

# Field Crops Newsletter

Granville and Person County  
Mikayla Graham

## Topping and Sucker Control Reminders

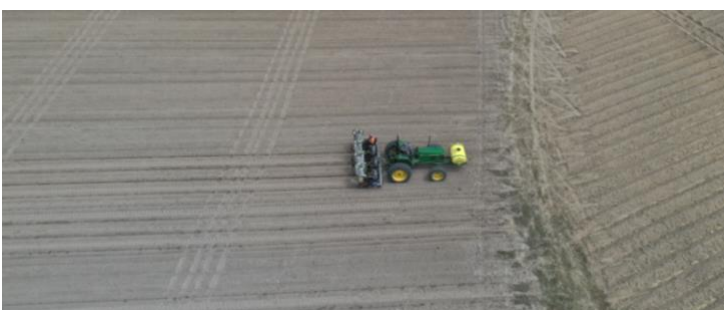
Here are some considerations to keep in mind as we move through topping and begin controlling suckers for tobacco:

### TOPPING

- Topping tobacco at the button stage increases yield and body when suckers are properly controlled.
- This can also cause earlier sucker growth, but advantages of early topping outweigh the disadvantage of earlier sucker growth.
- Other advantages of early topping include:
  - Usually allows topping to be completed before harvest begins, spreading the workload away from peak harvest period.
  - Reduces possibility of plants blowing over in a windstorm
  - Stimulates earlier root development, increasing fertilizer efficiency and drought tolerance.
  - Helps to reduce buildup of certain eggs by removing floral parts that house eggs and larvae.

### SUCKER CONTROL

- Spray early and spray often!
- The conventional rule of thumb is to make the first contact application at the 50% button stage, but you can move this up to the 40% sucker stage to allow for control of suckers in older plant parts.
- Any sucker in excess of 1.0 to 1.5 inches will be difficult to control chemically, and will likely need to be removed by hand.
- It is advisable to hand sucker a field if the first contact application is delayed beyond 50% button stage or if more than 5 days has passed between contact applications.
- Apply contact type materials at a 4% concentration followed by subsequent application of a 5% concentration.
- Monitor temperatures, and stop applying contact materials when temperatures reach and surpass 90 degrees.



Transplanting tobacco. *Photo by Mikayla Graham.*

JUNE 2022

### INSIDE

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This newsletter is designed to give you up to date information on crops from NC State University and other sources. For more information:

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# Insects: When to Scout

Summertime scouting – growing crops, including tobacco, soybeans, and corn

	June	July	August	September	October
<b>CORN</b>	Southern Corn Rootworm				
	Stink Bugs				
	European Corn Borer				
	Armyworm		Armyworm		
		Corn Earworm			
<b>SOYBEANS</b>	Three-Cornered Alfalfa Hopper				
		Bean Leaf Beetle			
		Defoliating Caterpillars (Green Cloverworm and Loopers)			
		Stinkbug			

## TOBACCO

Tobacco Thrips



Tobacco Flea Beetle



Green Peach Aphid



Grasshopper



Transplant

Pretopping

Topping



White fringed beetle

Wireworms



Tobacco Budworm



Japanese Beetle



Cutworms

# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

From the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center

Forecaster: Adam Hartman

May 19, 2022

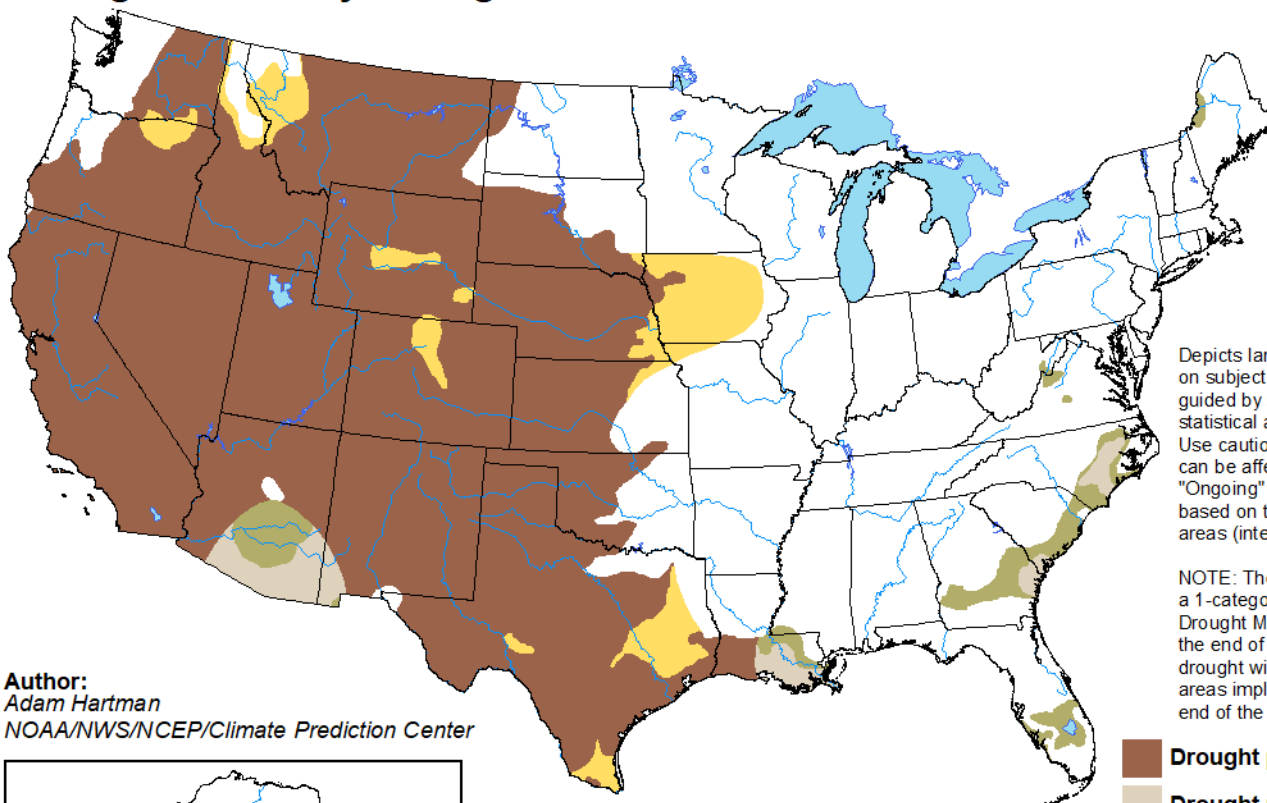
## EASTERN CONTIGUOUS U.S. (CONUS) HIGHLIGHTS

