

North Carolina Weather & Crops Report

Issue #7-B15-03
Released March 2, 2015



CROP SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2015

GENERAL: Days suitable for field work 0.9 for the week ending March 1, 2015. Topsoil moisture 21% adequate and 79% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% short, 50% adequate and 49% surplus. The state received widespread precipitation this month with some areas receiving over 4.0 inches. The last two weeks of February were especially cold with snow and ice. The cold, wet conditions have increased feed consumption, delayed farm activities and may have an adverse affect on the quality of small grains. Average temperatures for the month were below normal across the state with some areas averaging 10 degrees below normal.

CROP CONDITION PERCENT

	VP	P	F	G	EX
Barley	4	5	24	65	2
Oats	3	18	53	24	2
Pasture	13	31	42	13	1
Wheat	4	19	40	31	6

VP = Very Poor P = Poor F = Fair G = Good EX = Excellent

SOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

	VS	ST	A	SS
Topsoil Moisture	0	0	21	79
Subsoil Moisture	0	1	50	49

VS= Very Short ST = Short A = Adequate SS = Surplus

It's very wet, with more forecasted rain this coming week. Most fields have standing water. Wheat condition is very low. We need some dry weather and sunshine for it to make any progress. Pasture land is the worst I have seen in the county in four years. Hay supplies are running low with a lot of folks scrambling to find hay now.

Jessica Morgan – Anson County Extension

Wet and cold conditions has slowed wheat development and prevented the application of needed nitrogen up to this point in time. Little field work has been possible. Several tobacco greenhouses have been damaged by ice and growers need to replace greenhouse tops. Only a few tobacco greenhouses have been seeded.

Richard Rhodes – Bertie County Extension

Too wet for field work, farmers are anxious to begin burn down programs to their corn crop and ridge tobacco land. Wheat crop is not looking good. Need some sunlight for tobacco greenhouse plants to germinate. All in all, folks are ready for spring weather.

Cathy Herring – Central Crops Research Station

Wet conditions and cold temperatures have prevented growers from applying any winter weed control or fertilizer. Timing of fertilizer applications and the lateness of the calendar will mean growers have to decide whether to continue this wheat crop as a grain option or whether to plow it down as green manure and rotate to corn or soybeans.

Mark Seitz - Pender County Extension

The last two weeks of February have been snow filed and harsh. Temperatures in the negative readings and highs below freezing. Wind has accompanied reach of the winter storms that hit the county. Some producers are running short on hay supplies. Some producers had to break ice in creeks to allow livestock to drink.

Julia Houck – Ashe / Alleghany Counties

February was a difficult month especially for livestock producers. Several snow events and frigid temperatures resulted in difficulty tending livestock and heavy feed consumption. Hay supplies are getting low for a number of producers. Snowfall events deposited several inches of snow across the county and with the heaviest event depositing as much as 10-11" in some areas. Temperatures mid-month were at record lows as most areas of the county reported below zero temps.

Stanley Holloway – Yancey County Extension

Extremely wet conditions throughout NC Region 6. Recent snow, ice, and rain events seriously limited wheat topdressing. Tobacco greenhouse seeding is in progress, greenhouse tomato crop fruiting. All greenhouse growers are facing challenges with low sunlight and high heating inputs, but structures are reported to have fared well with recent storms. Some cold injury found in strawberry crop, but will likely recover.

Mike Wilder – Agronomist Region 6

Cold temperatures and very wet conditions have severely limited field work this month. Small grains are in bad need of drying conditions and sunshine. Tobacco greenhouse seeding has been delayed two to three weeks in some areas due to weather. Vegetable greenhouse growth has been delayed by cloudy, cold conditions and production costs are high with high heating bills. Pasture conditions are very poor and hay supplies have become limited due to cold conditions and increased feeding.

