

OVERVIEW:

VERY LITTLE RAIN FELL BETWEEN OCTOBER 9TH AND 16TH. MOST LOCATIONS RECEIVED LESS THAN ONE QUARTER OF AN INCH.

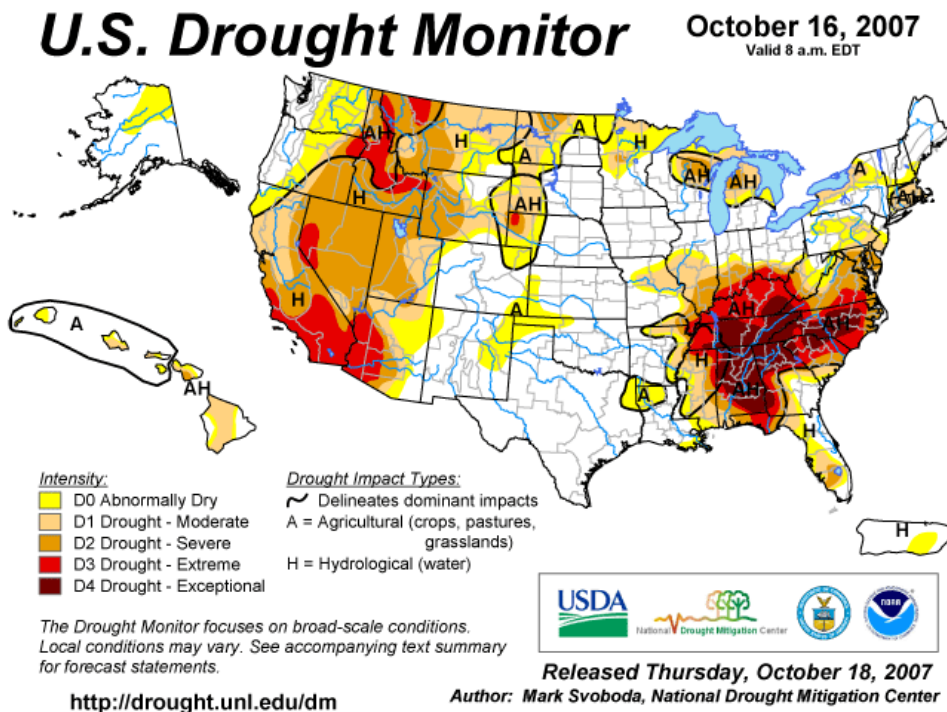
FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR TO DATE...MOST LOCATIONS ARE STILL 6 TO 12 INCHES BEHIND ON RAINFALL. SOME PORTIONS OF WESTERN KENTUCKY ARE RUNNING 16 TO 20 INCHES BELOW NORMAL.

TWO ROUNDS OF SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS OVER THE LAST 48 HOURS...THE 17TH AND 18TH...HAVE PRODUCED COPIOUS AMOUNTS OF RAIN FOR MANY. WHILE THIS WILL CERTAINLY HELP DROUGHT CONDITIONS...THIS RAINFALL WILL NOT BE FIGURED INTO DROUGHT CALCULATIONS UNTIL NEXT WEEK'S ISSUANCE...ON OCTOBER 25TH...OF THE DROUGHT MONITOR.

LOCAL AREA AFFECTED:

IN THE OCTOBER 16TH ISSUANCE OF THE U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR...EXTREME DROUGHT CONDITIONS INCLUDE ALL OF WEST KENTUCKY AND SOUTHWEST INDIANA. MISSISSIPPI AND NEW MADRID COUNTIES IN SOUTHEAST MISSOURI ARE ALSO INCLUDED IN THE EXTREME DROUGHT. SEVERE DROUGHT COVERS SOUTHERN ILLINOIS AND THE REST OF SOUTHEAST MISSOURI.

EXCEPTIONAL DROUGHT CONDITIONS...THE HIGHEST CATEGORY OF DROUGHT ...HAVE CREPT NORTH OUT OF TENNESEE INTO THE FAR SOUTHERN PORTIONS OF TRIGG...CHRISTIAN AND TODD COUNTIES IN WEST KENTUCKY.



