

North Carolina Weather & Crops Report

Released February 27, 2017



CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 26, 2017

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELD WORK

This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
6.7	n/a	n/a	n/a

SOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

	VS	ST	A	SS
Topsoil Moisture	6	44	47	3
Subsoil Moisture	5	20	71	4

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

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr. Avg.
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CROP CONDITION PERCENT

	VP	P	F	G	EX
Barley	1	2	18	77	2
Oats	0	14	46	38	2
Pasture	3	21	38	37	1
Wheat	0	7	24	57	12

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

Above normal temperatures are a concern. Should this continue and apple and peach trees bloom and cold temperatures come, this could cause damage or loss to the crop. We have received rain, but rain is still needed to bring soil moisture back to normal levels.

Julia Houck – Ashe-Alleghany County Extension

Rutherford County has had less than 2 inches of rain since the first of the year. Pastures are turning green with the warmer weather but the lack of rain is inhibiting its growth. Producers are looking at the weather to determine when and if they will plant. Cattle producers are exhausting hay reserves.

Janice - Rutherford County Extension

The month of February has been very mild and relatively dry. Temperatures have been above normal with near record high temperatures several days. Most of the county only received between 1.5" - 1.75" of rain for the month. Field conditions have been such that several producers have been plowing fields in preparation for 2017 planting. Pastures have greened considerably and most livestock producers have not had to feed as much hay as expected.

Stanley Holloway – Yancey County Extension

We have had 50% of normal rainfall for February, 2". Average is about 4".

Robert Hawk – Swain County Extension

Very dry and very warm temperatures. No moisture. Wheat looks good but worried about freeze damage when cold weather hits.

Gary Cross – Person County Extension

Warm temps are helping with field work, but cold dips continue. Most growers are tilling fields and spraying burn down in preparation for corn planting.

Daniel Simpson – Pamlico County Extension

Harnett County soils are getting very dry and need rain. The unseasonably warm temps have caused strawberries to start blooming and setting fruit early, some strawberries are already nickel size. Peach trees are also blooming and starting to see some blueberries blooming as well. Tobacco farmers have been seeding greenhouses and some have started land preparation. Cattle farms that calve in the fall are vaccinating cows and calves.

Brian Parrish – Harnett County Extension

Extremely warm and moderately dry conditions for February.

Randy Wood – Scotland County Extension

The wheat crop is growing fast due to the warm weather. If we have the potential for multiple freeze events in March and April we will more than likely lose some of our wheat crop. We are in a mild drought currently. We have not seen any measurable rainfall since mid-January.

Charles Mitchell - Franklin County Extension

The entire county remains abnormally dry. While there is no burning ban in place, residents are asked to use extreme caution when conducting outdoor burning.

Randy Fulk – Stokes County Extension

Very warm temperature and dry conditions are driving very early blooming of strawberries. Wheat and other small grains are in need of rain. Some tobacco growers are fumigating tobacco land, with some who are broadcast treating are close to finishing.

Don Nicholson – Agronomist Region 7

Temperatures just below to around freezing last night. Raleigh Exec Airport, typically a cold spot in the county, reported a low of 26. Unsure yet how the strawberry crop was impacted, most growers were prepared to protect. If berries are saved, ripe strawberries will be ready in about 2 weeks. No significant rain in almost 2 weeks. Dry conditions have allowed a lot of early field prep to be completed, some tobacco land has been fumigated. Warm and sunny weather have helped tobacco transplants get off to an excellent start.

Zachary Taylor - Lee County Extension

With the nice weather farmers were able to get a head start on herbicide burn-down applications. Tobacco transplants looking good so far in greenhouses. We had a light frost overnight, so many fruit tree blossoms that were exposed would have been killed.

Roy Thagard – Greene County Extension

Wheat is advanced in many areas due to warm conditions. Growers are concerned about potential freeze damage going into March. Some strawberry growers have started fertilizing and are picking berries on day neutral varieties. The crop is very advanced for this time in the season and freeze protection is a general concern.

