Drought of 2012: A Land Grant Extension Perspective

Hans Schmitz
US Drought Monitor Forum
3 April 2017
It Begins...

Record amount of corn planted on April 5 (SW)
May is Quiet

U.S. Drought Monitor
Indiana

May 15, 2012
(Released Thursday, May 17, 2012)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>D6-D4</th>
<th>D1-D4</th>
<th>D2-D4</th>
<th>D3-D4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td>78.86</td>
<td>21.14</td>
<td>0.31</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Week  5/28/2012</td>
<td>80.34</td>
<td>11.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Months Ago 3/14/2012</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start of Calendar Year 1/1/2012</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start of Water Year 9/27/2011</td>
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<td>One Year Ago 9/17/2011</td>
<td>55.11</td>
<td>44.89</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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Intensity:
- D6 Abnormally Dry
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought
- D2 Severe Drought

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

Author:
Brad Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/
Early June

Recognition of expanding drought begins pictures, Climate Office communication
Late June
Panic begins, website developed

Purdue Extension has information about the drought and its effects on homeowners and community leaders.

Purdue Extensions will continue to monitor the drought and updates here, contact your Purdue Extension county office. Please call for Purdue Extension in your county. Or email extension@purd

IN Drought
Consumer & Homeowner Information

IN Drought
Agricultural Production Information

IN Drought
News Archive

IN Drought
Video Archive

U.S. Drought Monitor
Indiana

June 26, 2012
(Released Thursday, Jun. 28, 2012)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

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<tr>
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<th>D0-D2</th>
<th>D3-D4</th>
<th>D5-D6</th>
<th>D2-D3</th>
<th>D4-D6</th>
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<td>87.03</td>
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<td>78.24</td>
<td>36.31</td>
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<td>3 Months Ago</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start of Water Year 10/1/2011</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
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Author:
Richard Heim
NCDC/NOAA

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/
July 5
Statewide Media Conference to Address Ag Concerns (FB, ISDA, Ext., etc.), SILAGE!?
Late July
Drought fungal concerns recognized
Late August
Harvest begins in earnest, hay concerns high
Farmers – Corn and Bean Production

- USDA – 122 bu/acre (down 25.2 from ’11)
- Indiana – 100 bu/acre (down 46 from ’11)
  - 839.5 to 605 million bushels on 300K MORE acres
- Gibson County – 0-300 bu/acre
- Early beans slightly below average (41 bu/acre)
- Late beans frosted out, too small, etc.

LESS SUPPLY, LESS MONEY
Indiana District Wheat Yields
August 1, 2011-2012

Source: USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office
Indiana District Soybean Yields
October 1, 2011-2012

Source: USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office
Indiana District Corn Yields
October 1, 2011-2012

Source: USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office
Farmers - Livestock

- Cull, cull, cull
- Less breeders
- Less young ‘uns
- Less to market
- Higher prices
- More breeders
- Less to market
- High price maintained
Overall Ag Economy

- Expansion of markets for Brazil, Argentina
- Made the price fall more severe
Homeowners (through 2016)

- Dying trees, shrubs
  - Insects --> Woodpeckers
  - Disease
- Dead trees
  - High seed production
  - Soft Rots
- Biennial bearing fruits
  - Remove some buds
Homeowners

• Lawn considerations
  – To overseed or to reseed?
  – Weed control
  – Fertilizer considerations?
  – Who should I hire?