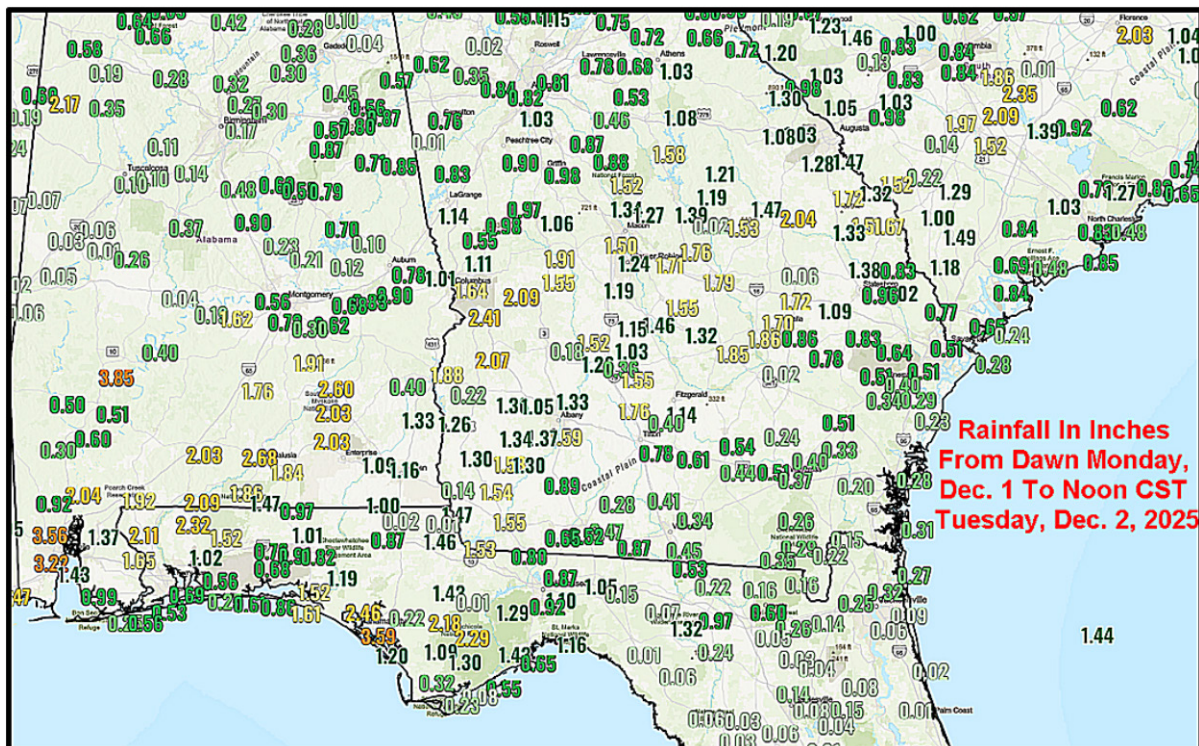


Southeast U.S. To Get More Drought Relief This Week

By Drew Lerner

Kansas City, December 2 (World Weather Inc.) – Drought has intensified in the southeastern United States during the autumn season this year. Portions of peanut, cotton, corn and soybean country in Georgia, southern Alabama and northern Florida have been in a drought of varying degrees of significance in recent weeks. Severe to exceptional drought was declared by NOAA's Drought Monitor last week. *Rain fell Monday into this morning across a part of the dry region offering some temporary relief; however, much more rain is needed to end drought conditions. A second wave of rain is predicted for the region Friday into the weekend that should have a greater impact on easing dryness.*



