U.S. Drought Monitor Forum
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Great New England Drought of 2016
Aug. 9, 2016: First-ever D3 in MA; Peak coverage: 52% on Oct. 4, 2016
Secretarial Drought Designations, 2016
LFP Payments, Native Pasture
56% of Northeast in Drought
70% of Northeast in Drought
Percentiles and the U.S. Drought Monitor

• Advantages of percentiles:
  – Can be applied to any parameter
  – Can be used for any length of data record
  – Helps to put drought in historical perspective

• D4, Exceptional Drought: once per 50 to 100 years
• D3, Extreme Drought: once per 20 to 50 years
• D2, Severe Drought: once per 10 to 20 years
• D1, Moderate Drought: once per 5 to 10 years
• D0, Abnormally Dry: once per 3 to 5 years
Extent of Topsoil Short or Very Short of Moisture (Raw Statewide Proportion)

Oct 02, 2016

The map shows the extent of topsoil short or very short of moisture across the United States. The states are color-coded based on the proportion of topsoil short or very short of moisture, ranging from 0 to 100. The colors represent different percentage ranges:

- 0 (Dark Blue)
- 1 - 9 (Light Blue)
- 10 - 19 (Green)
- 20 - 29 (Yellow)
- 30 - 39 (Orange)
- 40 - 49 (Red)
- 50 - 59 (Gray)
- 60 - 69 (Light Green)
- 70 - 79 (Dark Green)
- 80 - 100 (Red)

The map highlights the distribution of these conditions across different states.
Extent of Topsoil Short or Very Short of Moisture

(PERCENTILE for This Time in Growing Season)

Oct 02, 2016

Based on 1995 - 2015
MA PASTURE AND RANGE Condition Index

Index Weighting: Excellent = 4; Good = 3; Fair = 2; Poor = 1; Very Poor = 0

Based on NASS crop progress data.
NH PASTURE AND RANGE Condition Index

Based on NASS crop progress data.

Index Weighting: Excellent = 4; Good = 3; Fair = 2; Poor = 1; Very Poor = 0
Ammonoosuc River, Littleton, NH, June 16, 2006 (no drought in New England)

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Photo Credit:
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Nationally, 2016 pasture conditions are near historic highs, based on data since 1995.

Index Weighting: Excellent = 4; Good = 3; Fair = 2; Poor = 1; Very Poor = 0

Based on NASS crop progress data.