

North Carolina Drought Update

Created By:

North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council

NORTH CAROLINA CLIMATE OFFICE

NC STATE

www.ncdrought.org

climate.ncsu.edu @NCSCO

For the assessment period ending **Mar. 26, 2024**
 From the US Drought Monitor, with input from the NC DMAC

The Main Takeaway

Recent rains have been just enough to prevent further degradation, but eastern areas that dried out in the late winter haven't seen many improvements yet, either.

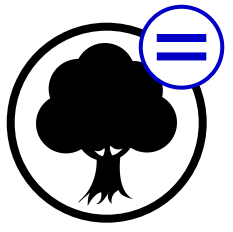
This Week's Summary

The rain last Friday night and Saturday helped top off streams and soils across most of the state, and keep us on pace to finish March with near to slightly above our normal precipitation. Some areas at the coast have seen heavier rains, including in Pender County, which lifted out of Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions this week.

Next Week's Outlook

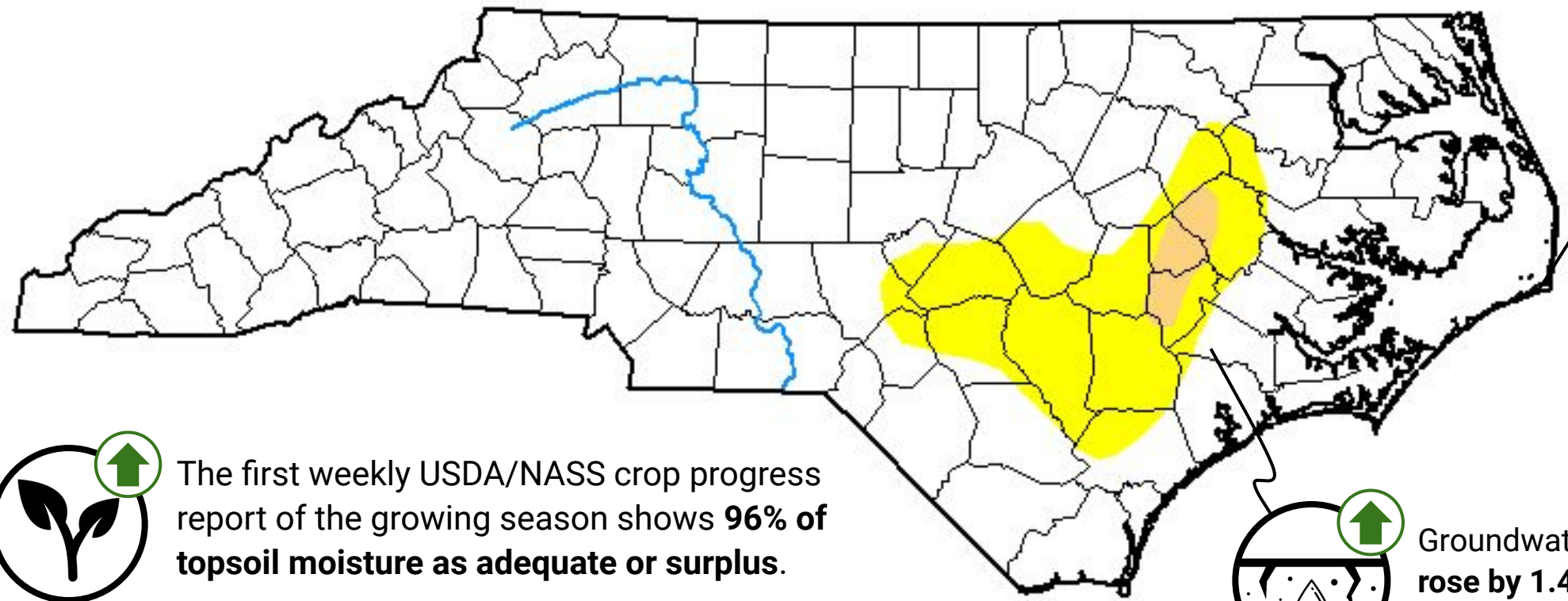
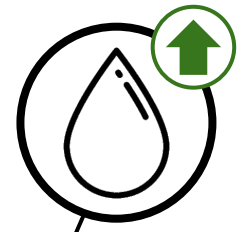
Rain will taper off throughout the day on Thursday after a frontal passage, with event totals of 2 inches or more expected in parts of eastern NC. We'll be dry through the weekend and warm into the mid-70s by Saturday.

For your local drought status, visit www.ncdrought.org

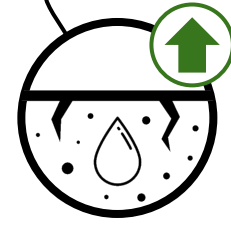


Despite a few cool nights, **green-up continues one to two weeks ahead of the normal timing**, with yellow poplars now leafing out in the Mountains.

After almost 3 inches of rain last weekend, **Hatteras will have its wettest March on record**, with 12.0 inches as of Tuesday.

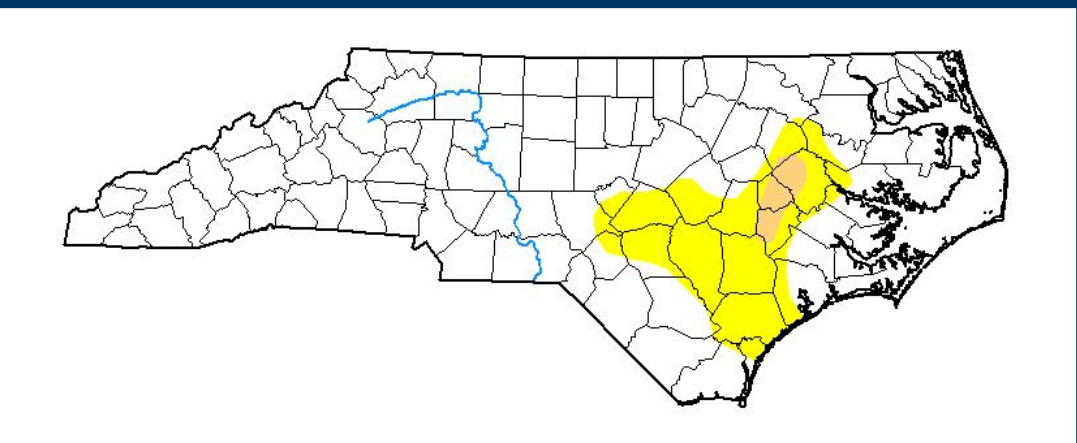


The first weekly USDA/NASS crop progress report of the growing season shows **96% of topsoil moisture as adequate or surplus**.



Groundwater levels in Jones County **rose by 1.4 feet on Saturday** and are holding above normal this week.

Last Week's Drought Status



Statewide Coverage by Category

Category	Current Coverage	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	12.00%	-2.44%
D1: Moderate Drought	1.27%	-0.18%
D2: Severe Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D3: Extreme Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D4: Exceptional Drought	0.00%	0.00%