

# North Carolina Weather & Crops Report

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## CROP SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2014

GENERAL: Days suitable for field work 3.3. Topsoil moisture 2% short, 57% adequate and 41% surplus. Subsoil moisture 4% short, 68% adequate and 28% surplus. The state received widespread rainfall this month with some areas receiving over 4.0 inches. Average temperatures were above normal for this time of the year. Reported crop progress data for the week showed soybeans harvest at 96% and sorghum at 97%.

### CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
<b>HARVESTED:</b>				
Sorghum	97	n/a	n/a	n/a
Soybeans	96	n/a	99	98

### CROP CONDITION PERCENT

	VP	P	F	G	EX
Barley	0	0	19	74	7
Oats	0	0	15	77	8
Pasture	2	15	44	36	3
Wheat	0	1	22	70	7

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

### SOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

	VS	ST	A	SS
Topsoil Moisture	0	2	57	41
Subsoil Moisture	0	4	68	28

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

The month of December was fairly. Temperatures were on the mild side. Christmas tree growers reported having a pretty good sales year with demand for real trees improving. The burley tobacco crop was good for most producers; however, marketing has been an issue for area producers as prices are quite low, especially for non-contract tobacco. Main farm activities for the month included harvesting/marketing Christmas trees, stripping and baling burley tobacco, tending livestock, winterizing equipment, and planning for next production season.

**Stanley Holloway – Yancey County Extension**

Fields are very wet, and very little field work is being done. Soybean and grain sorghum harvest finished during December. Livestock farmers are feeding hay and supplements. Winter meetings are being planned. Tobacco farmers are negotiating contracts for 2015.

**Paul Westfall – Granville County Extension**

Wet conditions toward the end of December has kept the soybean harvest from being completed. There are still many acres of soybeans left to be harvested, but until a significant cold, dry stretch of weather comes, it will not be harvested. Small grains are looking good in most areas, and tillering has been good. **Colby Lambert – Agronomist Region 9**

Extremely wet conditions have harvesting of remaining acres of soybeans at a standstill.

**Don Nicholson – Agronomist Region 7**

Wet and unseasonably warm and humid weather has some grain sorghum left in the field waiting to be harvested.

**Richard Rhodes – Bertie County Extension**

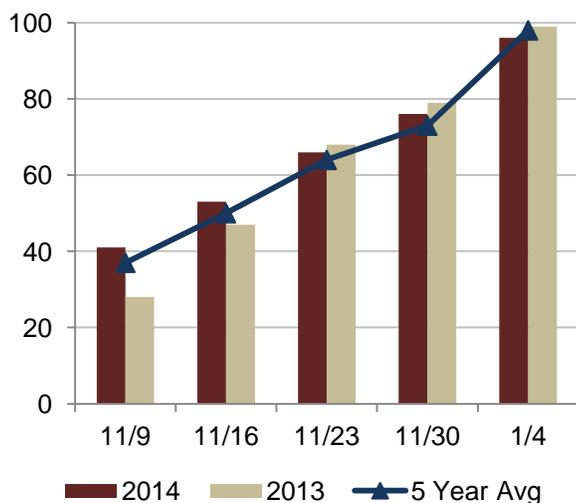
Harvest of all crops complete. Farmers working field edges and drainage ditches, and working on equipment in their shops. **Tommy R Grandy – Currituck County Extension**

With the periods of rain we've had lately, fields are wet. Most farmers have finished with crop harvests and ditch clean up, so not a lot going on in the field. Winter wheat looks overall fair. Fertilizer amendments will be needed by the end of the month on some of the crop due to the amount of rain we've seen. **Roy Thagard – Greene County Extension**

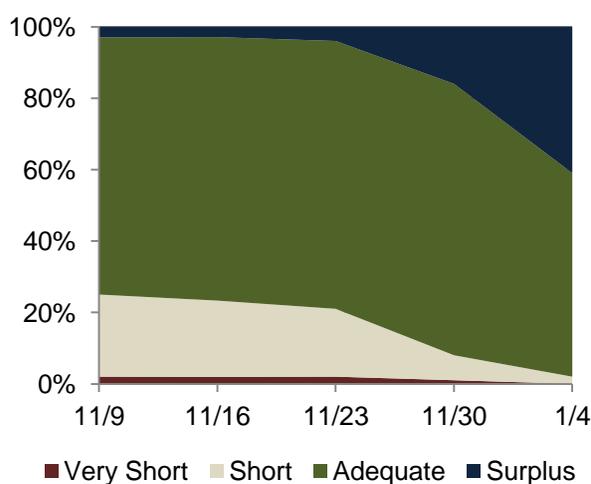
Excessive rain during December prevented the completion of soybean and grain sorghum harvest.

