

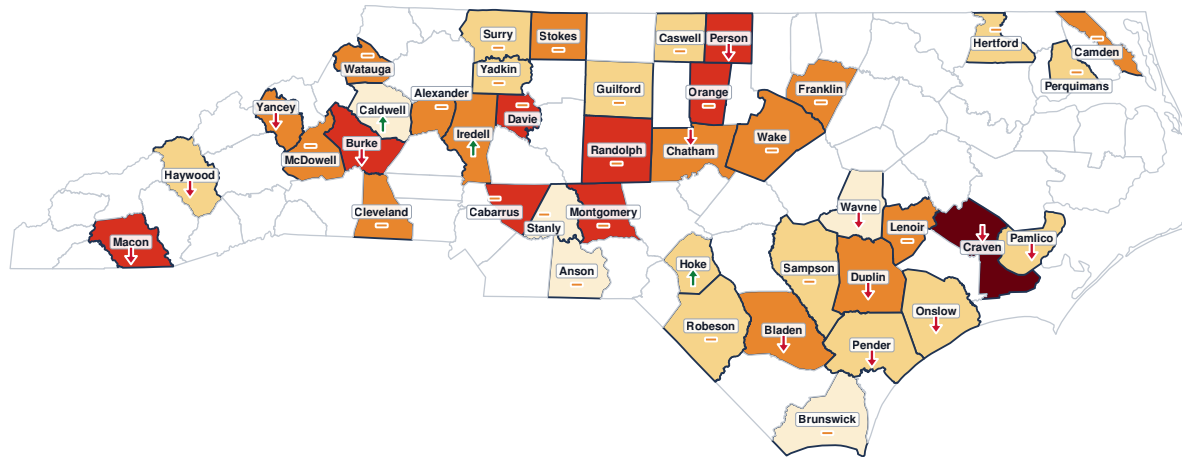
DROUGHT IMPACT (COUNTY REPORTED)

- Exceptional Drought
- Extreme Drought
- Severe Drought
- Moderate Drought
- Abnormally Dry
- No mapped response

COMMENT SIGNAL

- Worsening / crop stress intensifying
- Some relief / conditions improving
- Uneven rainfall / mixed conditions
- Persistent drought / little change

COUNTY-REPORTED DROUGHT IMPACT



STATEWIDE TRENDS

- Drought conditions persist statewide with many counties reporting Severe, Extreme, or Exceptional classifications.
- Pasture and hay availability is declining across regions, with limited first-cutting hay and continued feeding in some areas.
- Corn and soybean fields are exhibiting visible drought stress, including leaf rolling and stalled growth, leading to reported yield loss.
- Irrigation demand has increased while ponds, streams, and some wells are falling, limiting water availability for producers.
- Tobacco and other specialty crops are showing sporadic stands, poor germination in places, and production impacts without additional rainfall.

TOP STATEWIDE CONCERNS

- Pasture and hay shortages
- Reduced corn and grain yields
- Increased irrigation demand
- Low ponds, streams, and wells
- Poor germination / replanting
- Livestock forage availability

REGIONAL SUMMARIES

WEST / MOUNTAINS & FOOTHILLS

Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Cleveland, Haywood, Iredell, Macon, McDowell, Watauga, Yancey

- Multiple counties report Severe to Extreme Drought with topsoil cracking and slowed plant growth.
- Pastures are most affected: limited first-cutting hay, some producers still feeding hay and experiencing forage shortages.
- Corn, soybeans, vegetables, and fruit crops are showing moisture stress and slowed development.

PIEDMONT / SANDHILLS

Anson, Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Davie, Guilford, Hoke, Montgomery, Orange, Person, Randolph, Stanly, Stokes, Surry, Wake, Yadkin

- Many counties are in Severe or Extreme Drought with delayed planting, poor germination, and reports of replanting needs.
- Hay yields are low and pasture growth is reduced, increasing concern for livestock producers.
- Producers report increased irrigation needs, dry wells in some areas, and visible crop stress in corn and tobacco.

NORTH & CENTRAL COASTAL PLAIN

Camden, Craven, Franklin, Hertford, Lenoir, Pamlico, Perquimans, Wayne

- Drought ranges from Moderate to Exceptional, with some crops viable only where frequent rainfall occurred.
- High temperatures and minimal soil moisture are causing significant crop stress and reported yield losses.
- Vegetable, tobacco, and staple row crops are showing drought impacts and limited recovery without substantial rain.

SOUTHEAST COASTAL PLAIN

Bladen, Brunswick, Duplin, Onslow, Pender, Robeson, Sampson

- Severe to Moderate Drought with visible leaf rolling and canopy drooping in corn and other crops.
- Irrigation ponds and rivers are declining; irrigation activity has increased to maintain soil moisture.
- Soybeans, sweet potatoes, tobacco, and vegetables are exhibiting slowed growth and stress symptoms.

COUNTY COMMENT HIGHLIGHTS (selected notes from impact and additional comments)

Anson

Soil moisture has improved, but growers are monitoring corn, cotton, soybean, hay, and pasture conditions as lingering drought deficits impact this season.

Chatham

No precipitation for 7 days worsened drought, stressing pastures, hay fields, crops, and water supplies; significant rainfall is needed.

Person

Drought conditions continue with high temperatures, wind, and lack of rain; corn looks bad; tobacco is sporadic; pastures and hay fields drying up.

Bladen

Drought and heat stress in corn; leaf roll after weeks without rain; soybean and peanut growth slowed.

Craven

Crops remain viable only in areas that have received frequent rainfall.

Robeson

Soil moisture is rapidly declining with corn under stress; irrigation is used, leaves rolling; soybeans planting paused, southern part drier, cotton and soybeans hanging in there.

Burke

Dry conditions persist; recent rains eased some stress on crops and hay.

Guilford

Producers report crop stress, reduced pasture growth, increased irrigation needs for vegetables, and declining pond levels as dry conditions continue.

Sampson

Drought is increasing; the Coharie, South, and Black Rivers are drying, irrigation is up, and corn shows heat-stress symptoms.

Cabarrus

Hay was delayed with short cuttings and low yield; strawberry production impacted; two farmers rely 100% on rainfall, one farm with dry well issues.

Macon

Drought continues to linger; significant rainfall expected in four days, with pastures most affected and some producers still feeding hay.

Yadkin

Dry conditions persist; crops are growing slowly, including corn, soybeans, and flue-cured tobacco, with winter small grains drying down for harvest and only small showers in parts of Surry County while Yadkin County had none since May 25.