Georgia Love – Agronomist Region 5

Extremely dry. Nancy Keith – Iredell county Extension

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY 26, 2017

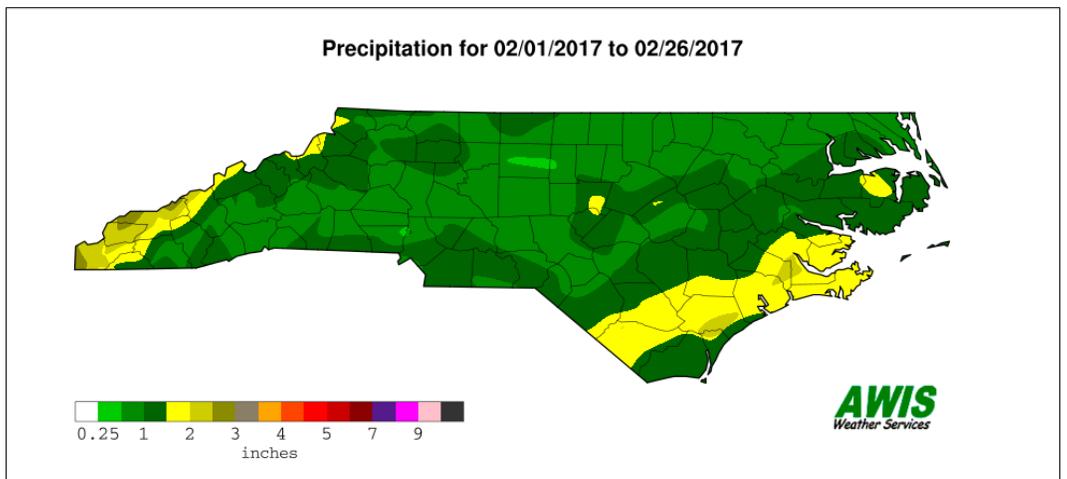
Location	Precipitation (Inches) ¹				Temperature (Degrees F.)				
	This Week		Year to Date		This Week				
	Total	Departure from Normal	Total	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Avg.	Departure from Normal	Degree Days (YTD)
Asheboro	0.51	-2.93	5.20	-2.67	79	23	53	10	
Asheville	0.62	-2.91	4.34	-3.25	78	21	48	9	
Burlington	0.48	-2.61	4.24	-2.73	83	23	52	10	
Charlotte	1.17	-2.10	6.88	-0.39	80	24	54	9	
Clayton	1.54	-1.74	5.44	-2.04	81	24	50	8	
Clinton	1.30	-1.67	3.69	-3.61	79	27	53	8	
Dunn	0.60	-2.77	3.66	-3.84	84	24	53	10	
Elizabeth City	0.92	-1.92	4.37	-3.05	82	22	51	7	
Fayetteville	0.99	-2.18	3.42	-3.91	83	28	57	13	
Gastonia-Gaston	1.15	-2.32	6.40	-1.28	81	24	55	12	
Goldsboro	1.09	-2.25	3.70	-4.18	82	26	55	9	
Greensboro	0.49	-2.37	5.61	-0.79	81	20	52	11	
Greenville	1.01	-2.18	4.58	-3.04	82	26	54	10	
Hickory	0.99	-2.58	5.08	-2.72	83	19	52	10	
Jefferson	1.43	-2.02	6.28	-1.19	71	8	41	7	
Kinston	1.08	-2.08	5.05	-2.55	82	25	52	8	
Maxton	0.93	-2.38	4.13	-3.49	82	26	55	10	
Mount Airy	0.93	-2.17	5.07	-2.03	79	19	46	8	
New Bern	1.97	-1.55	6.22	-2.07	83	25	54	8	
North Wilkesboro	1.06	-2.58	5.76	-2.30	80	19	48	10	
Oxford	0.57	-2.57	3.99	-3.23	78	20	47	7	
Raleigh-Durham	0.65	-2.56	4.42	-2.81	83	26	54	11	
Reidsville	0.93	-2.24	5.21	-2.18	79	19	48	8	
Roanoke Rapids	0.74	-2.31	4.51	-2.68	81	24	50	10	
Robbinsville	2.31	-3.34	8.56	-4.26	73	18	46	6	
Rockingham	1.11	-2.20	4.69	-3.00	80	27	55	11	
Roxboro	0.94	-2.20	5.47	-1.96	81	20	49	9	
Southern Pines	0.83	-2.51	4.20	-3.76	82	23	54	11	
Statesville	0.75	-2.52	5.74	-1.36	80	20	48	6	
Tarboro	0.95	-2.32	4.45	-3.09	81	24	50	9	
Vale	0.74	-2.75	5.46	-2.33	80	18	49	6	
Wallace	1.70	-1.56	5.96	-1.79	81	27	53	5	
Washington	0.96	-2.12	4.74	-2.70	82	26	53	9	
Waynesville	0.94	-3.26	4.40	-4.42	72	13	44	7	
Whiteville	2.01	-1.14	4.26	-3.26	80	29	54	7	
Williamston	1.24	-1.84	4.66	-2.78	82	28	52	8	
Wilmington	1.32	-2.08	5.54	-2.38	79	29	56	8	
Wilson	1.41	-1.75	4.66	-2.81	81	24	53	10	
Winston Salem	0.80	-2.06	5.44	-0.96	81	20	51	10	

¹ Precipitation 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.



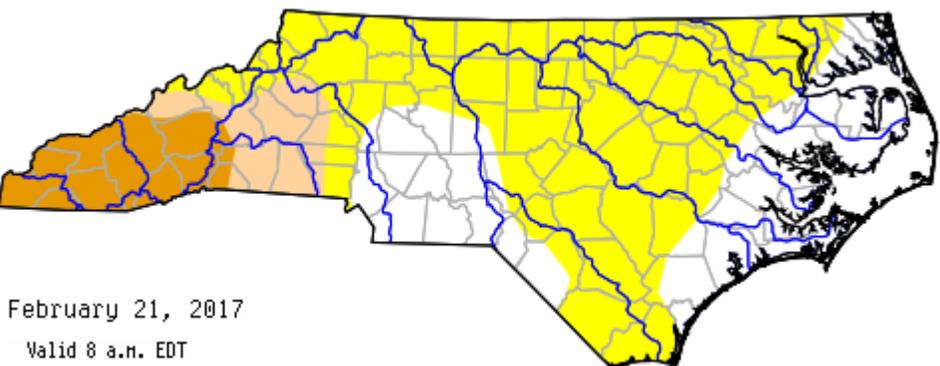
US DROUGHT MONITOR OF NORTH CAROLINA

<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)