored dots on this map depict streamflow conditions as a percentile, which is computed from the period of record for the current day of the year. Only stations with at least 30 years of record are used.
The **gray circles** indicate other stations that were not ranked in percentiles either because they have fewer than 30 years of record or because they report

Select a state from the map to access real-time data

Real-time data typically are recorded at 15-60 minute intervals, stored onsite, and then transmitted to USGS offices every 1 to 4 hours, depending on the data relay technique used. Recording and transmission times may be more frequent during critical events. Data from real-time sites are relayed to USGS offices via satellite, telephone, and/or radio and are available for viewing within minutes of arrival.

All real-time data are **provisional and subject to revision**.

Build Table	Build a custom summary table of the most recent data for one or more sites, states, or hydrologic regions.
Build Sequence	Build a custom sequence of graphical or tabular data for one or more sites, states, or hydrologic regions.

USGS science for a changing world

USGS Home
Contact USGS
Search USGS

National Water Information System: Web Interface

USGS Water Resources

Data Category: Real-time | Geographic Area: Alabama | GO

News: Recent changes

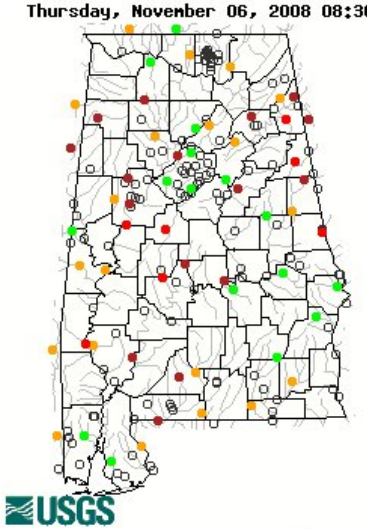
USGS Real-Time Water Data for Alabama

--- Predefined displays ---	Group table by	Select sites by number or name
Introduction	-- no grouping --	go

Daily Streamflow Conditions

Select a site to retrieve data and station information.

Thursday, November 06, 2008 08:30ET



Explanation

- High
- ≥ 90th percentile
- 75th - 89th percentile

The colored dots on this map depict streamflow conditions as a percentile, which is computed from the period of record for the current day of the year. Only stations with at least 30 years of record are used.

Statewide Streamflow Table

Real-time data typically are recorded at 15-60 minute intervals, stored onsite, and then transmitted to USGS offices every 1 to 4 hours, depending on the data relay technique used. Recording and transmission times may be more frequent during critical events. Data from real-time sites are relayed to USGS offices via satellite, telephone, and/or radio and are available for viewing within minutes of arrival.

All real-time data are **provisional and subject to revision**.

Build Table	Build a custom summary table for one or more stations.
Build Sequence	Build a custom sequence of graphical or tabular data for one or more stations.

Available Parameters	Output format	Days
☐ All 3 Available Parameters for this site	◉ Graph	7 (1-60) GO
☑ 00060 Discharge	○ Graph w/ stats	
☑ 00065 Gage height	○ Graph w/o stats	
☑ 00045 Precipitation	○ Table	
	○ Tab-separated	

[Summary of all available data for this site]

