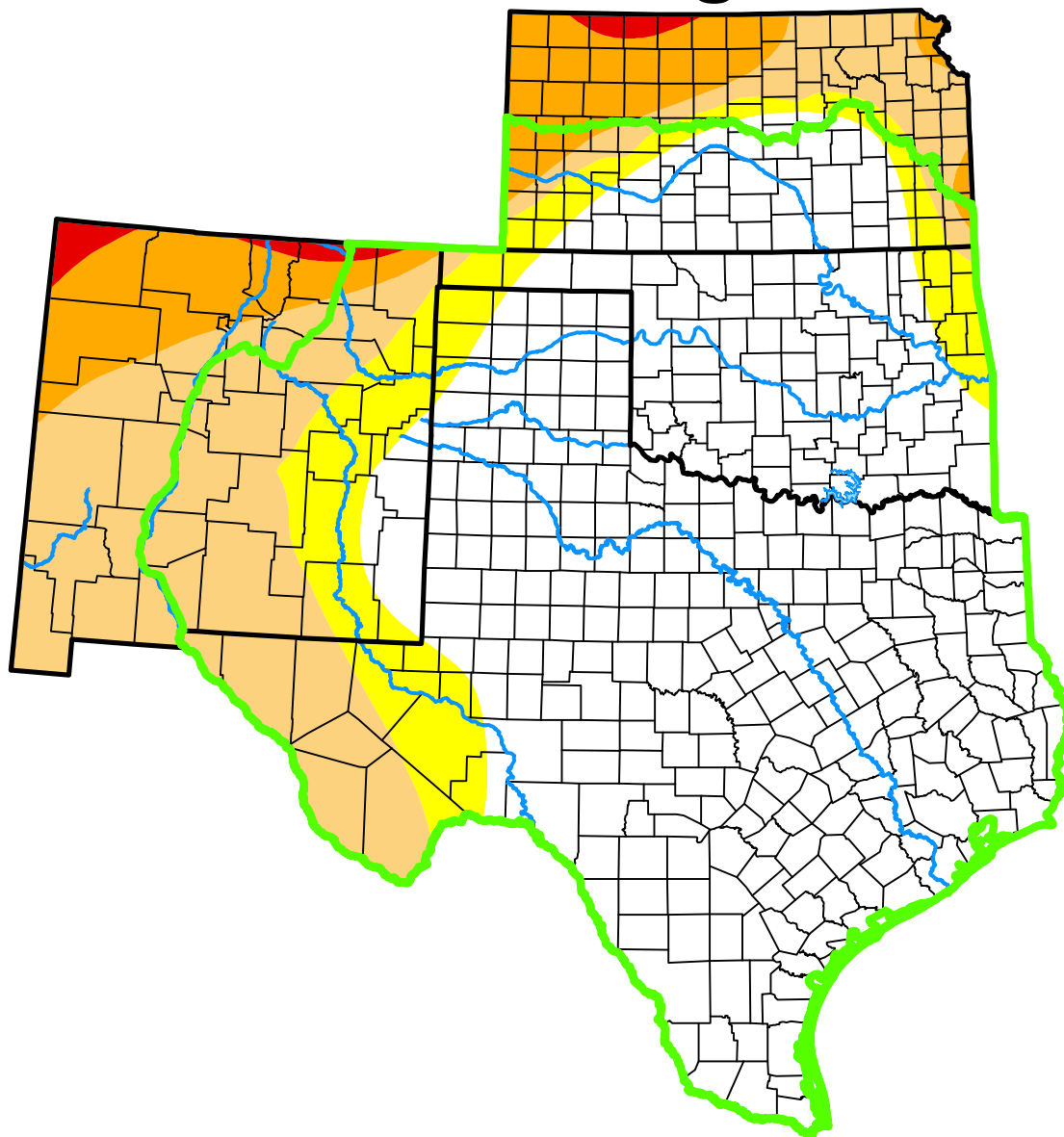


# U.S. Drought Monitor

## Southern Plains DEWS and Surrounding Areas



**December 17, 2002**  
(Released Thursday, Dec. 19, 2002)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

|                                                    | None  | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| <b>Current</b>                                     | 73.75 | 26.25 | 14.85 | 1.29  | 0.12  | 0.00 |
| <b>Last Week</b><br><i>12-10-2002</i>              | 73.87 | 26.13 | 14.51 | 1.25  | 0.12  | 0.00 |
| <b>3 Months Ago</b><br><i>09-17-2002</i>           | 53.47 | 46.53 | 29.16 | 8.70  | 0.79  | 0.05 |
| <b>Start of Calendar Year</b><br><i>01-01-2002</i> | 37.24 | 62.76 | 52.05 | 18.23 | 7.19  | 0.00 |
| <b>Start of Water Year</b><br><i>10-01-2002</i>    | 27.99 | 72.01 | 33.20 | 6.49  | 1.04  | 0.00 |
| <b>One Year Ago</b><br><i>12-18-2001</i>           | 38.74 | 61.26 | 50.80 | 15.76 | 7.05  | 0.00 |

(Statistics for area highlighted in green)

### Intensity:

|                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| None                | D2 Severe Drought      |
| D0 Abnormally Dry   | D3 Extreme Drought     |
| D1 Moderate Drought | D4 Exceptional Drought |

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

### Author:

Douglas Le Comte  
CPC/NOAA



**droughtmonitor.unl.edu**