Colby Lambert - Agronomist Region 9

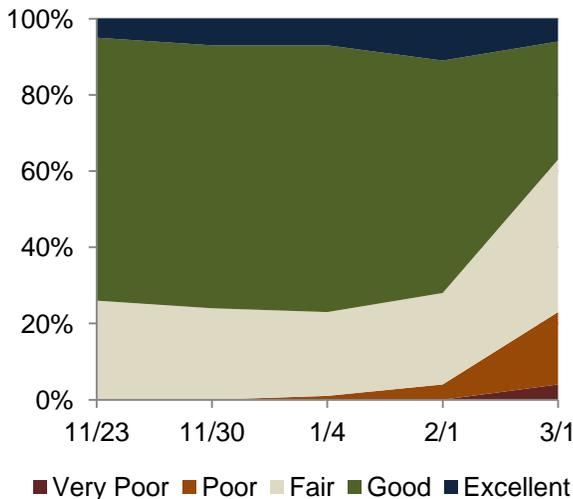
We had 9 inches of snow on Thursday Feb.26th rain and ice all weekend. With warm temperatures this week and then back to very cold will be negative on wheat as head formation in early planted wheat could be damaged.

Gary Cross – Person County Extension

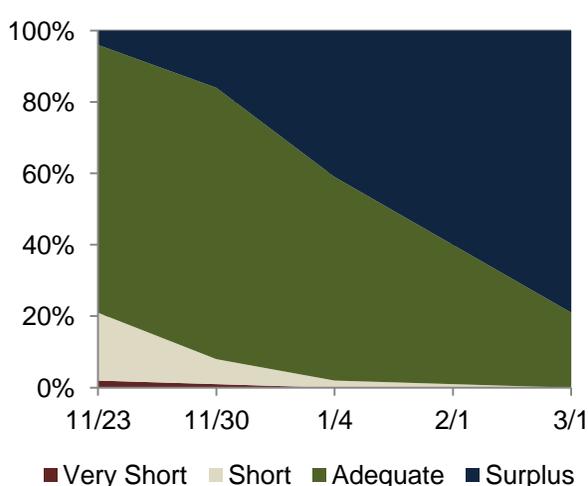
Extremely wet conditions have prevented growers from applying Nitrogen to small grain and rapeseed crops, timing for these applications is getting very critical. If conditions do not improve soon, many acres of small grain may be treated as cover crops and terminated. Cattle growers have been feeding a lot of hay due to poor growth of over seeded crops.