Discharge, cubic feet per second

Most recent instantaneous value: 3.3 11-06-2008 07:30

Create presentation-quality graph

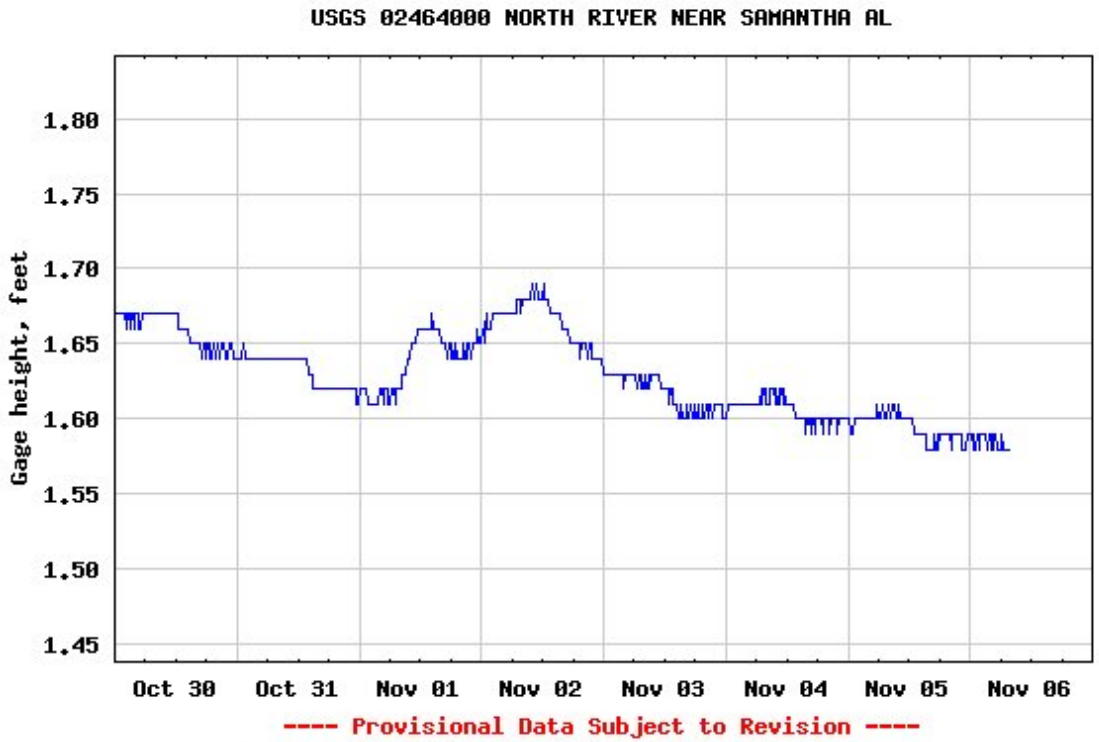
Parameter 00060; DD 02

Daily discharge statistics, in cfs, for Nov 6 based on 54 years of record more

Min (2001)	Most Recent Instantaneous Value	20th percen-tile	Median	80th percen-tile	Mean	Max (2003)
2.5	3.3	14	35	124	134	2840

Gage height, feet

Most recent instantaneous value: 1.58 11-06-2008 07:30

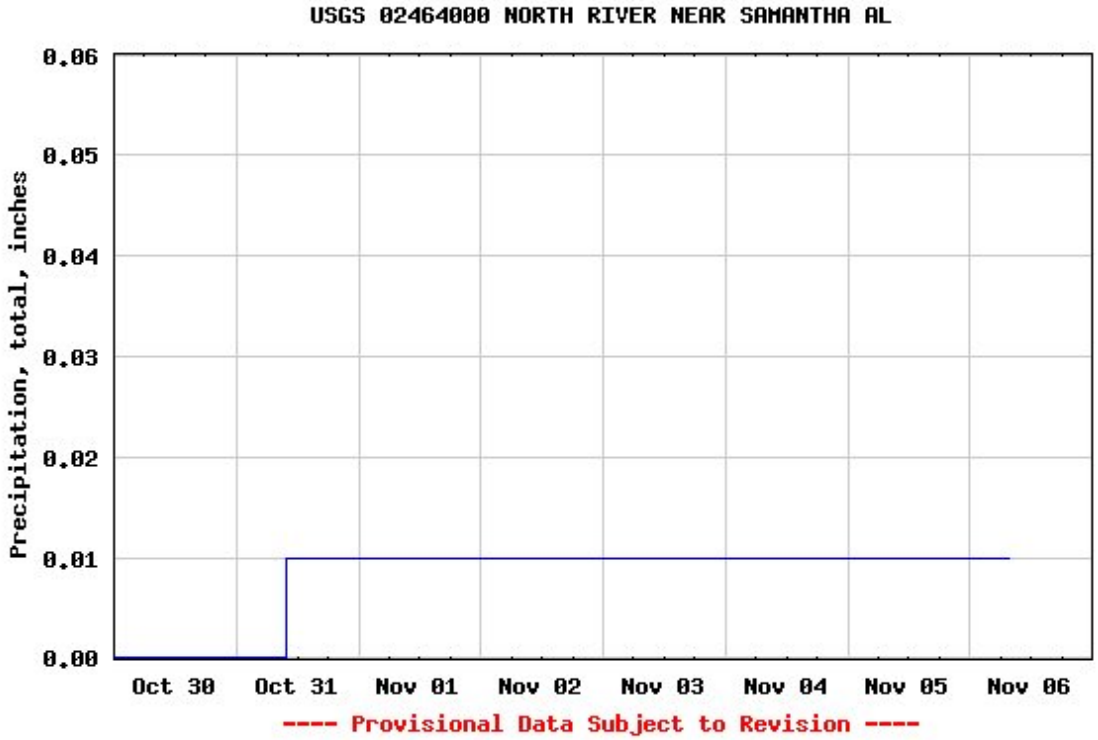


Create presentation-quality graph

Parameter 00065; DD 03

Precipitation, total, inches

Most recent instantaneous value: 0.00 11-06-2008 07:30



Create presentation-quality graph

Parameter 00045; DD 09

Additional Drought Information Sources

- **National Integrated Drought Information System**

  http://www.drought.gov/

- **NASS – National Agricultural Statistics Service**

  http://www.nass.usda.gov/

National Integrated Drought Information System

drought.gov

Portal Home | Log In | Contact Us | Text-Only

Search:

Navigate drought.gov

- What is NIDIS?
- Current Drought
- Forecasting
- Impacts
- Planning
- Education
- Research