- Mixed degradations and improvements depending on where the heaviest rain fell over the last month
- During the June-August (JJA) season, La Niña conditions are forecast to persist, although slightly weaken. During JJA, La Niña typically leads to warm temperatures across much of the western CONUS, warm and dry conditions across the central CONUS, dryness in the Southeast, and wetter than normal conditions in the Great Lakes and Northeast.
- Across the eastern CONUS, drought improvement and removal are broadly favored with near to above-normal precipitation favored at the monthly and seasonal leads and many areas entering into a climatologically wetter time of year.

Full article can be found at [https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert\\_assessment/sdo\\_summary.php](https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/sdo_summary.php)

## U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

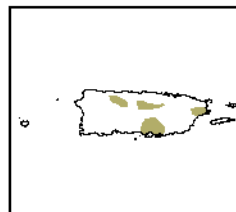
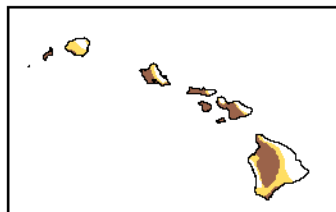
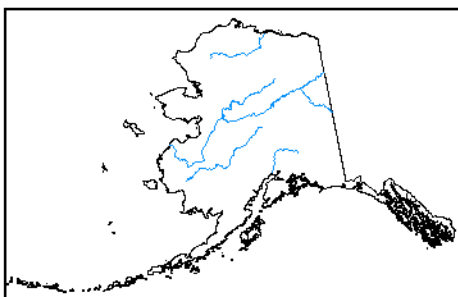
Valid for May 19 - August 31, 2022  
Released May 19



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:  
Adam Hartman  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center



- Drought persists
- Drought remains but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

# Corn Maturity Cutoffs for Herbicides

Corn herbicide labels indicate at what growth stage or height growers should halt application to avoid crop injury. Applying herbicides after their cutoff date can injure the crop by causing issues with the stems or leaves, or even by causing ears to emerge blank later in the season. Be sure to read your crop labels closely to avoid this injury. Below are some common corn herbicides and the labeled cutoff crop heights or growth stages.

Postemergence Corn Herbicides	Crop Height Cutoff	Crop Stage Cutoff
Accent	20 inches	6 leaf
Atrazine (Bicep, Degree Xtra, Acuron, etc.)	12 inches	8 leaf
Buctril	–	8 leaf
Callisto*	30 inches (without atrazine)	–
Capreno*	–	7 leaf (without atrazine)
Corvus	2 leaf	–
Dicamba (Banvel, Clarity)	8 inches (1 pt/A) or 36 inches (1/2 pt/A)	5 leaf
Distinct	24 inches	–
Glyphosate – RR corn only	30 inches	8 leaf
Halex GT	30 inches	8 leaf
Hornet	24 inches	–
Armezon/Impact	–	8 leaf
Laudis	–	8 leaf
Liberty (Ignite) – LL corn only	24 inches	7 leaf
Diflexx	36 inches	6 leaf
Realm Q	20 inches	7 leaf
Resource	–	10 leaf
Resolve Q	20 inches	7 leaf
Roundup PM	–	8 leaf
Status	36 inches	10 leaf
Steadfast Q	20 inches	7 leaf
2,4-D	8 inches	–

Chart from University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture (<https://news.utcrops.com>)

The easiest way to determine the growth stage of your corn is by counting the number of visible leaf collars. For example, if you count 3 leaf collars, your corn is in the 3 leaf stage. For help determining the growth stage of your corn or with questions about herbicides, please contact Mikayla Graham.



Corn in the 3 leaf stage. *Photo by Mikayla Graham.*



Corn in the 5 leaf stage. *Photo by Mikayla Graham.*

## ABOUT N.C. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

North Carolina Cooperative Extension is a strategic partnership of NC State Extension, The Cooperative Extension Program at N.C. A&T State University, USDA-NIFA, and 101 local governments statewide. Extension professionals in all 100 counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee translate research-based education from our state's land-grant universities, NC State and N.C. A&T, into everyday solutions. Extension specializes in agriculture, youth, communities, food, health and the environment by responding to local needs.

NC State University and N.C. A&T State University are collectively committed to positive action to secure equal opportunity and prohibit discrimination and harassment regardless of age, color, disability, family and marital status, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, political beliefs, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation and veteran status. NC State, N.C. A&T, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities act, N.C. Cooperative Extension or NC State University will honor requests for reasonable accommodations made by individuals with disabilities. Please direct accommodation requests to Mikayla Graham, [Mikayla\\_graham@ncsu.edu](mailto:Mikayla_graham@ncsu.edu), 9195031350 or 336-599-1195. Requests can be served mor effectively if notice is provided at least 10 days before the event.