Don Nicholson - Agronomist Region 7

WHEAT CONDITION



TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT



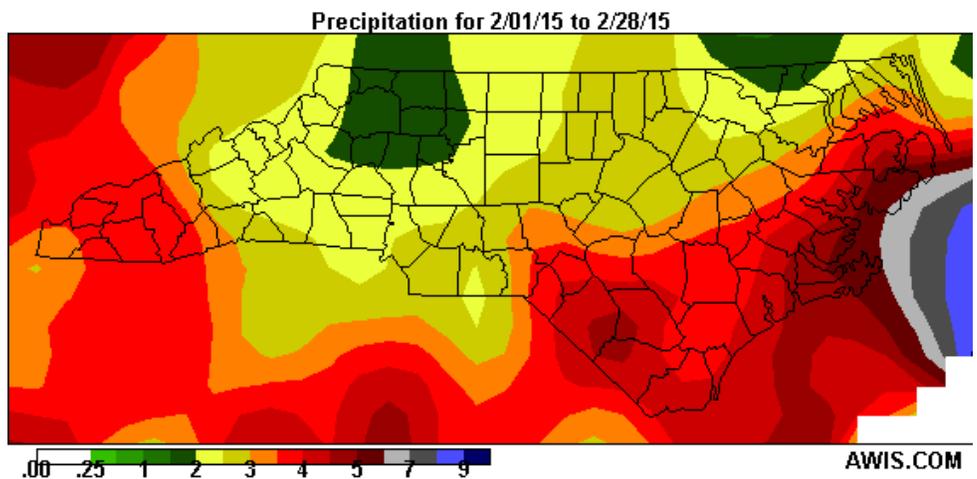
WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2015									
Location	Precipitation (Inches) ¹				Temperature (Degrees F.)				
	This Month		Year To Date		This Month				Degree Days (Year to Date) *
	Total	Departure from Normal	Total	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Avg.	Departure from Normal	
Asheboro	3.13	-0.58	5.87	-2.27	69	4	34	-10	
Asheville	2.77	-1.06	5.84	-2.05	69	3	34	-6	
Burlington	2.60	-0.75	4.64	-2.59	72	4	35	-8	
Charlotte	3.02	-0.53	5.82	-1.73	70	7	38	-7	
Clayton	4.16	0.61	9.50	1.75	69	7	34	-9	
Clinton	3.91	0.68	7.96	0.40	70	10	36	-10	
Dunn	2.90	-0.75	8.66	0.88	69	9	37	-7	
Elizabeth City	3.15	0.05	7.16	-0.52	68	8	35	-10	
Fayetteville	3.28	-0.15	7.65	0.06	71	10	39	-6	
Gastonia-Gaston	2.58	-1.17	4.74	-3.22	70	6	39	-5	
Goldsboro	3.79	0.18	8.36	0.21	71	10	38	-9	
Greensboro	2.59	-0.51	4.63	-2.01	72	6	35	-7	
Greenville	3.96	0.51	9.00	1.12	71	10	37	-8	
Hickory	1.73	-2.14	4.45	-3.65	70	5	36	-7	
Jefferson	1.81	-1.92	3.58	-4.17	63	-4	26	-8	
Kinston	4.17	0.75	9.53	1.67	71	9	35	-10	
Maxton	4.06	0.47	8.73	0.83	70	12	39	-7	
Mount Airy	1.97	-1.39	4.53	-2.83	70	-2	31	-8	
New Bern	4.34	0.54	8.83	0.26	76	11	40	-8	
North Wilkesboro	2.24	-1.69	5.22	-3.13	71	-2	32	-7	
Oxford	3.05	-0.35	5.78	-1.70	71	2	32	-9	
Raeford	4.24	0.65	9.58	1.68	70	7	36	-11	
Raleigh-Durham	2.89	-0.58	6.24	-1.25	72	7	36	-8	
Roanoke Rapids	2.90	-0.40	6.42	-1.02	69	8	33	-8	
Robbinsville	3.92	-2.17	8.30	-4.96	61	-3	29	-12	
Roxboro	2.62	-0.78	5.00	-2.69	72	-1	32	-9	
Statesville	1.84	-1.71	4.46	-2.92	70	1	32	-11	
Vale	2.92	-0.87	5.79	-2.30	70	7	34	-11	
Washington	2.77	-0.57	7.98	0.28	70	9	34	-11	
Waynesville	5.46	0.92	8.95	-0.21	62	-2	31	-7	
Whiteville	4.62	1.21	6.98	-0.80	71	12	38	-10	
Williamston	3.92	0.58	8.73	1.03	70	10	35	-10	
Willimington	4.34	0.68	9.32	1.14	72	13	41	-8	
Wilson	3.22	-0.20	10.01	2.28	70	8	35	-9	
Winston-Salem	2.43	-0.67	3.83	-2.81	70	4	35	-7	

¹Precipitation data considered preliminary *Data not available.

PRECIPITATION SUMMARY

<http://www.awis.com/>

Map depicts accumulations through dates listed. This product is made possible by AWIS Weather Services, Inc. through dates listed. This product is made possible by AWIS Weather Services, Inc.



AWIS.COM

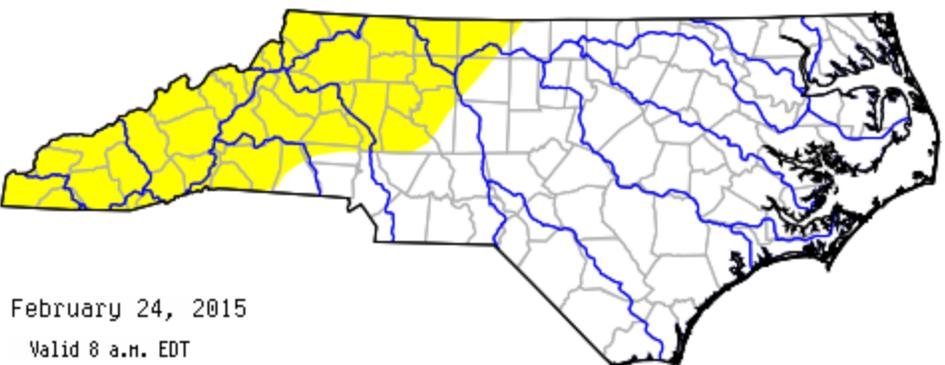
US DROUGHT MONITOR OF NORTH CAROLINA

<http://www.ncdrought.org/>

The US drought monitor focuses on broad scale conditions. Information provided for North Carolina is relative to information provided from all other states and the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council. Local conditions may vary.

Drought Classifications

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



County Boundaries Major River Basins ([View Map](#))
S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
L = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)