Area Information

Select State... Go

Select Region... Go

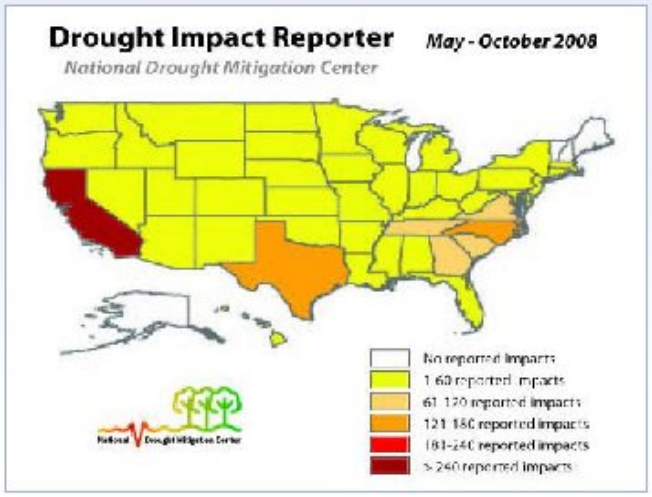
Maps & Tools

- GIS Resources
- Map Viewer - **new!**
- Geodata Portal - **new!**

USA.gov

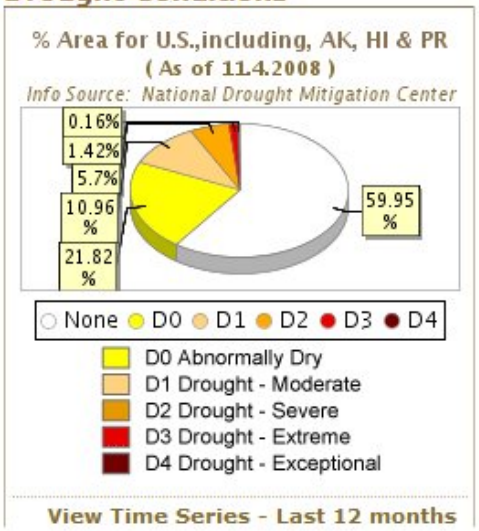
Welcome to drought.gov!

Where are Drought Conditions Now? | How is the Drought Affecting Me? | Will the Drought Continue?



NIDIS Feature

Drought Conditions



View Time Series - Last 12 months

Events & Announcements

- Colorado River Pilot Scoping Workshop
- Status of Drought Early Warning Workshop - June 2008
- Wildfire: North American Seasonal Assessment Workshop Report
- Southeast Drought Workshop
- Remote Sensing Workshop

Portal Release Notes

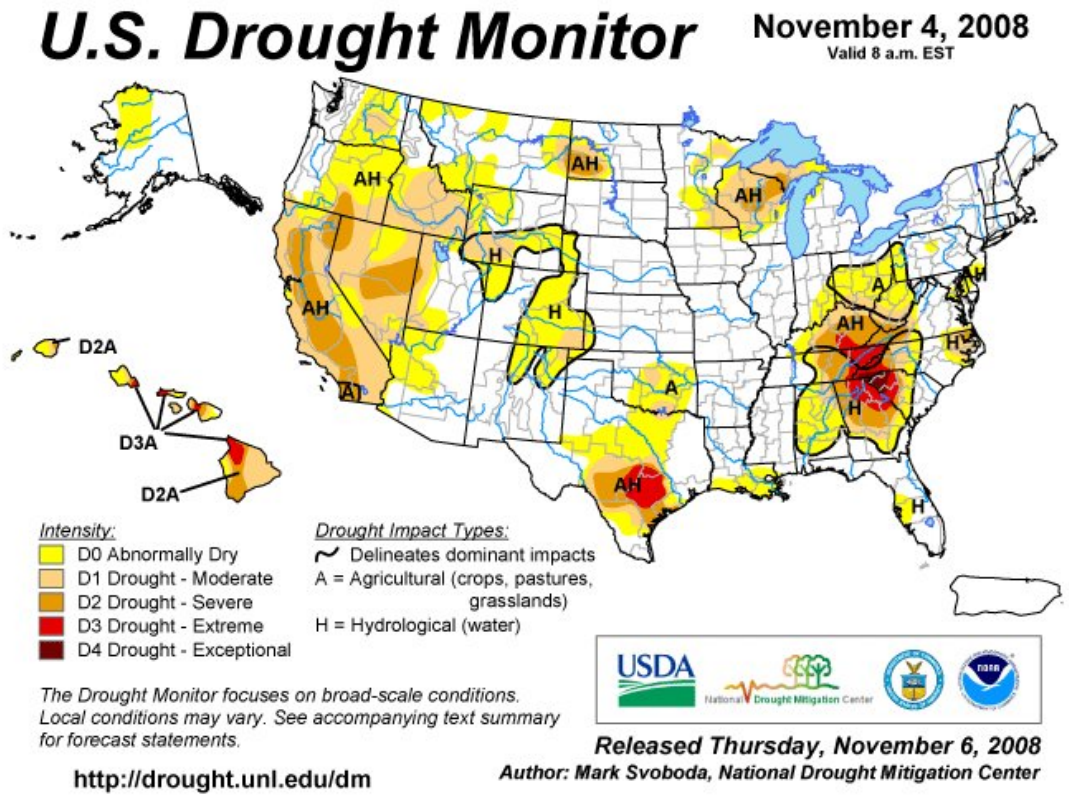
Drought In The News

- Calif. to cut water deliveries to cities, farms
- Central Texas still in grips of drought
- Deeper drought may mean record low |

Visit the NDMC Photo Gallery to see photos of drought conditions in California, Georgia, South Carolina, and other states. If you have photos showing drought conditions, please consider submitting them to the Photo Gallery.

The data cutoff for Drought Monitor maps is Tuesday at 7 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. The maps, which are based on analysis of the data, are released each Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

NOTE: To view regional drought conditions, click on map below. State maps can be accessed from regional maps.



To compare current drought conditions with last week's map, click here.

To view tabular statistics of this week's Drought Monitor, click here.

