

Emergency Haying and Grazing of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Acreage Available for 70 Ohio Counties

By: David Marrison, OSU Extension Field Specialist, Farm Management

Drought conditions continued to degrade across Ohio. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor report on September 17, 59.56% of Ohio is experiencing severe or greater drought conditions with 9.5% classified as D4 or exceptional drought conditions (Figure 1). It is important to remember that D4 conditions only occur once every 50 to 100 years. Approximately 98% of the state is experiencing at least abnormally dry conditions. One silver lining is the current seven-day forecast shows the potential for rain in many areas of Ohio next week which should help slow the progress of drought should it occur.

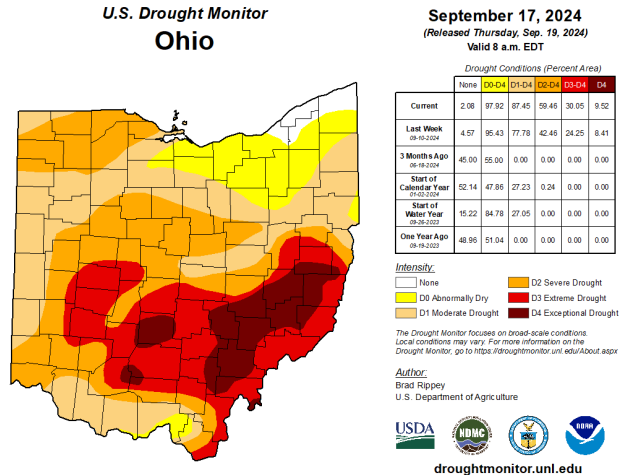
The drought conditions have impacted both pastures and hayfields across Ohio. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) administered under the USDA Farm Service Agency permits emergency haying and grazing on certain CRP practices in a county designated as D2 or higher on the U.S. Drought Monitor, or in a county where there is at least a 40 percent loss in forage production.

Emergency use of CRP acres is available in eligible counties if the stand is in condition to support such activity and is subject to a modified conservation plan. Producers should contact their FSA office to determine if the county remains eligible and to obtain a modified conservation plan.

After a county is approved for emergency haying and grazing, conditions are reviewed monthly to determine whether continuing the emergency activities is warranted. To date, 70 counties (79.5%) in Ohio are eligible (as of 9/17/2024). These can be found in Table 1:

Table 1: Ohio Counties Eligible for Emergency CRP Grazing

County	State Date	County	Start Date	County	Start Date
Adams	8/20/2024	Hamilton	9/17/2024	Noble	7/16/2024
Allen	9/17/2024	Hancock	9/17/2024	Ottawa	9/10/2024
Ashland	9/17/2024	Hardin	9/10/2024	Paulding	9/17/2024
Athens	7/16/2024	Harrison	7/30/2024	Perry	7/23/2024
Auglaize	9/10/2024	Henry	9/10/2024	Pickaway	7/16/2024
Belmont	7/16/2024	Highland	7/30/2024	Pike	7/30/2024
Brown	8/20/2024	Hocking	7/23/2024	Preble	9/17/2024
Butler	9/10/2024	Holmes	9/17/2024	Putnam	9/17/2024
Carroll	8/20/2024	Jackson	7/30/2024	Richland	9/17/2024
Champaign	9/03/2024	Jefferson	7/23/2024	Ross	7/16/2024
Clark	9/03/2024	Knox	9/17/2024	Sandusky	9/10/2024
Clermont	9/10/2024	Lawrence	12/19/2023	Scioto	8/20/2024
Clinton	8/20/2024	Licking	8/27/2024	Shelby	9/10/2024
Coshocton	9/03/2024	Logan	9/10/2024	Tuscarawas	7/30/2024
Crawford	9/17/2024	Lucas	9/10/2024	Union	9/03/2024
Defiance	9/10/2024	Madison	7/16/2024	Vinton	7/23/2024
Delaware	9/03/2024	Marion	9/17/2024	Warren	9/03/2024
Fairfield	7/16/2024	Meigs	7/16/2024	Washington	7/16/2024
Fayette	7/16/2024	Miami	9/10/2024	Wayne	9/17/2024
Franklin	7/16/2024	Monroe	7/16/2024	Williams	9/10/2024



Fulton	9/10/2024		Montgomery	9/03/2024		Wood	9/10/2024
Gallia	7/30/2024		Morgan	7/16/2024		Wyandot	9/17/2024
Greene	9/03/2024		Morrow	9/17/2024			
Guernsey	7/16/2024		Muskingum	7/16/2024			

More information about the emergency grazing of CRP acreage can be found at:
<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/conservation-reserve-program/emergency-haying-and-grazing/index>

Producers are encouraged visit their local Farm Service Agency office to report crop and livestock losses. By providing this data, producers can learn their eligibility for the FSA disaster programs. Producers can locate their local office at: www.fsa.usda.gov/oh FSA has also developed an on-line disaster assistance discover tool which allows producers to learn which of the many USDA assistance programs which might fit their operation due to this year's drought. This easy-to-use tool can be accessed at:
<https://www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery/disaster-tool>

References:

OSU Drought Response Page. Accessible at: <https://kx.osu.edu/page/early-drought-response>

US Drought Monitor. Accessible at: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Emergency Conservation Program. United States Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency.
Source: <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/conservation-reserve-program/emergency-haying-and-grazing/index>