U.S. Drought Monitor

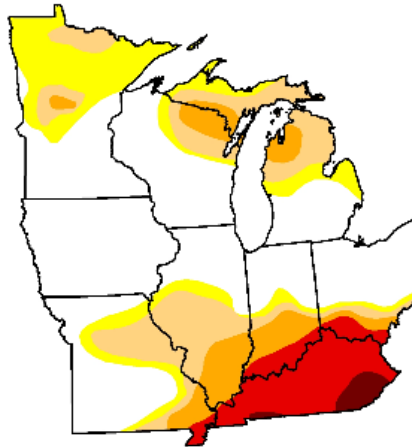
Midwest

October 16, 2007
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	51.5	48.5	33.7	18.7	10.6	1.3
Last Week (10/09/2007 map)	48.3	51.7	36.1	18.9	9.9	1.2
3 Months Ago (07/24/2007 map)	32.4	67.6	44.3	12.3	0.3	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/02/2007 map)	57.8	42.2	18.0	11.1	7.1	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/02/2007 map)	46.3	53.7	39.3	18.8	8.6	1.2
One Year Ago (10/17/2006 map)	60.6	39.4	24.6	11.5	7.4	0.0

Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements



Released Thursday, October 18, 2007

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<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>

STATE AND LOCAL ACTIONS:

THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY MAINTAINS A WATER SHORTAGE WATCH FOR MUHLENBERG COUNTY OF WEST KENTUCKY. A WATER SHORTAGE WATCH IS ISSUED WHEN DROUGHT CONDITIONS HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO THREATEN THE NORMAL AVAILABILITY OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY SOURCES.

THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS IS ALLOWING FARMERS TO WITHDRAW WATER FROM THEIR 13 RESERVOIRS THROUGHOUT KENTUCKY TO WATER LIVESTOCK.

ALL OF KENTUCKY HAS BEEN GIVEN A FEDERAL DISASTER DECLARATION DUE TO THE EXTENDED DROUGHT. THE DECLARATION MAKES FARMERS ELIGIBLE FOR LOW INTEREST EMERGENCY LOANS. LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS IN PARTICULAR ARE IN DIRE NEED OF WATER AND FEED FOR THEIR ANIMALS.

CLIMATE SUMMARY:

AS OF OCTOBER 16...VERY LITTLE RAIN HAD FALLEN ACROSS THE FOUR STATE AREA AND MOST REPORTING SITES WERE UP TO ONE AND ONE QUARTER INCH BELOW NORMAL FOR THE FIRST THREE WEEKS OF THE MONTH.

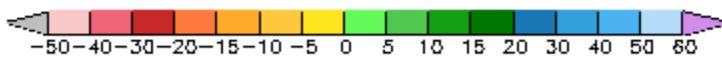
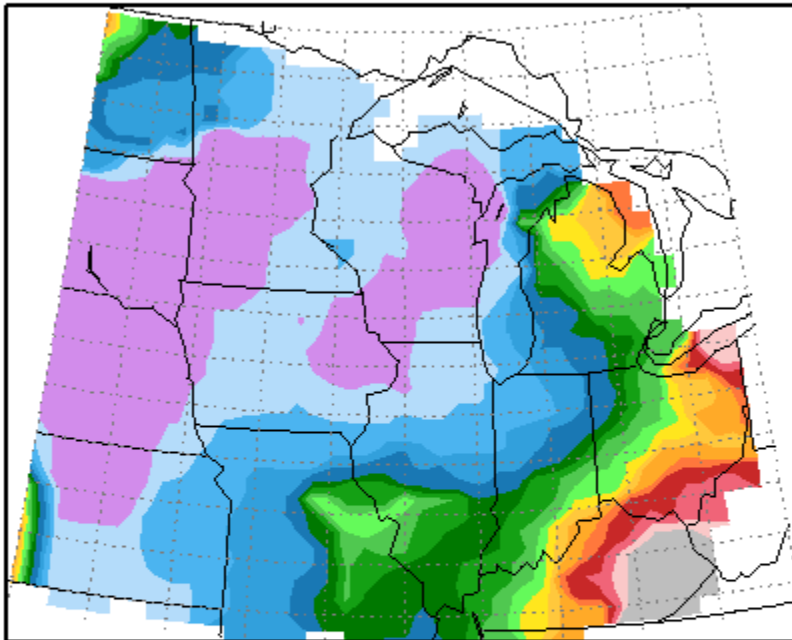
SINCE JANUARY 1...ENDING OCTOBER 16...PADUCAH MEASURED 28.27 INCHES OF RAIN. THIS IS 10.21 INCHES BELOW NORMAL. IN EVANSVILLE...25.06 INCHES OF RAIN HAD FALLEN. THIS IS 9.94 INCHES BELOW NORMAL.

TWO ROUNDS OF SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS OVER THE LAST 48 HOURS...THE 17TH AND 18TH...HAVE PRODUCED AVERAGE RAIN AMOUNTS OF 1 TO 3 INCHES. A FEW ISOLATED LOCATIONS HAVE RECEIVED BETWEEN 4 AND 6 INCHES.