To view tabular statistics for the Drought Monitor archive, click here.

To view Drought Monitor Change Maps, click here.

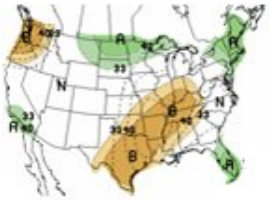
NDMC's Drought Impact Reporter	6-week animation	12-week animation	short-term drought indicator blends	long-term drought indicator blends

Navigate drought.gov
- What is NIDIS?
- Current Drought
- Forecasting
  - Forecasting Home
  - Temperature and Precipitation
  - Soil Moisture
  - Hydrology
  - Wildfire
  - Improved Drought Prediction
- Impacts
- Planning
- Education
- Research

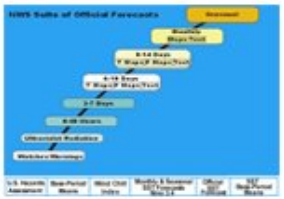
USA.gov

Seasonal Temperature and Precipitation

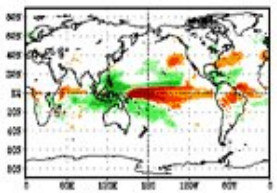
The Climate Prediction Center's (CPC) Seasonal Drought Outlook is issued twice a month. The Outlook predicts whether drought will emerge, stay the same or get better in the next three months.



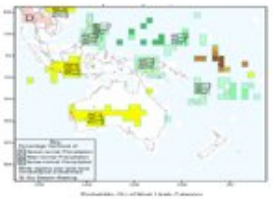
CPC offers many other predictions on its homepage, including whether precipitation and temperature are likely to be above or below normal. Forecasts show numerous intervals up to 15 months into the future.



A graphical interface for the CPC temperature and precipitation outlooks is also available.



CPC's official seasonal outlooks incorporate a set of dynamic models showing monthly and seasonal outlooks for temperature, precipitation, atmospheric circulation, and sea surface temperatures, including El Niño/La Niña status. Outlooks up to six months are available.



The International Research Institute for Climate and Society at Columbia University offers Seasonal Climate Forecasts for Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, the Middle East, the Pacific Islands, South America, and the entire globe.

Search the CPC
Go

Outlooks
Discussion
Archive
U.S. Monthly Temp. & Prec.
U.S. Seasonal Temp. & Prec.
Verification

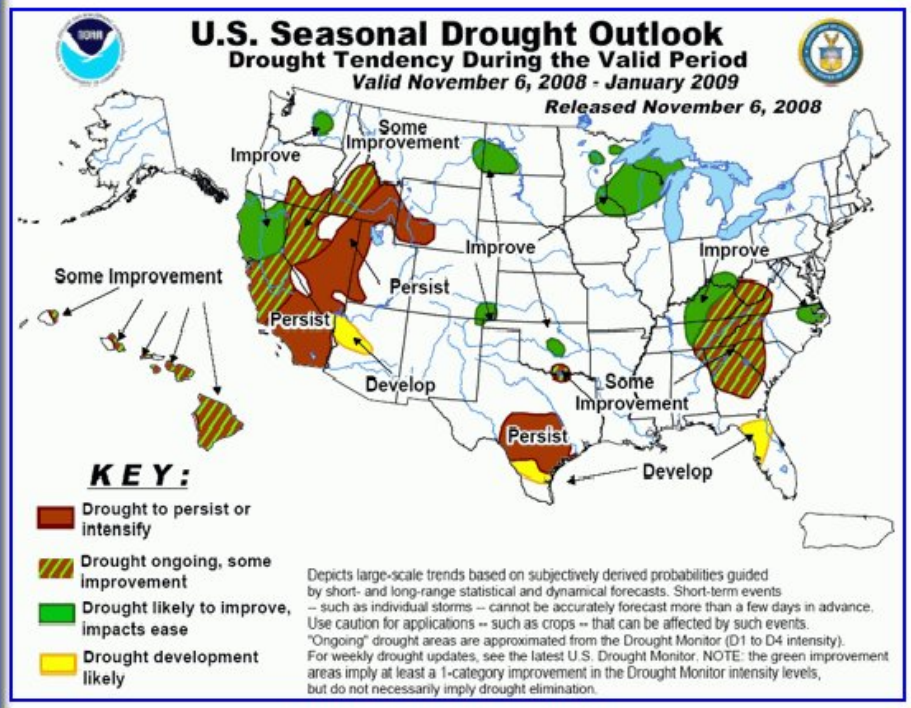
Monitoring and Data
U.S. Weekly Drought Monitor
Drought
Soil Moisture

About Us
Our Mission
Who We Are

Contact Us
CPC Information
CPC Web Team

USA.gov Government Made Easy

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook



(Click on image to enlarge)

PDF Version of Seasonal Drought Outlook Graphic

Latest Seasonal Assessment - During the next few months, northern portions of the country are more likely to experience significant drought relief compared to southern portions of the country. In the West, improvement continues to be indicated for northern California, even though in the short-term Pacific storms are likely to be steered into Washington and Oregon. Drought is forecast to develop

National Weather Service

Climate Prediction Center

Home | Site Map | News | Organization | Enter Search Term(s):

Search the CPC [Go]

