U.S. Drought Monitor

December 18, 2012
Valid 7 a.m. EST

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

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

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U.S. Hay Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects December 18, 2012
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately 64% of the domestic hay acreage is within an area experiencing drought, based on NASS 2007 Census of Agriculture data.

Major and minor agricultural areas are based on NASS 2007 Census of Agriculture data. Counties shaded in gray contain data that are not published by NASS, and hence were not used in delineating the major and minor agricultural areas. Additional information on these agricultural data can be found at: http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/.

Mapped drought areas are derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor product and do not depict the intensity of drought in any particular location. More information on the Drought Monitor can be found at: http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html.

- Major areas combined account for 75% of the total national acreage.
- Major and minor areas combined account for 99% of the total national acreage.

USDA Agricultural Weather Assessments
World Agricultural Outlook Board
Approximate Percentage of Hay Located in Drought *
December 18, 2012

- Percent in Moderate Drought (D1)
- Percent in Severe Drought (D2)
- Percent in Extreme Drought (D3)
- Percent in Exceptional Drought (D4)

* Drought percentages were calculated from U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) data for the above date. More information on the USDM is available at http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html.

State contributions to national production (percentages in parentheses) are based upon National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 2007 Census of Agriculture data. More information on NASS data can be found at http://www.nass.usda.gov/.

USDA Agricultural Weather Assessments
World Agricultural Outlook Board
U.S. Cattle Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects December 18, 2012
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately 73% of the domestic cattle inventory is within an area experiencing drought, based on NASS 2007 Census of Agriculture data.

Major and minor agricultural areas are based on NASS 2007 Census of Agriculture data. Counties shaded in gray contain data that are not published by NASS, and hence were not used in delineating the major and minor agricultural areas. Additional information on these agricultural data can be found at: http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/.

Mapped drought areas are derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor product and do not depict the intensity of drought in any particular location. More information on the Drought Monitor can be found at: http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html.

- Major areas combined account for 75% of the total national inventory.
- Major and minor areas combined account for 99% of the total national inventory.

Agricultural Weather Assessments
World Agricultural Outlook Board
Approximate Percentage of Cattle Located in Drought *
December 18, 2012

* Drought percentages were calculated from U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) data for the above date. More information on the USDM is available at http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html.

State contributions to the total national inventory (percentages in parentheses) are based upon National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 2007 Census of Agriculture data. More information on NASS data can be found at http://www.nass.usda.gov/.
U.S. Winter Wheat Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects December 18, 2012 U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately 63% of the winter wheat grown in the U.S. is within an area experiencing drought, based on historical NASS crop production data.

Map of the U.S. with areas shaded to indicate drought conditions. Legend explaining the classification of drought areas:
- Drought Areas
- Major Growing Area
- Minor Growing Area

- Major areas combined account for 75% of the total national production annually.
- Major and minor areas combined account for 99% of the total national production annually.

Major and minor agricultural areas are derived from NASS county-level crop production data from 2006 to 2010. Additional information on these agricultural data can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov.

Mapped drought areas are derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor product and do not depict the intensity of drought in any particular location. More information on the Drought Monitor can be found at: http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html.
Approximate Percentage of Winter Wheat Located in Drought *

December 18, 2012

- Percent in Moderate Drought (D1)
- Percent in Severe Drought (D2)
- Percent in Extreme Drought (D3)
- Percent in Exceptional Drought (D4)

* Drought percentages were calculated from U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) data for the above date. More information on the USDM is available at http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html.

State contributions to national production (percentages in parentheses) are based upon National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 5-year averages from 2006-2010. More information on NASS data can be found at http://www.nass.usda.gov/.