

North Carolina Weather & Crops Report

Released April 17, 2017



CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 16, 2017

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELD WORK

This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
6.5	5.5	6.1	4.7

SOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

	VS	ST	A	SS
Topsoil Moisture	3	29	66	2
Subsoil Moisture	3	21	75	1

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

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr. Avg.
PLANTED: Corn	32	10	42	40

CROP CONDITION PERCENT

	VP	P	F	G	EX
Barley	1	14	35	46	4
Oats	1	4	34	58	3
Pasture	2	12	36	45	5
Wheat	1	9	25	59	6

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

Weather conditions for the week were warm and dry with only a trace of precipitation. Concerns are increasing for the potential of wildfires due to the dry conditions. Pastures and hay crops continue to improve with warmer temps and in response to fertilization. Field preparations for this year's crops are now in full swing. **Stanley Holloway – Yancey County Extension**
The county is getting drier and water levels in streams and the river have dropped. Producers are getting ready to plant corn, tobacco and other spring seeded crops.

Julia Houck – Ashe/Alleghany County Extension

No rainfall in this last period with soil conditions starting to dry out both in top soil and sub soil. Temperatures were above normal with wind and sun contributing to drying. Wildfires on small scale were reported in the area. Pastures still green but growth has stalled some. **Robert Hawk – Swain County Extension**

Most of county continues in moderate drought, with areas in severe drought. **Steve Duckett - Buncombe County Extension**
Franklin County is extremely dry at this time. Rain is needed in order to make this a good tobacco setting season. This early heat and wind can cause problems for setting tobacco and vegetable transplants. The lack of rain has also caused some pastures to start showing signs of drought. Small grains have started heading and we are seeing signs of freeze damage and the wheat seems to be stunted a little as well. Strawberry season has started early and picking is sporadic. There seems to be hope for a good crop based on the blooms that we are currently seeing.

Charles Mitchell - Franklin county Extension

Freeze event from 3/13-3/18 decimated peach and blueberry crops. We expect to have only 10% of a peach crop, and perhaps 40% of a normal blueberry crop. The freeze also depressed strawberry yields, but only temporarily, (Reduced the Easter weekend pick by 1/2 to 2/3).

Taylor Williams – Moore County Extension

Dry warm weather has sped corn planting. Could use a rain shower to help germination. Would appear most corn will be planted timely and beans will follow shortly.

Daniel Simpson – Pamlico County Extension

Tobacco transplanting has begun, field conditions are good but could use a rain. **Don Nicholson – Agronomist Region 7**
Peach growers in the area ha about a 40% crop, blueberries are looking good for now. Strawberries are starting to be harvested.

Danelle Cutting – Rowan County Extension

Freeze damage in strawberries set back harvest 20-30 days. Cool temperatures in April are helping keep this crop going but crop loss because of shorter harvest windows will likely occur. Freeze damage in early blooming blueberry varieties is 90%-100%. Later maturing varieties have some freeze damage but there is a crop coming for harvest. Total loss can't be determined until harvest is complete to compare variety performance from previous years with this year's crop. Early planted corn looks good to excellent across the county. Wheat looks good in general but there is some frost injury evident in unfilled kernels.

Mark Seitz – Pender County Extension

Tobacco setting began late last week and many acres will be set this week if weather allows. Conditions are dry, and a measurable rainfall is needed.

Zachary Taylor - County Extension

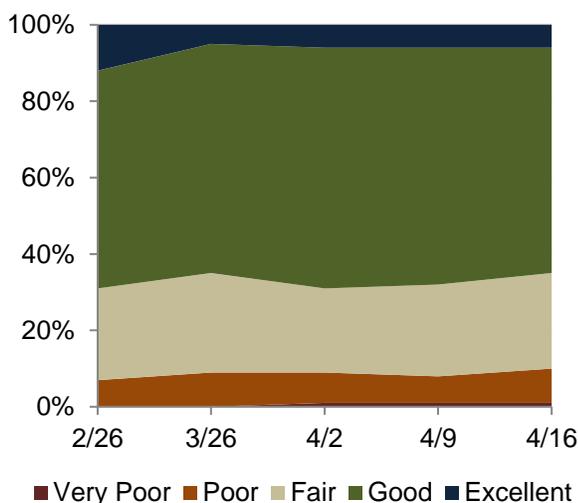
There were a couple of showers during the week, but fields are still pretty dry. Farmers are saying that we need a lot more rainfall to get soil moisture levels up. Wheat started heading during the week and is doing fairly well. Most fields have recovered from cold damage. Tobacco transplanting will likely start next week. Strawberries are in full swing, with growers reporting thrips damage. Pastures and hay fields are starting to grow well across the county, but rainfall is needed to boost forage growth. Farmers are applying fertilizers to pastures and are controlling broadleaf weeds. **Paul Westfall – Granville County Extension**
Observed hessian fly infestation in one field.