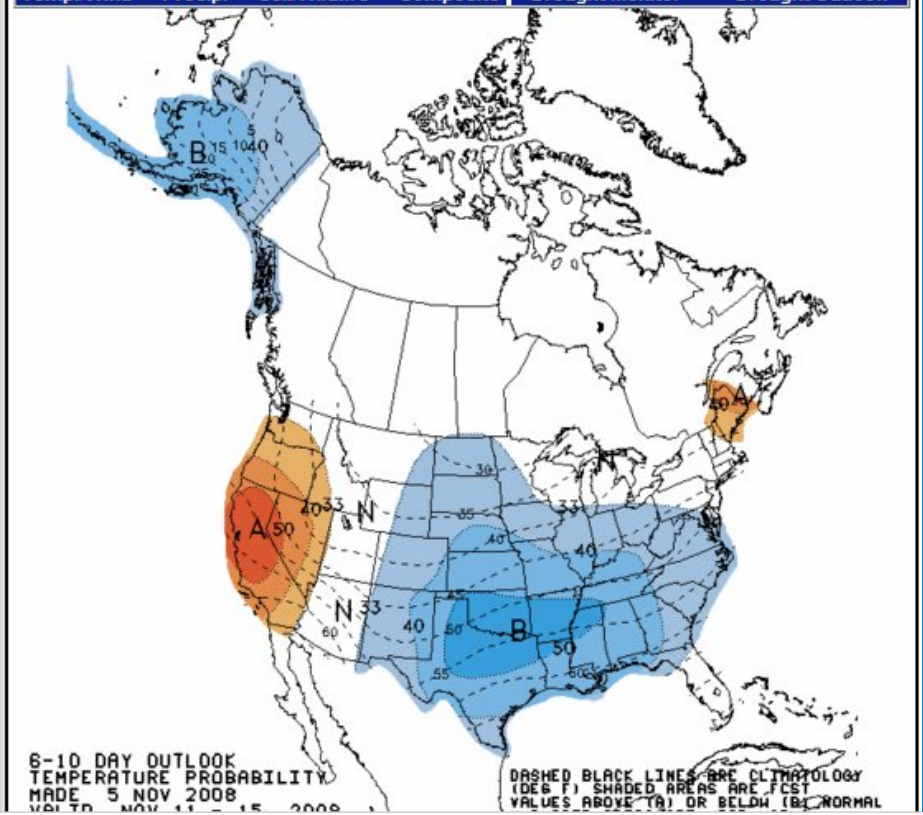
- Climate Highlights
  - U.S. Hazards Assessment
  - Drought Assessment
  - ENSO Diagnostic Discussion
  - Popular Products
  - More Highlights
- Climate-Weather
  - El Niño/La Niña
  - MJO
  - Blocking
  - AAO, AO, NAO, PNA
  - Storm Tracks
  - Climatology
  - Global Monsoons
- Expert Assessments
  - Index
  - Products
- Outlooks (Forecasts)
  - Index
  - Products
- Monitoring and Data
  - Index
  - Products
- Crosscutting Themes
  - Stratosphere
  - Pacific Islands
  - Africa
- Partnerships
  - Climate Test Bed
  - NOAA
  - Interagency
  - JAWF
  - USAID FEWS-NET
  - Others
- Outreach
  - Educational
  - Climate Glossary
  - Meetings
  - CPC Seminars
  - Publications

Top News of the Day

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Update

Click on product title to go to product page. Move cursor over product parameter name to display the graphic -- click to enlarge. Links to these same products are also available below.

6-10 Day Outlook		One Month Outlook	
Temperature	Precipitation	Temperature	Precipitation
8-14 Day Outlook		**Three Month Outlook**	
Temperature	Precipitation	Temperature	Precipitation
U.S. Hazards Assessment			**U.S. Drought Assessment**
Temp./Wind	Precip.	Soil/Wildfire	Composite	Drought Monitor	Drought Outlook



Navigate drought.gov
- What is NIDIS?
- Current Drought
- Forecasting
  - Forecasting Home
  - Temperature and Precipitation
  - Soil Moisture
  - Hydrology
  - Wildfire
  - Improved Drought Prediction
- Impacts
- Planning
- Education
- Research

USA.gov

Soil Moisture

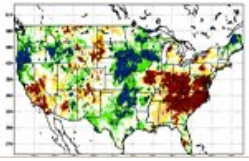
The Climate Prediction Center has an experimental Palmer Drought Severity Index forecast. The one-week outlook is presented as a map. A four-month outlook is available as tabular data for each climate division. The Palmer index assesses total moisture by using temperature and precipitation to compute water supply and demand and soil moisture. It is considered most relevant for non-irrigated cropland and primarily reflects long-term drought.

The Palmer drought model features the capability to compute the amount of precipitation that would be required to end a drought or reduce (ameliorate) a drought's severity. Maps of the precipitation needed, and the probability of receiving it based on historical records, are available from the National Climatic Data Center.

One- and two-week forecasts of soil moisture anomalies, (that is, the difference between seasonal normal and current), based on the Global Forecast System (GFS) model are available. The monthly and seasonal forecasts of soil moisture anomalies produced by the Constructed Analog on Soil Moisture (CAS) model are also available.

The Experimental Surface Water Monitor, from the University of Washington, provides analyses of soil moisture, snow water equivalent and other water-related variables.

