North Carolina Drought Overview

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13 regional agronomists

www.ncagr.gov/agronomi/rahome.htm
- Southern Camden, Currituck, Pasquotank & Perquimans Counties --- very dry
- Western part of region --- better, but some corn destroyed
- White potatoes
  - Early-maturing varieties mostly failures
  - Later-maturing varieties may benefit from spotty rains
- Cotton & peanuts doing fairly well
- Beaufort, Hyde & Pamlico Counties drier than normal
- Some corn destroyed
- Sorghum and soybeans being planted as replacement crops
Carteret, Craven & Jones Counties --- very dry
Greene, Lenoir & Pitt --- marginal
Corn --- variable
  — Estimated yield of ~100 bu/acre in some areas
  — Many other fields destroyed
Fruits & vegetables
  — Produce smaller than normal due to heat & inadequate irrigation
Cotton, peanuts & tobacco --- fairly drought tolerant
Open burning ban in effect for all counties in this region

All crops being impacted by drought
- **Bladen County**
  - 65% corn loss, replanted with grain sorghum
  - 50% cotton & peanuts good

- **Brunswick County**
  - Corn a loss, replanted with grain sorghum
  - Moisture adequate for late-planted soybeans

- **Columbus County**
  - 50% corn loss; tobacco stressed; cotton/peanuts/soybeans spotty

- **Cumberland County**
  - Crops variable, best near Harnett County

- **Robeson County**
  - Received most rain; some corn to yield 150 bu/acre
Halifax and Northampton Counties
- Virginia border counties have best moisture
- Tobacco, sweetpotatoes look fair to good

Cotton, peanuts, sweetpotatoes fair to good as of July 16, 2011
- **Harnett County**
  - Good in southern area of county, very bad in northern parts

- **Wayne County**
  - Good in northern parts of county, drier as you go south

- **Entire region**
  - Much corn destroyed and replanted with grain sorghum
Chatham County
- 13+ inches below normal
- Driest area in region

Other Counties
- Crops are fair to good as of July 16, 2011
All crops being affected by heat and lack of rain
Ponds lowest in 25+ years
Peaches notably smaller
Irrigation options inadequate without rainfall
Region Overall
- Rainfall generally adequate
- Corn generally good
- Full season soybeans better than double crop soybeans

Northern Iredell County
- Driest area in region
Entire region

- Abundance of rainfall early in season soon diminished to sporadic showers
- Less than 3 inches of rain since the end of May
- Adequate rainfall for region as a whole

- Some areas dry on the surface and need rain event within the next 10 days to be able to withstand heat
Henderson Co.
- Wet, almost too much rainfall

All other counties in region 14
- Dry
- Rain events short & intense
- Water quickly lost due to run off
Agronomic Field Services

- Provides advice on taking good agronomic samples
- Helps diagnose plant-nutrient problems
- Helps interpret agronomic reports
- Makes recommendations to alleviate problems
For more information, visit the Agronomic Division website

www.ncagr.gov/agronomi/