

North Carolina Drought Update

For the assessment period ending August 4, 2020

Statewide Condition Summary

This Week's Drought Monitor of North Carolina Map

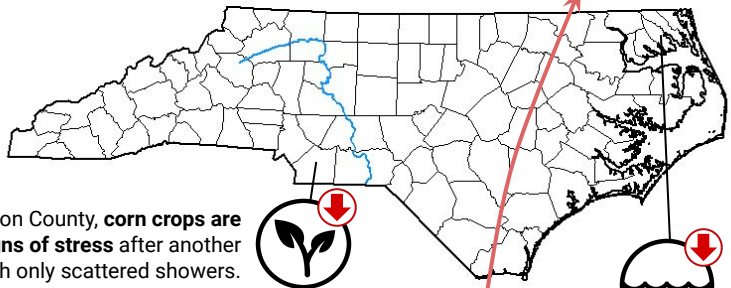
From the US Drought Monitor, authored by Brian Fuchs (*National Drought Mitigation Center*) with input from the *North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council* (ncdrought.org)



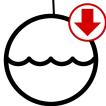
Soil moisture levels have surged above normal everywhere except the Charlotte area, which had an inch of rain or less in the past week.



The interior Coastal Plain received **2 to 4 inches of rain from Isaias**, including at least 3 inches across the dozen D0 counties.

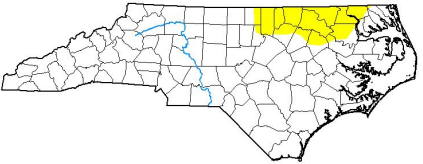


In Union County, **corn crops are showing signs of stress** after another hot week with only scattered showers.



With only 1 inch of rain from Isaias in Elizabeth City, **groundwater levels continue to decline**, but remain near-normal for this time of year.

Last Week's Drought Map



A PRODUCT OF **PROJECT NIGHTHAWK**
<https://climate.ncsu.edu/nighthawk>



What's Changed? The rainfall from Hurricane Isaias eliminated any Abnormal Dryness in NC just a week after it was re-added to the state's drought map.

What's New? Isaias neutralized the precipitation deficits that built up in July, but it didn't completely end any concerns about dryness. Some of the rain ran off instead of soaking into the ground, while the northeast coast and southwest Piedmont saw less rain from the storm and remain slightly drier than normal for the summer so far. A few more hot, dry weeks could see Abnormally Dry conditions re-emerge, even in hurricane-hit areas.

What's Next? High temperatures will return to the low 90s with mostly pop-up showers in the coming week.

Statewide Coverage By Category

| Category | Coverage This Week | Change Since Last Week |
|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| D0: Abnormally Dry | 0.00% | -9.61% |
| D1: Moderate Drought | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| D2: Severe Drought | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| D3: Extreme Drought | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| D4: Exceptional Drought | 0.00% | 0.00% |