

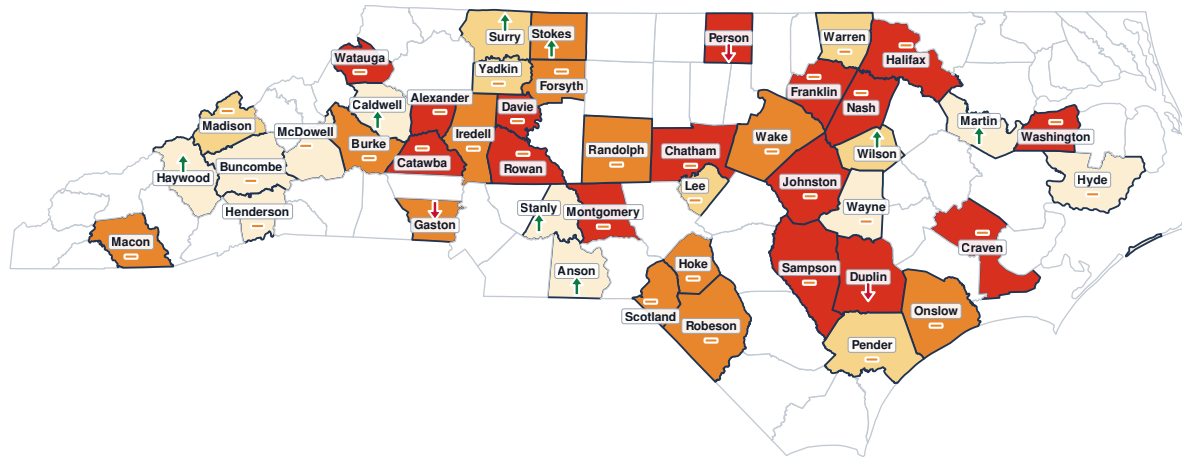
DROUGHT IMPACT (COUNTY REPORTED)

- 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

- Recent, spotty rainfall provided short-term relief in many counties but generally did not replenish subsoil moisture.
- Pastures and hayfields across the state are notably impacted, with reduced cuttings and increased feeding or hay demand reported.
- Corn and other row crops show drought damage in multiple counties, with stunting and expected yield losses in some fields.
- Irrigation supplies are limited in several areas—ponds, creeks, and swamps remain low and restrict irrigation use.
- Overall crop growth and yields across diverse commodities are being reduced by prolonged moisture deficits and high temperatures.

TOP STATEWIDE CONCERNS

- Low subsoil moisture
- Pasture and hay shortages
- Irrigation water depletion
- Corn yield loss
- High temperatures
- Spotty/insufficient rainfall

REGIONAL SUMMARIES

WEST / MOUNTAINS & FOOTHILLS

Alexander, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Gaston, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Watauga

- Multiple mountain/foothill counties report Extreme to Severe drought with spotty, localized rainfall.
- Pastures and hayfields are showing lasting impacts; some producers are still feeding hay and hay cuttings are reduced.
- Weekend showers provided localized relief but have not replenished subsoil moisture countywide.

PIEDMONT / SANDHILLS

Anson, Chatham, Davie, Forsyth, Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Person, Randolph, Rowan, Scotland, Stanly, Stokes, Surry, Wake, Yadkin

- Large portions of the Piedmont are in Severe or Extreme drought with pasture yields below normal and high hay demand.
- Recent localized rains gave temporary relief in places, but conditions are highly variable across counties.
- Several row crops and tobacco show stunting, dead plants, or other signs of reduced yield potential.

NORTH & CENTRAL COASTAL PLAIN

Craven, Franklin, Halifax, Hyde, Johnston, Martin, Nash, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Wilson

- Many North and Central Coastal Plain counties are in Extreme drought with low subsoil moisture despite recent rains.
- Surface water and irrigation sources are limited in areas; some counties report ponds and creeks remain low.
- Some locations (e.g., Johnston) report they still need many inches of rain to recover—recent precipitation insufficient to catch up.

SOUTHEAST COASTAL PLAIN

Duplin, Onslow, Pender, Robeson, Sampson

- Southeastern counties report Extreme to Severe drought with major impacts on corn and other row crops.
- Irrigation ponds and surface water supplies are nearly depleted in some areas, constraining irrigation for produce growers.
- Scattered storms have improved topsoil moisture in places but overall crop and water-supply stress remains high.

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

Alexander

Drought is impacting the entire county; any rain has been spotty and increasing temperatures have worsened the situation.

Forsyth

Fields have bare spots from dead plants and stunted growth, indicating yield will be lower than expected this season.

Stokes

Lack of fescue for hay—greatly reduced; fields with bare spots from dead plants and stunted growth indicate lower yield than expected.

Burke

Weekend rain has lessened plant symptoms.

Iredell

Still in severe drought with lasting impacts on pastures and hayfields, and slight impacts on warm-season row crops starting.

Wake

Rainfall helped maintain plant growth at critical times, but uneven amounts; continued rain is needed in coming weeks with high forecasted temperatures.

Chatham

Rainfall of 0.97–1.78 inches provided short-term relief, but pasture yields remain below normal and some livestock producers have begun supplementing with hay.

Johnston

We're 35% drier than normal and need 14-15 inches of rain to catch up; creeks, swamps, and irrigation ponds are low or unusable.

Duplin

Crops that are active are still being impacted by lack of rain and heat; this is widespread and field dependent.

Rowan

Pastures are very dry and only one cutting; hay will be in great demand this year.