Cameron Lowe – Currituck County Extension

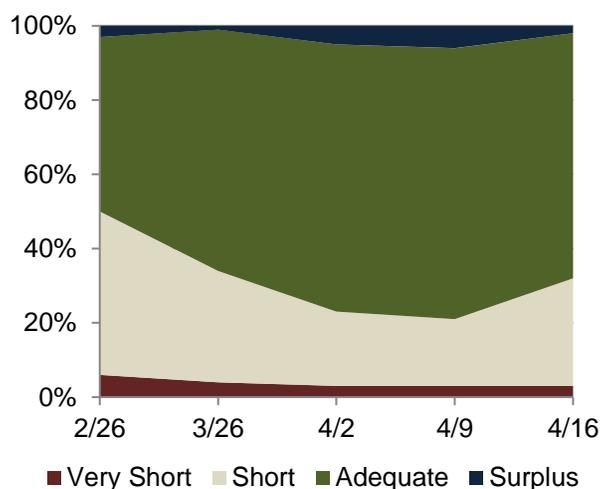
Corn and tobacco growers are off to a good start for #Plant17. Nice weather conditions have allowed tobacco transplanting to begin a week earlier than normal. Moisture is adequate now, but if we sure could use some showers soon.

Roy Thagard – Greene County Extension

WINTER WHEAT PERCENT CONDITION



TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT



WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 16, 2017

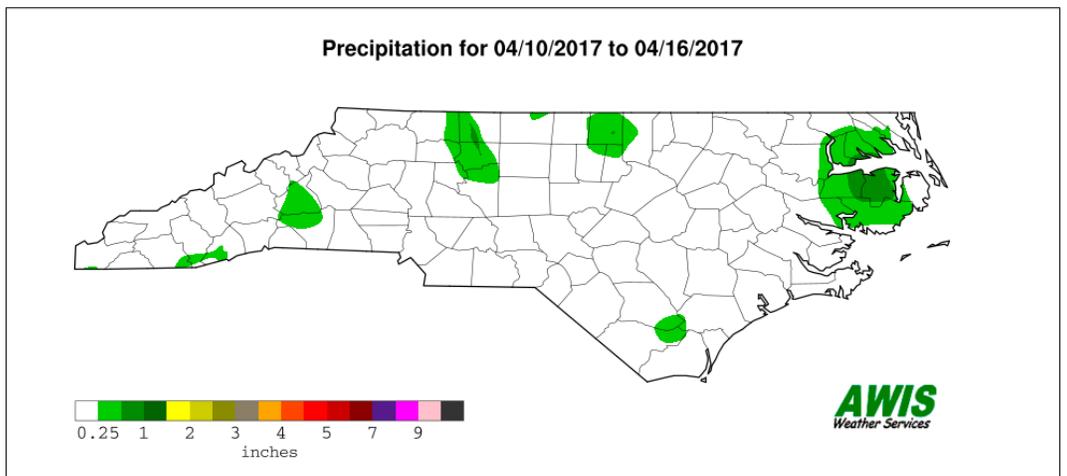
Location	Precipitation (Inches) ¹				Temperature (Degrees F.)				
	This Week		Year to Date		This Week				
	Total	Departure from Normal	Total	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Avg.	Departure from Normal	Degree Days (YTD)
Asheboro	0.02	-0.75	8.43	-5.82	82	51	67	8	205
Asheville	0.00	-0.77	9.50	-4.83	81	44	64	10	146
Burlington	0.00	-0.71	7.99	-5.17	84	47	67	9	214
Charlotte	0.00	-0.65	11.47	-2.06	83	47	67	6	218
Clayton	0.62	-0.05	11.12	-2.52	82	39	64	6	184
Clinton	0.00	-0.70	7.56	-6.23	83	42	65	5	217
Elizabeth City	0.34	-0.29	8.63	-5.31	80	49	65	6	202
Erwin	0.05	-0.68	8.21	-5.91	84	48	68	9	238
Fayetteville	0.00	-0.70	6.88	-6.81	85	47	68	8	256
Gastonia-Gaston	0.00	-0.64	10.80	-2.96	83	46	67	8	212
Goldsboro	0.00	-0.77	8.18	-6.27	84	46	68	6	241
Greensboro	0.01	-0.76	9.06	-3.23	82	48	67	10	201
Greenville	0.09	-0.61	10.08	-3.56	84	46	68	8	218