**Cathy Herring – Central Crops**

**SOYBEAN PERCENT HARVESTED**



**TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT**



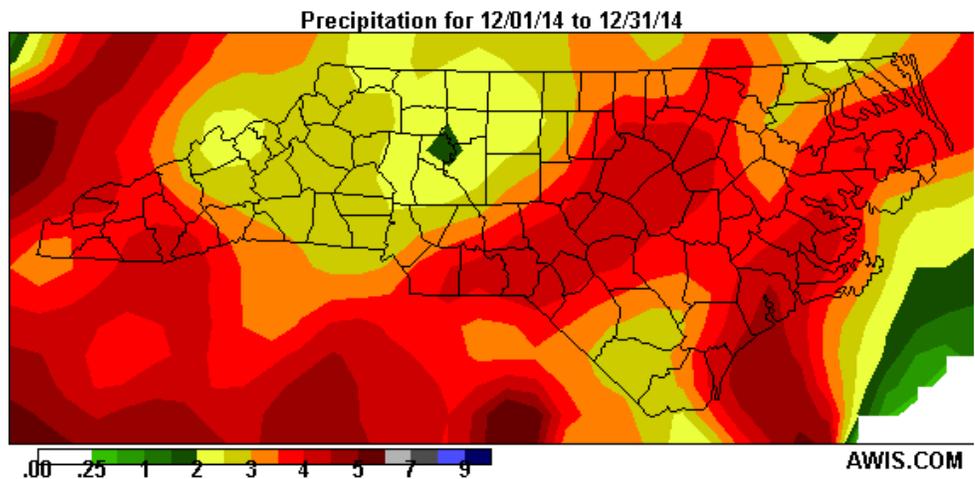
WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2014									
Location	Precipitation (Inches) <sup>1</sup>				Temperature (Degrees F.)				
	This Month		Year To Date		This Month				Degree Days (Year to Date)
	Total	Departure from Normal	Total	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Avg.	Departure from Normal	
Asheboro	3.10	-0.16	45.39	-1.24	71	25	44	2	4305
Asheville	2.40	-1.00	46.96	-0.11	70	23	45	7	3676
Burlington	2.13	-1.01	35.43	-9.65	74	24	45	3	4562
Charlotte	2.57	-0.61	45.46	1.95	73	22	46	3	4750
Clayton	5.18	2.00	65.02	19.32	73	24	44	3	4307
Clinton	3.61	0.37	45.80	-3.39	71	27	46	3	4803
Dunn	4.58	1.08	45.18	-3.40	73	24	46	4	4886
Elizabeth City	3.14	0.08	40.78	-6.08	75	28	50	5	4882
Fayetteville	4.22	1.04	42.52	-4.26	73	27	48	4	5400
Gastonia-Gaston	2.41	-1.16	48.72	3.92	73	24	47	5	4628
Goldsboro	4.82	1.46	54.28	4.72	73	28	48	3	5167
Greensboro	2.21	-0.85	36.36	-6.78	73	25	44	4	4510
Greenville	4.59	1.36	58.60	9.26	73	26	46	2	4953
Hickory	2.46	-1.13	43.67	-5.31	73	27	45	4	4319
Jefferson	2.68	-0.60	47.51	-1.17	66	17	40	5	2522
Kinston	3.31	-0.25	51.39	0.27	72	26	46	2	4777
Maxton	3.79	0.51	40.94	-7.23	73	22	48	4	5099
Mount Airy	3.30	-0.01	41.70	-5.29	72	22	42	5	3541
New Bern	4.15	0.31	54.86	0.18	76	29	51	5	5623
North Wilkesboro	3.09	-0.53	45.49	-5.19	73	23	43	5	3733
Oxford	3.05	-0.07	46.70	1.36	71	26	43	3	4209
Raeford	4.79	1.51	48.94	0.77	72	22	46	1	4559
Raleigh-Durham	5.01	1.97	55.29	12.24	74	26	45	3	4758
Roanoke Rapids	4.26	1.06	55.28	9.10	73	28	44	3	4489
Robbinsville	4.06	-1.96	54.12	-12.01	62	22	42	3	3375
Roxboro	4.18	0.78	52.96	6.33	73	25	43	4	3935
Statesville	2.40	-1.24	38.54	-7.43	72	18	42	1	3743
Vale	3.40	-0.34	45.39	-2.77	73	21	43	2	3891
Washington	2.40	-0.76	50.16	0.86	72	26	46	3	4814
Waynesville	2.87	-1.17	45.01	-3.76	63	15	42	6	3203
Whiteville	2.96	-0.31	50.70	0.48	76	24	48	1	4944
Williamston	5.04	1.88	56.73	7.43	73	28	47	3	4751
Willimington	4.99	1.21	59.83	2.76	74	29	51	3	5578
Wilson	4.78	1.46	55.72	9.08	72	27	45	2	5101
Winston-Salem	1.94	-1.12	35.66	-7.48	72	27	44	4	4409

<sup>1</sup>Precipitation data considered preliminary

### 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.



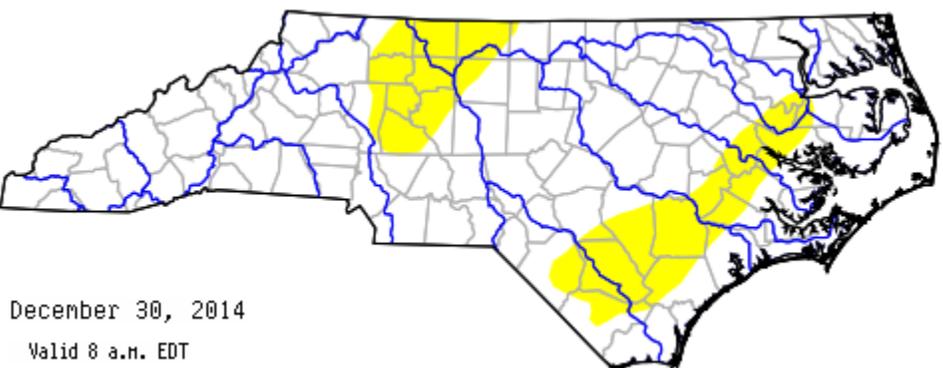
### US DROUGHT MONITOR OF NORTH CAROLINA

<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)