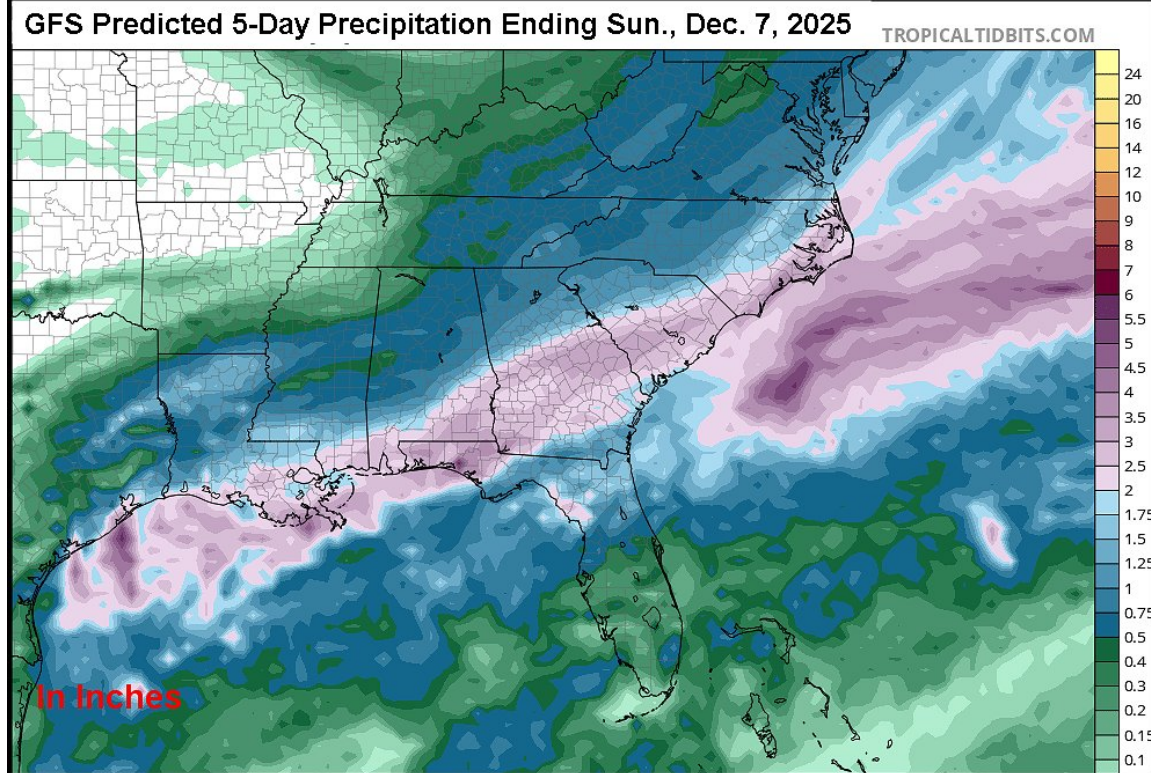
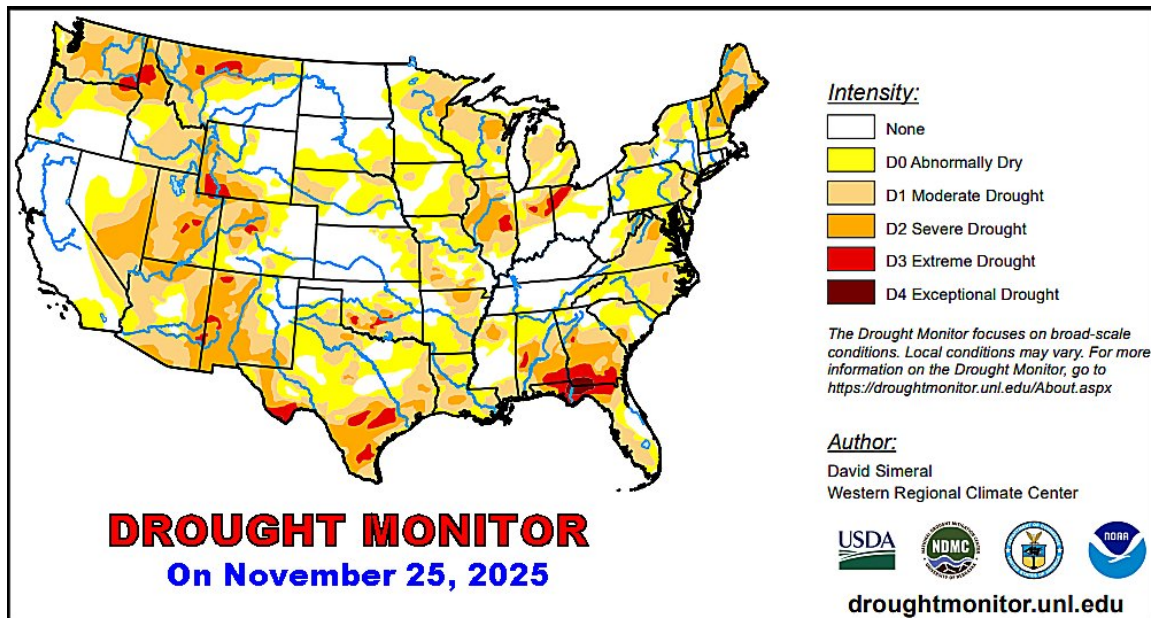
Rain Monday and early today failed to break drought conditions in Florida's peninsula or south-central into southeastern Georgia. Moisture totals in those areas was less than 1.00 inch. However, crop areas a little farther to the north and west ranged from 1.00 to 2.68 inches offering "some relief" to persistent dryness.

A second and more important rain event is expected to begin Friday and continue through the weekend ending late Sunday. This new disturbance is advertised to produce 1.00 to nearly 3.00 inches of additional moisture. Relief from dryness will also occur farther to the northeast into North Carolina.

The moisture is needed to ease drought; though there will be need for greater precipitation later this winter to ensure that dryness does not return. *World Weather, Inc. research has shown in the past that droughts in the southeastern U.S. rarely are short lived. They often dominate the region over multiple seasons and even though some relief is expected this late autumn and winter the odds are relatively good that dryness will*

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return during the growing season of 2026. A close watch on the region's weather is warranted.



There is a strong association with Ohio River Basin drought in the August through October period (like that of this year) and drought in the southeastern U.S. during the following July and August. That implies some potential for more dryness in at least the latter part of summer 2026. La Nina events also tend to dry out the southeastern states and even though this La Nina is not likely to last long there will be some potential for

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returning dryness next year. *In the meantime, drought relief this week will help improve wheat and other winter crop establishment.*

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