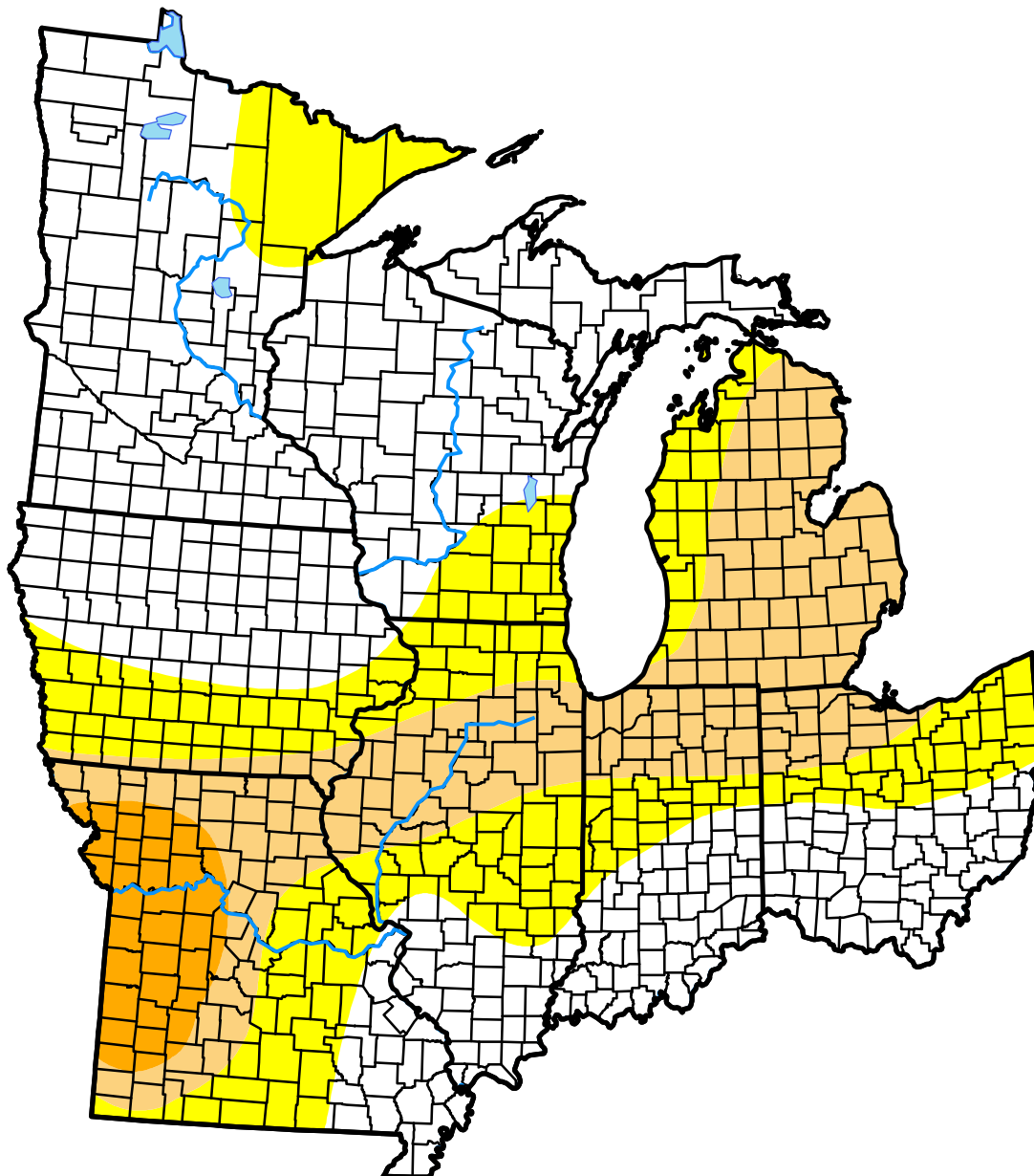


U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Midwest Climate Hub

December 10, 2002
(Released Thursday, Dec. 12, 2002)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	51.14	24.94	19.79	4.13	0.00	0.00
Last Week <i>12-03-2002</i>	61.04	16.21	18.68	4.06	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>09-10-2002</i>	68.71	12.99	11.42	6.88	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-01-2002</i>	94.97	4.98	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year <i>10-01-2002</i>	56.51	25.24	15.14	3.10	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago <i>12-11-2001</i>	98.27	1.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

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

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