

U.S. Drought Monitor

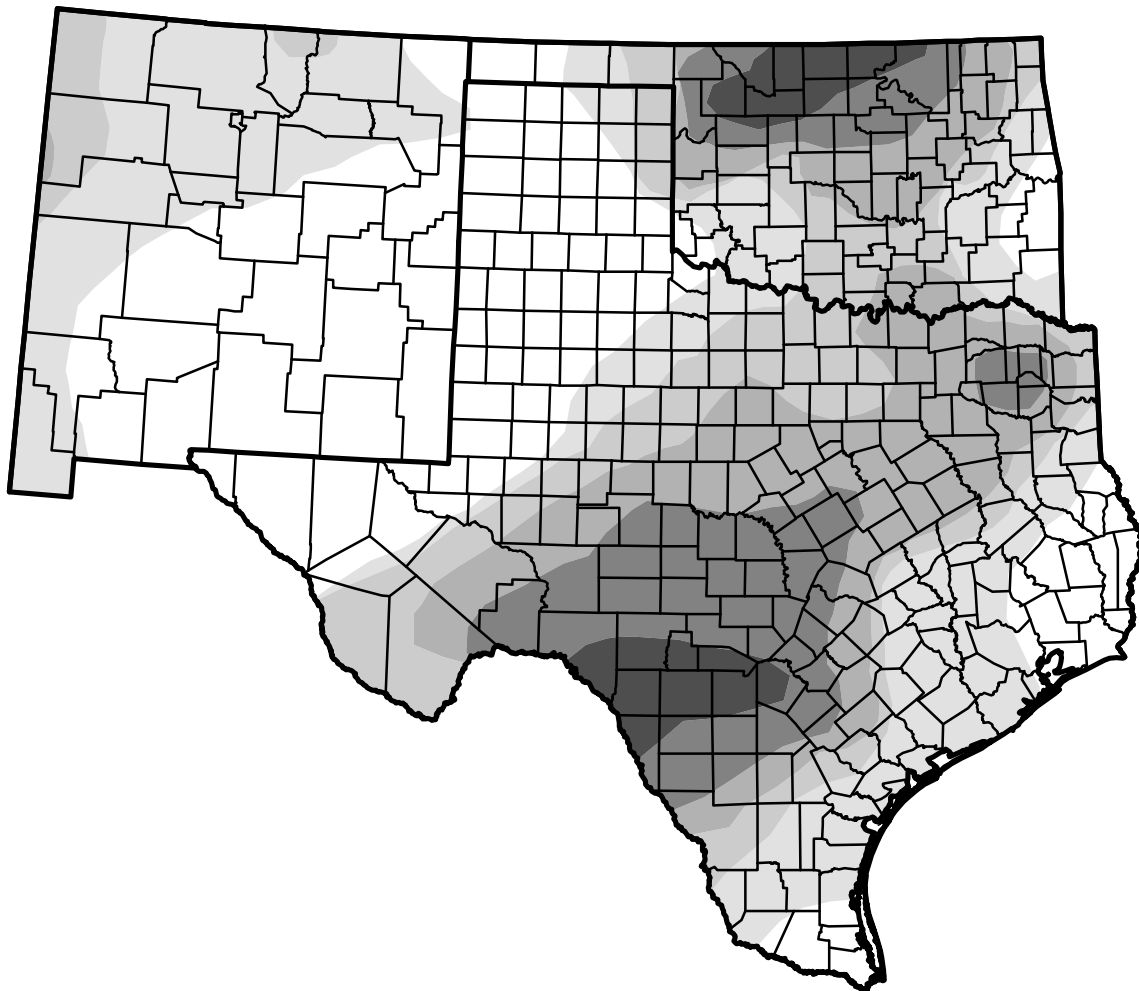
Southern Plains Area

December 12, 2006
 (Released Thursday, Dec. 14, 2006)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

| | None | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Current | 32.44 | 67.56 | 43.47 | 29.90 | 14.75 | 3.75 |
| Last Week <i>12-05-2006</i> | 36.74 | 63.26 | 41.30 | 27.39 | 14.31 | 1.13 |
| 3 Months Ago <i>09-12-2006</i> | 31.49 | 68.51 | 54.54 | 40.31 | 28.15 | 9.50 |
| Start of Calendar Year <i>01-03-2006</i> | 7.80 | 92.20 | 54.82 | 28.73 | 14.09 | 3.28 |
| Start of Water Year <i>09-26-2006</i> | 35.09 | 64.91 | 48.49 | 32.55 | 14.32 | 0.95 |
| One Year Ago <i>12-13-2005</i> | 10.28 | 89.72 | 51.74 | 23.65 | 6.04 | 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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