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS:

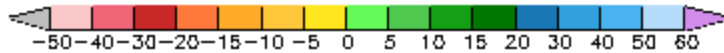
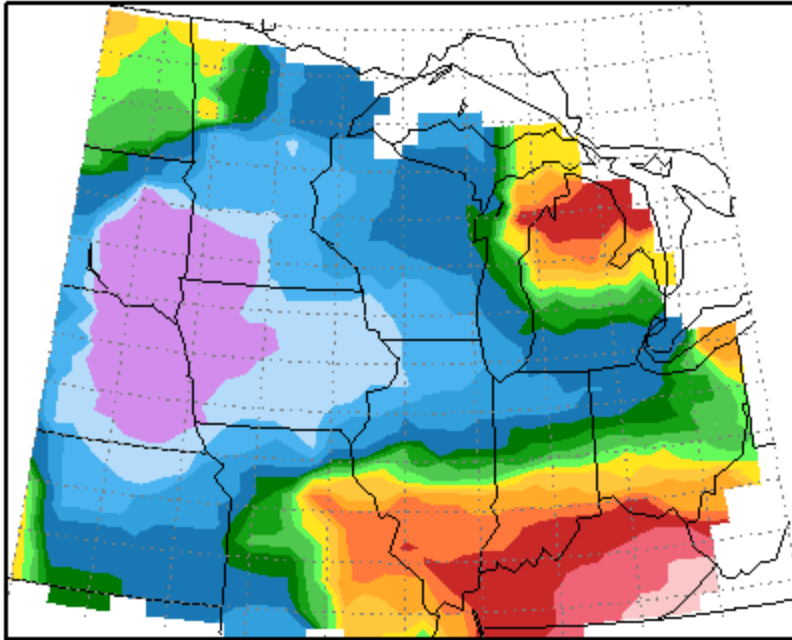
TAKING IN THE FIRST ROUND OF RAINFALL ON OCTOBER 17TH...IN THE TOP 12 INCHES OF SOIL...MOISTURE IS UP TO ONE HALF INCH ABOVE NORMAL....5% TO 30% PERCENT ABOVE NORMAL.

**Current Soil Moisture Deviation (%), Depth = 0-12
October-18-2007**



Midwestern Regional Climate Center
Illinois State Water Survey
Champaign, Illinois

**Current Soil Moisture Deviation (%), Depth = 0-72
October-18-2007**

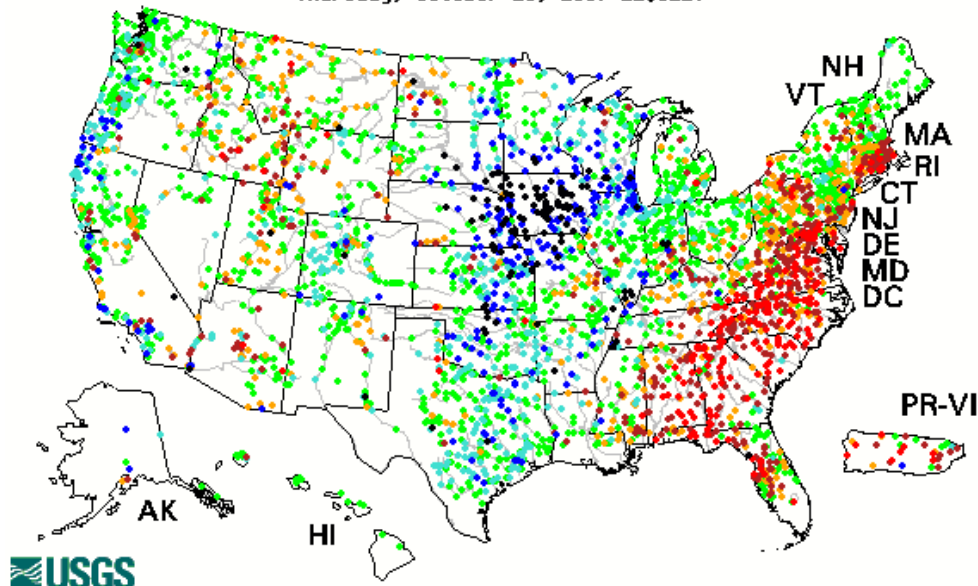


Midwestern Regional Climate Center
Illinois State Water Survey
Champaign, Illinois

RIVER AND STREAMFLOW CONDITIONS:

MANY OF THE STREAMS ACROSS THE FOUR STATE REGION ARE BELOW THEIR NORMAL FLOW FOR THIS TYPICALLY LOW-FLOW TIME OF YEAR ALTHOUGH RECENT RAINFALL WILL HELP. (CLICK ON MAP FOR LARGER IMAGE.)