Hickory	0.00	-0.84	11.49	-3.52	81	51	67	9	179
Jefferson	0.00	-0.90	12.28	-2.14	76	22	55	7	45
Kinston	0.00	-0.77	9.20	-4.77	84	39	65	6	203
Maxton	0.07	-0.57	8.46	-5.48	83	45	66	5	228
Mount Airy	0.17	-0.67	11.56	-2.26	81	31	60	6	107
New Bern	0.00	-0.77	11.75	-3.12	82	44	66	5	227
North Wilkesboro	0.02	-1.01	11.67	-3.91	83	37	64	9	144
Oxford	0.08	-0.59	7.97	-5.47	80	38	63	7	147
Raleigh-Durham	0.00	-0.63	8.36	-4.62	85	49	68	9	232
Reidsville	0.00	-0.90	9.23	-4.94	83	40	65	8	173
Roanoke Rapids	0.12	-0.63	9.84	-3.56	83	39	65	8	195
Robbinsville	0.00	-1.20	18.29	-4.79	82	38	64	10	148
Rockingham	0.04	-0.63	9.55	-4.44	83	42	66	7	214
Roxboro	0.52	-0.25	9.79	-4.10	83	33	64	8	157
Southern Pines	0.05	-0.66	8.33	-6.25	85	49	68	8	224
Statesville	0.00	-0.77	11.80	-1.87	82	31	64	6	154
Tarboro	0.00	-0.70	9.94	-3.71	82	40	65	8	194
Vale	0.00	-0.75	12.43	-2.27	84	33	64	5	154
Wallace	0.00	-0.69	11.43	-2.66	83	39	64	1	205
Washington	0.04	-0.66	10.48	-3.24	81	46	66	7	220
Waynesville	0.00	-0.87	10.70	-5.76	81	33	62	11	130
Whiteville	0.00	-0.63	9.80	-4.00	82	42	65	3	219
Williamston	0.09	-0.61	10.08	-3.64	82	42	65	6	202
Wilmington	0.00	-0.63	11.09	-2.82	82	47	66	4	236
Wilson	0.15	-0.55	8.60	-5.18	82	46	67	8	218
Winston Salem	0.51	-0.26	11.01	-1.28	82	51	68	11	204

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.



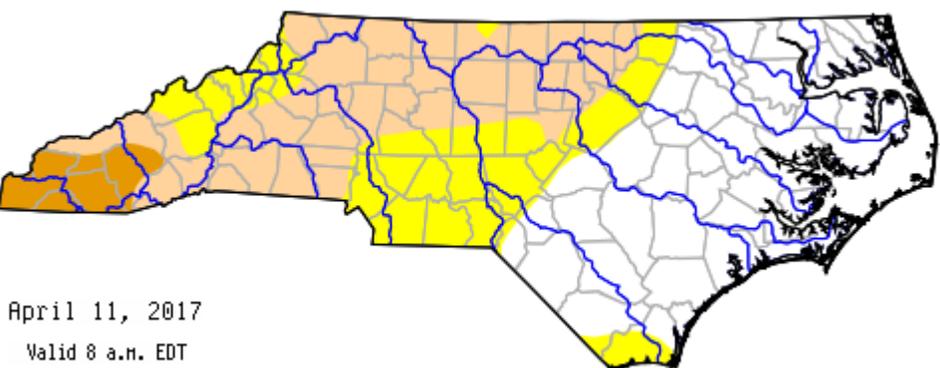
US DROUGHT MONITOR OF NORTH CAROLINA

<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)