Experimental Soil Moisture Forecasts, up to six months, are available at Princeton University's Drought Monitoring and Forecasting project web site. These forecasts are based on a statistical design called the Extended Stream-flow Prediction (ESP) and a dynamic seasonal model called the Climate Forecast System (CFS).



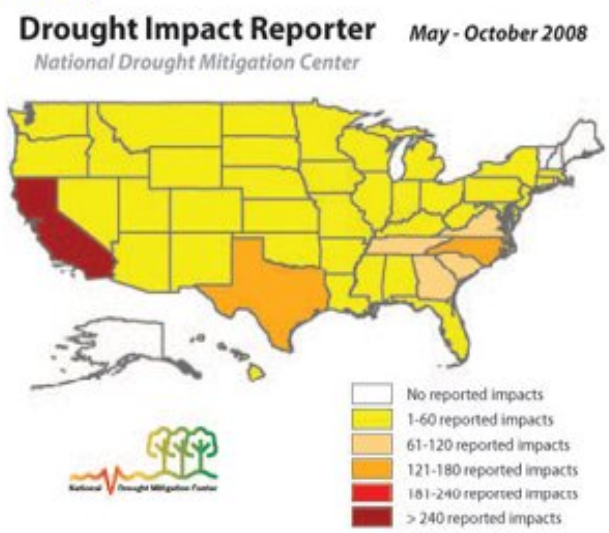
NOAA and NASA are collaborating on the Land Data Assimilation Systems (LDAS) experimental drought monitor to provide soil-moisture maps derived from near real-time estimates.

Navigate drought.gov
- What is NIDIS?
- Current Drought
- Forecasting
- Impacts
  - Impacts Home
  - Current Drought Impacts
  - Tracking Agricultural Impacts
  - Hydrological Impacts
  - State and Local Impacts
  - Agricultural Reports
  - NDMC Drought Photo Gallery
- Planning
- Education
- Research

USA.gov

Current Drought Impacts

Go to Site

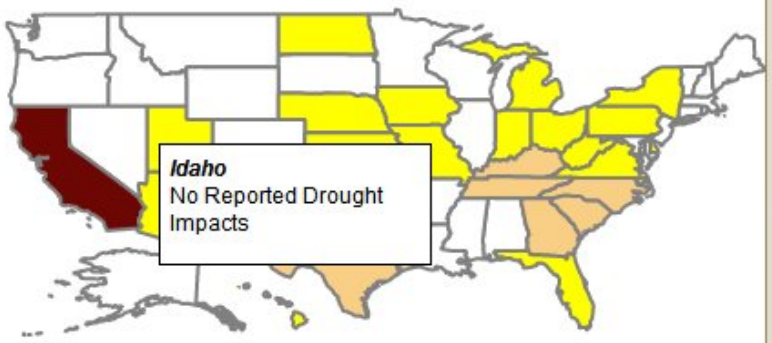


The Drought Impact Reporter maps the effects of drought, based on reports from media, observers and other sources. It is searchable by state and county, by category of impact, and by time period. Clicking on a state produces a pop-up summary of reported impact types. Clicking on a county (and then scrolling down) yields detail about individual impacts, in many cases linked to the original reports. Users who click down to the county level will find a wealth of stories about drought's effects in specific places and times. The Drought Impact Reporter also allows people to enter first-hand reports about drought impacts.

Drought Impact Reporter

National Drought Mitigation Center

View Drought Impacts | Add A Drought Impact | Time-Lapse Animation | About | Help | User Login



Map Options

Impact Categories:

- ☑ Agriculture
- ☑ Fire
- ☑ Water/Energy
- ☑ Social
- ☑ Environment
- ☑ Other

Source: All Sources

Time Period: Last Month

Submit

Show Drought Monitor Layers

Legend

- No reported impacts
- 1 - 7 reported impacts
- 8 - 13 reported impacts
- 14 - 19 reported impacts
- 20 - 25 reported impacts
- 26 - 32 reported impacts

Instructions: Click on a state to see the reported drought impacts that affect that state.

