

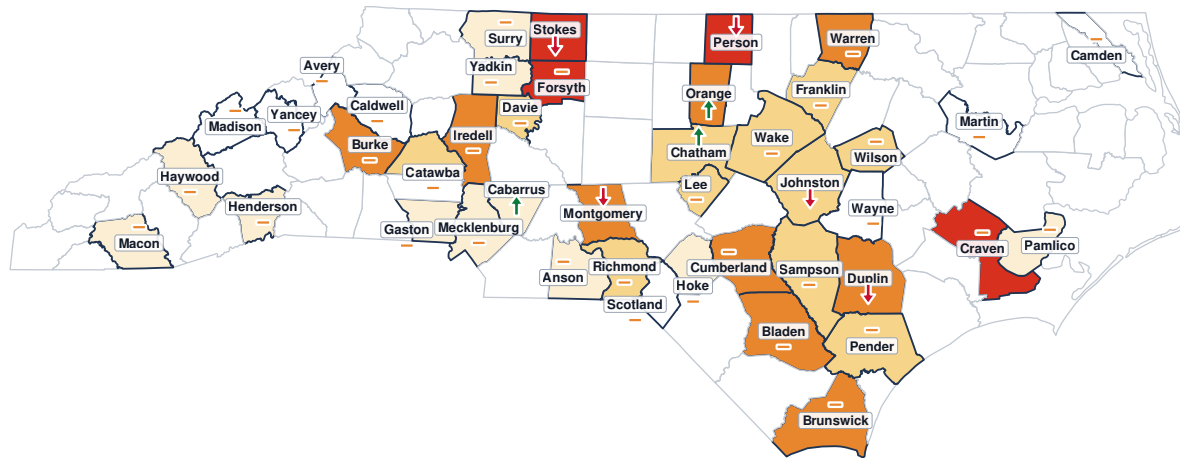
DROUGHT IMPACT (COUNTY REPORTED)

- 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 thunderstorms and spotty showers have improved surface moisture in many counties, but rainfall is uneven and not uniform statewide.
- Hay and pasture production is behind in drought-affected areas and some livestock producers are already providing supplemental feed.
- Corn has experienced pollination problems and stress in several counties, with reduced yields expected where early drought was severe.
- Tobacco is showing burn and heat stress in multiple counties, reflecting high temperatures and limited moisture in some areas.
- Where irrigation or small-scale water management is available (nurseries, urban plots), growers have been able to mitigate some drought impacts.

TOP STATEWIDE CONCERNS

- reduced yields
- low subsoil moisture
- hay/feed shortages
- uneven rainfall distribution
- harvest delays and disease risk
- heat stress on crops

REGIONAL SUMMARIES

WEST / MOUNTAINS & FOOTHILLS

Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Gaston, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Macon, Madison, Yancey

- Mixed conditions: several counties report improvement after frequent afternoon thunderstorms, while Burke and Iredell remain in severe drought.
- Late-season impacts include poor corn pollination and reduced yields in some areas, and overly wet fields in others that complicate harvest and increase disease pressure.

PIEDMONT / SANDHILLS

Anson, Cabarrus, Chatham, Cumberland, Davie, Forsyth, Hoke, Lee, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange, Person, Richmond, Scotland, Stokes, Surry, Wake, Yadkin

- Widespread severe to extreme drought in multiple counties (including Forsyth, Person, Stokes, Cumberland), with localized rains providing limited relief.
- Forage and hay production are behind and many early field crops show drought damage; high temperatures are adding stress and could worsen conditions.

NORTH & CENTRAL COASTAL PLAIN

Camden, Craven, Franklin, Johnston, Martin, Pamlico, Warren, Wayne, Wilson

- Coastal plain contains pockets of extreme and severe drought (Craven, Warren) with reports of very low subsoil moisture restricting crop growth.
- Tobacco and field crops are showing heat and moisture stress despite isolated thunderstorm totals in parts of the region.

SOUTHEAST COASTAL PLAIN

Bladen, Brunswick, Duplin, Pender, Sampson

- Most reporting counties are in severe drought (Bladen, Brunswick, Duplin) with spotty showers offering only limited, localized relief.
- Crop development is slowed and stressed; some timely rains aided soybean and cotton in parts of the region while other areas remain dry.

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

Anson Dry fields and pastures.	Bladen Spotty showers kept soil moisture improving then drying again; central, southern, and southeastern areas received up to 2.5 inches, helping stressed soybeans and cotton, but it remains very dry county-wide.	Craven Frequent small rains are sustaining crops, but subsoil moisture is still extremely low.	Davie Rainfall has been plentiful; corn is in dough/dent stage, and soybeans are looking great with all the rain.
Johnston Some of the hottest days of the summer with heat indexes to 110 degrees; small thunderstorms produced 0.4-2 inches of rain in some areas; we are still below normal for the year.	Macon Stream levels remain low, soil moisture much improved, drought conditions improving; afternoon thunderstorms drop large rain amounts with runoff and less infiltration.	Mecklenburg All growers have some mild to moderate drought effects, mitigated by small plots; nursery growers can irrigate; urban, community crops, hay & grain straw, and nursery sectors.	Sampson Drought has been much alleviated in fields as growers begin the corn harvest, with some areas missing rains but many receiving timely rainfall this week.
Stokes Hay production is behind due to lack of rain.	Warren Severe to extreme drought affects 100% of Warren County, severely depleting soil moisture, reducing crop yields for regional cash crops, and forcing early hay feeding and supplemental feed purchases due to dried pastures.	Yadkin Conditions and water levels are improving with weekend rainfall; no widespread rain expected this week, but pop-up thunderstorms possible.	Yancey Daily thunderstorms have brought 0.1–2.5 inches, delaying harvest, worsening disease control, hindering 2nd cut hay and cover crop establishment, and raising drought-early-year impact concerns for a very poor production year.