April 3, 2018  
(Released Thursday, Apr. 5, 2018)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>None</th>
<th>D0-D4</th>
<th>D1-D4</th>
<th>D2-D4</th>
<th>D3-D4</th>
<th>D4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td>33.29</td>
<td>66.71</td>
<td>49.43</td>
<td>21.57</td>
<td>13.21</td>
<td>1.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Week</td>
<td>26.19</td>
<td>73.81</td>
<td>64.23</td>
<td>28.30</td>
<td>15.08</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Months Ago</td>
<td>33.37</td>
<td>66.63</td>
<td>33.56</td>
<td>5.94</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start of Calendar Year</td>
<td>33.37</td>
<td>66.63</td>
<td>33.56</td>
<td>5.94</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start of Water Year</td>
<td>70.54</td>
<td>29.46</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>One Year Ago</td>
<td>82.49</td>
<td>17.51</td>
<td>2.91</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Intensity:
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:
David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/
Drought Severity Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending Mar 31, 2018
Long Term Palmer

Drought Severity Index (Palmer)
Depicts prolonged (months, years) abnormal dryness or wetness; responds slowly; changes little from week to week; and reflects long-term moisture runoff, recharge, and deep percolation as well as evapotranspiration.

Uses: Applicable in measuring disruptive effects of prolonged dryness or wetness; designating disaster areas of drought or wetness; and reflecting the general long-term status of water supplies in aquifers, reservoirs and streams.

Limitations: Is not generally indicative of short-term (few weeks) status of drought or wetness such as frequently affects crops and field operations (this is indicated by the Crop Moisture Index).

Legend:
-4.0 or less (Extreme Drought)
-3.0 to -3.9 (Severe Drought)
-2.0 to -2.9 (Moderate Drought)
-1.9 to +1.9 (Near Normal)
+2.0 to +2.9 (Unusual Moist Spell)
+3.0 to +3.9 (Very Moist Spell)
+4.0 and above (Extremely Moist)
Missing/Incomplete

Based on preliminary data
Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending Mar 31, 2018
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

CROP MOISTURE
DEPICTS SHORT-TERM (UP TO 4 WEEKS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING AGRICULTURE, RESPONSES RAPIDLY, CAN CHANGE CONSIDERABLY WEEK TO WEEK AND INDICATES NORMAL CONDITIONS AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE GROWING SEASON.

USES... APPLICABLE IN MEASURING THE SHORT-TERM, WEEK TO WEEK, STATUS OF DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING WARM SEASON CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS.

LIMITATIONS... MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE TO GERMINATING AND SHALLOW ROOTED CROPS WHICH ARE UNABLE TO EXTRACT THE DEEP OR SUBSOIL MOISTURE FROM A SHALLOW SOIL PROFILE, OR FOR COOL SEASON CROPS GROWING WHEN TEMPERATURES ARE AVERAGING BELOW ABOUT 55°F IT IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OF THE LONG-TERM (MONTHS YEARS) DROUGHT OR WET SPELLS WHICH ARE DEPICTED BY THE DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX.

-3.0 or less (Severly Dry)  +1.0 to +1.9 (Abnormally Moist)
-2.0 to -2.9 (Excessively Dry)  +2.0 to +3.0 (Wet)
-1.0 to -1.9 (Abnormally Dry)  3.0 and above (Excessively Wet)
-0.9 to +0.9 (Slightly Dry/Favorably Moist)  Missing/Incomplete
U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for March 15 - June 30, 2018
Released March 15, 2018

Author:
Brad Pugh
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

Depicts large-scale trends based on objectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73