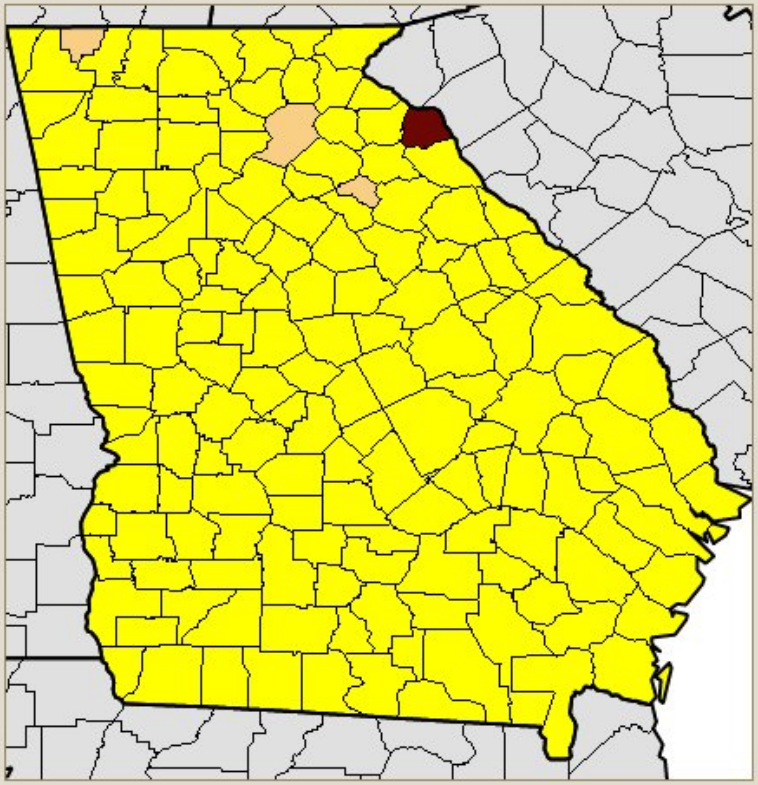
created by GIS Workshop

University of Nebraska Lincoln

Drought Impact Reporter

National Drought Mitigation Center

View Drought Impacts | Add A Drought Impact | Time-Lapse Animation | About | Help | User Login



Map Options

Impact Categories:

- ☑ Agriculture
- ☑ Fire
- ☑ Water/Energy
- ☑ Social
- ☑ Environment
- ☑ Other

Source: All Sources

Time Period: Last Month

Submit

Show Drought Monitor Layers

Legend

- No reported impacts
- 1 - 2 reported impacts
- 3 reported impacts
- 4 reported impacts
- 5 reported impacts
- 6 - 7 reported impacts

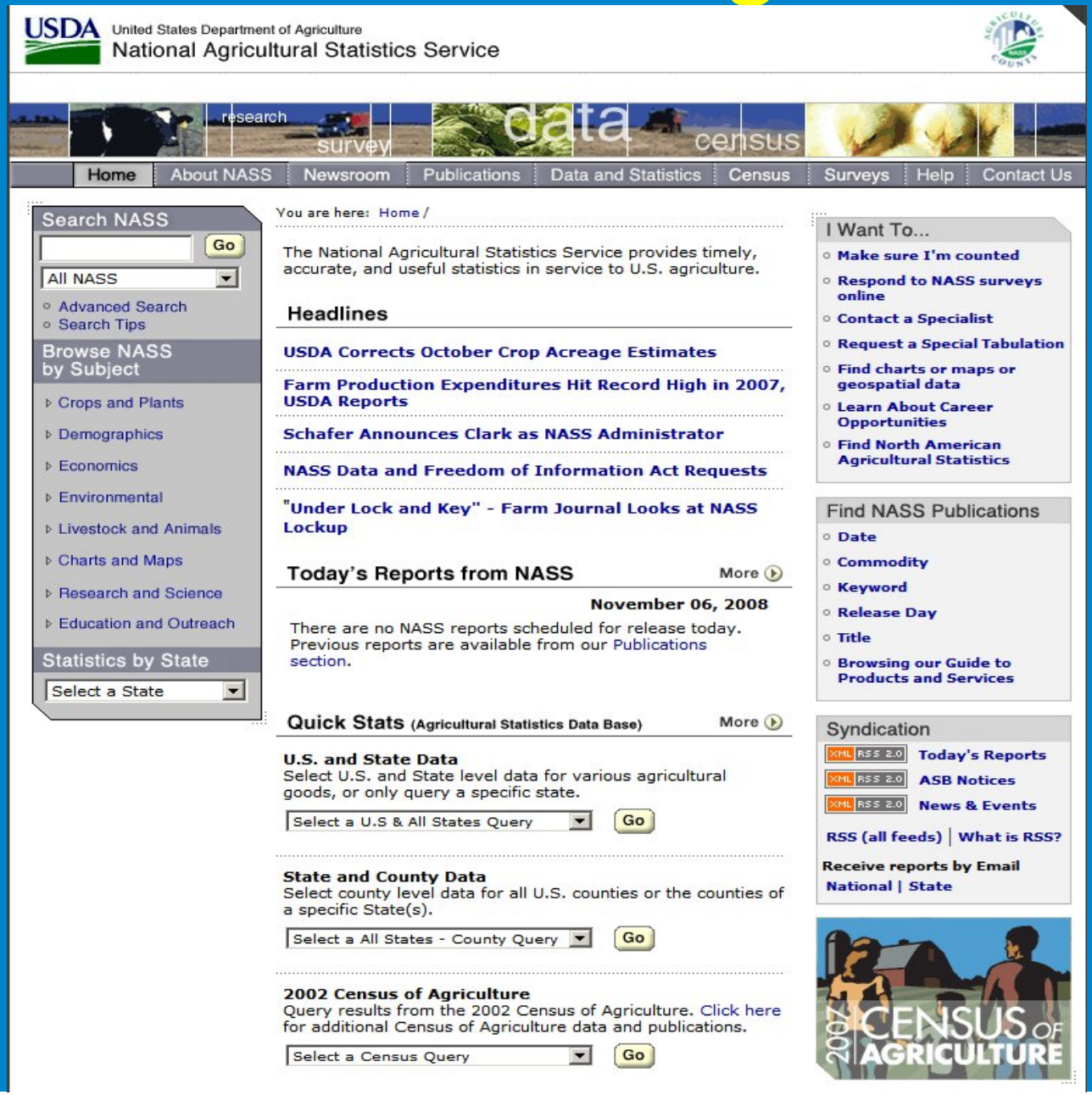
Zoom To Entire U.S.