Thursday, October 18, 2007 12:31ET



Explanation - Percentile classes						
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

AGRICULTURAL IMPACTS:

IN KENTUCKY...86 PERCENT OF THE PASTURELAND IS RATED AS POOR OR VERY POOR AND PRODUCERS ARE HAVING TO HAUL WATER TO THEIR LIVESTOCK AND FEED HAY EARLIER THAN NORMAL. EIGHT PERCENT OF THE HOUSED TOBACCO IS RATED AS POOR OR VERY POOR. THE SOYBEAN HARVEST IS HALFWAY COMPLETE...OF WHAT IS IN THE FIELD...44 PERCENT IS RATED AS POOR OR VERY POOR. WINTER WHEAT SEEDING IS UNDERWAY BUT SLOW DUE TO LACK OF MOISTURE FOR GERMINATION.

IN INDIANA...69 PERCENT OF PASTURELAND WAS RATED AS POOR OR VERY POOR. THE SOYBEAN HARVEST HAS BEGUN...OF WHAT IS IN THE FIELD...20 PERCENT WAS RATED AS POOR OR VERY POOR. THE CORN HARVEST IS WELL UNDERWAY...OF WHAT REMAINS IN THE FIELD...16 PERCENT IS RATED AS POOR OR VERY POOR.

IN ILLINOIS...52 PERCENT OF PASTURELAND WAS RATED AS POOR OR VERY POOR. THE CORN AND SOYBEAN HARVESTS ARE UNDERWAY.

IN SOUTHEAST MISSOURI...96 PERCENT OF PASTURELAND WAS RATED AS POOR OR VERY POOR. OVER HALF OF THE SOYBEANS HAVE BEEN HARVESTED...OF WHAT IS IN THE FIELD...52 PERCENT WAS RATED AS POOR OR VERY POOR. ALMOST HALF OF THE WINTER WHEAT SEEDING IS COMPLETE.

FIRE DANGER IMPACTS:

KENTUCKY GOVERNOR ERNIE FLETCHER SIGNED AN EXECUTIVE ORDER PROHIBITING ALL OPEN BURNING WITHIN THE STATE. THE BAN PROHIBITS ANY OPEN FLAME IN THE ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING...BUT NOT LIMITED TO...CAMPFIRES...BONFIRES...LEAF BURNING...DEBRIS BURNING...FIRE TRAINING...AGRICULTURAL BURNING...AND NATURAL LAND MANAGEMENT.

IN SOUTHWEST INDIANA THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES HAVE BURN BANS IN EFFECT...POSEY...SPENCER AND VANDERBURGH INCLUDING THE CITY OF EVANSVILLE. RECENT RAINS MAY AFFECT BANS SO CHECK WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS BEFORE CONDUCTING ANY BURNING.

IN SOUTHEAST MISSOURI AND SOUTHERN ILLINOIS...BECAUSE OF PERSISTENT DROUGHT CONDITIONS DURING THE SUMMER...CHECK WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS BEFORE CONDUCTING ANY BURNING.

PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK:

DRY AND WARMING CONDITIONS WILL EXIST THROUGH THE WEEKEND. WHILE THERE IS STILL UNCERTAINTY AS TO HOW THE WEATHER PATTERN WILL EVOLVE NEXT WEEK...THERE IS MOUNTING EVIDENCE THAT THERE WILL BE MULTIPLE DAYS OF RAIN.

THE 8 TO 14 DAY OUTLOOK FOR OCTOBER 26 THROUGH NOVEMBER 1...CALLS FOR BELOW NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND NORMAL PRECIPITATION. NORMAL PRECIPITATION DURING THIS TIME PERIOD IS AROUND EIGHT TENTHS OF AN INCH.

THE LONGER TERM OUTLOOK FOR NOVEMBER THROUGH JANUARY CALLS FOR ABOVE NORMAL TEMPERATURES TO CONTINUE. THE PRECIPITATION OUTLOOK IS FOR NEAR NORMAL PRECIPITATION AMOUNTS. THE CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER HAS INDICATED THAT THROUGH THE EARLY PART OF THE WINTER...THERE MAY BE SOME IMPROVEMENT IN DROUGHT CONDITIONS.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS DROUGHT INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

THE DROUGHT MONITOR IS A MULTI-AGENCY EFFORT INVOLVING THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE AND NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER...THE USDA...STATE AND REGIONAL CENTER CLIMATOLOGISTS...AND THE NATIONAL DROUGHT MITIGATION CENTER. INFORMATION FOR THIS STATEMENT HAS BEEN GATHERED FROM NWS AND FAA OBSERVATION SITES...STATE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICES...THE USDA...CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

NEXT UPDATE: IF NEEDED...ON OR AROUND FRIDAY OCTOBER 26.