

TIMELY INFORMATION

Agriculture & Natural Resources

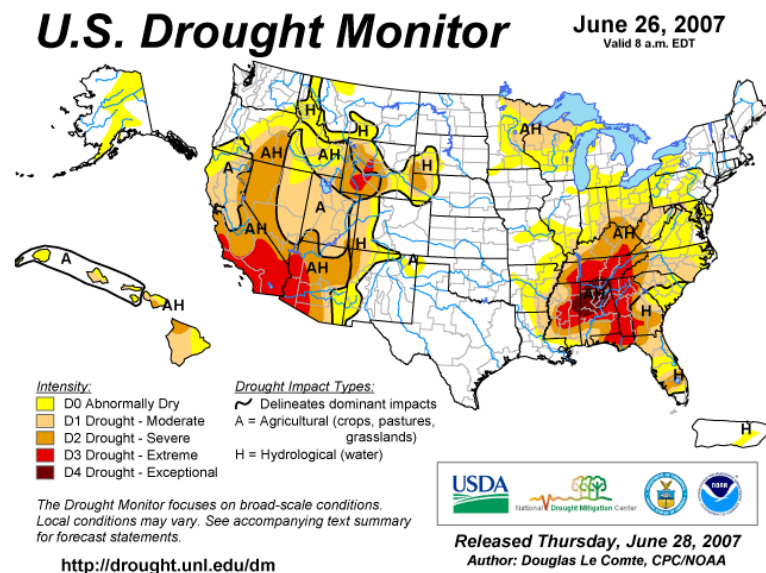
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July 2007

ACES 2007 Drought Videoconference Scheduled July 12, 2007

Bob Goodman, Extension Economist

In conjunction with ALFA the Crops Team of ACES has scheduled a state-wide videoconference to address issues related to the ongoing drought. Farmers across the state are struggling to cope with this disaster and are looking to their elected representatives and government agencies for help. State and Federal government officials will hopefully be willing to listen as farmers from across the state explain the situation that this drought has caused.



The conference has been scheduled for Thursday, July 12 at 3:00 in the afternoon. Sites all across Alabama will be available for producers to attend. Farmers should contact their County Coordinator, Regional Agent, or County Agent for more details about the event and about local activities and tours that may be available.

This drought is very severe in most parts of the State. As you can see on the map, it is centered on central and north Alabama. Crops and forages in these areas have been devastated. Agriculture & Industries Commissioner Ron Sparks recently said that "the drought of 2007 will probably go down in history as causing more Alabama farmers to go out of business than any other disaster. There is nowhere in the US that has this level of drought that Alabama is experiencing."

We in the Alabama Cooperative Extension System certainly agree with Commissioner Sparks when he also said that "we understand our farmers' positions and want to help them in any way we can. We need a disaster relief program for drought in Alabama."