Instructions: Click on a county to list the reported drought impacts that affect it.

created by GIS Workshop

University of Nebraska Lincoln

NASS Web Page



USDA United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

The 2002 Census of Agriculture is the most comprehensive source of statistics portraying our nations agriculture

Home | About NASS | Newsroom | Publications | Data and Statistics | Census | Surveys | Help | Contact Us

Search NASS

Go

All NASS

- Advanced Search
- Search Tips

Browse NASS by Subject

- Crops and Plants
- Demographics
- Economics
- Environmental
- Livestock and Animals
- Charts and Maps
- Research and Science
- Education and Outreach

Statistics by State

Select a State

You are here: Home / Statistics by State / Alabama

Alabama office of USDA's NASS

USDA's NASS Alabama Field Office is operated in cooperation with the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries.

Alabama Statistics

Quick Stats (ag statistics by state and county)
Provides the most up-to-date statistics including all revisions.

AL State Level Data Go | AL County Level Data Go

- County Estimates
- Alabama Agricultural Overview
- Census of Agriculture for Alabama
- Interactive Statistical Map of Alabama

Alabama Publications

More

Publications and News Releases Go

For questions, comments and concerns, please email nass-al@nass.usda.gov or call (334) 279-3555.

I Want To...

- **Search for Alabama Data and Statistics**
- **Contact the Alabama Field Office**
- **Subscribe to AL reports**
- **Make sure I'm counted**
- **Learn About the Alabama Field Office**

More State Features

- **Weekly Crop Progress & Condition**
- **Current Agricultural Statistics**
- **Alabama charts or maps**
- **Other Alabama Links**
- **Down on the Farm Kids Site**

Search NASS
Go
All NASS
- Advanced Search
- Search Tips

Browse NASS by Subject
- Crops and Plants
- Demographics
- Economics
- Environmental
- Livestock and Animals
- Charts and Maps
- Research and Science
- Education and Outreach

Statistics by State
Select a State

You are here: Home / Statistics by State / Alabama / Publications / Crop Progress & Condition

Alabama office of USDA's NASS

Crop Progress and Condition

NOTE: These documents are in Adobe Acrobat's Portable Document Format (PDF). If you need the Acrobat Reader, it is available for free from the Adobe web site.

Current Report

The weekly ***Crop Progress & Condition Report*** includes degree days, temperature, precipitation, crop planting progress, crop development and harvesting progress. This report is issued weekly.

2008					
	Release Date				
April	7	14	21	28	
May	5	12	19	27	
June	2	9	16	23	30
July	7	14	21	28	
August	4	11	18	25	
September	2	8	15	22	29
October	6	14	20	27	
November	3	10	17	24	

Also See

Alabama's Precipitation Since January 2008

2007					
	Release Date				
April	2	9	16	23	30
May	7	14	21	29	

I Want To...
- Search for Alabama Data and Statistics
- Contact the Alabama Field Office
- Subscribe to AL reports
- Make sure I'm counted
- Learn About the Alabama Field Office

More State Features
- Weekly Crop Progress & Condition
- Current Agricultural Statistics
- Alabama charts or maps
- Other Alabama Links
- Down on the Farm Kids Site

Tripartite site for North American Agricultural Statistics

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!

BILL WEAVER, DIRECTOR
USDA/NASS ALABAMA FIELD OFFICE

RON SPARKS, COMMISSIONER
ALABAMA DEPT. OF AG. AND INDUSTRIES

PO Box 240578, Montgomery, AL 36124-0578 ● 1 (800) 832-4181 ● RELEASED: November 3, 2008 - 3:00 P.M.
Visit our website at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/al ***Issue 31***
Julie Schmidt, Ag. Statistician

Advantageous Conditions Allow Surge in Harvest Progress

Data tables reflect the week ending: November 2, 2008.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	5-Yr Avg
	Percent			
Cotton Bolls Opening	100	99	100	99
Cotton Harvested	73	57	77	68
Peanuts Dug	91	76	77	87
Peanuts Combined	80	61	65	78
Soybeans Harvested	65	58	70	65
Winter Wheat Planted	12	5	na	na

na = not available

CROP/LVSTK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
			Percent		
Cotton	2	10	37	44	7
Livestock	0	11	41	45	3
Pasture & Range	4	18	40	33	5

Crop	Short	Adequate	Surplus

below normal during the past week. Daytime highs ranged from 67 degrees in Bridgeport to 79 degrees in Livingston and Mobile. Overnight lows varied between a freezing 23 degrees in Hamilton and 34 degrees in Bay Minette. There was no rainfall recorded at any official weather station.

Small Grains: More small grain acreage was seeded across the state during the past week, with large increases to come following the harvest of the remaining row crop acreages. Small grain crops that had already emerged were in good condition as a result of the timely rainfall of the previous two weeks.

Cotton/Peanuts/Soybeans: Crop harvest progressed well. Donald E. Mann, County Executive Director in the Jackson County FSA office, noted that overall, crop yields were varied but better than expected. Optimal weather

Questions or Comments

Contact me at

205-664-3010

or e-mail at

roger.mcneil@noaa.gov