



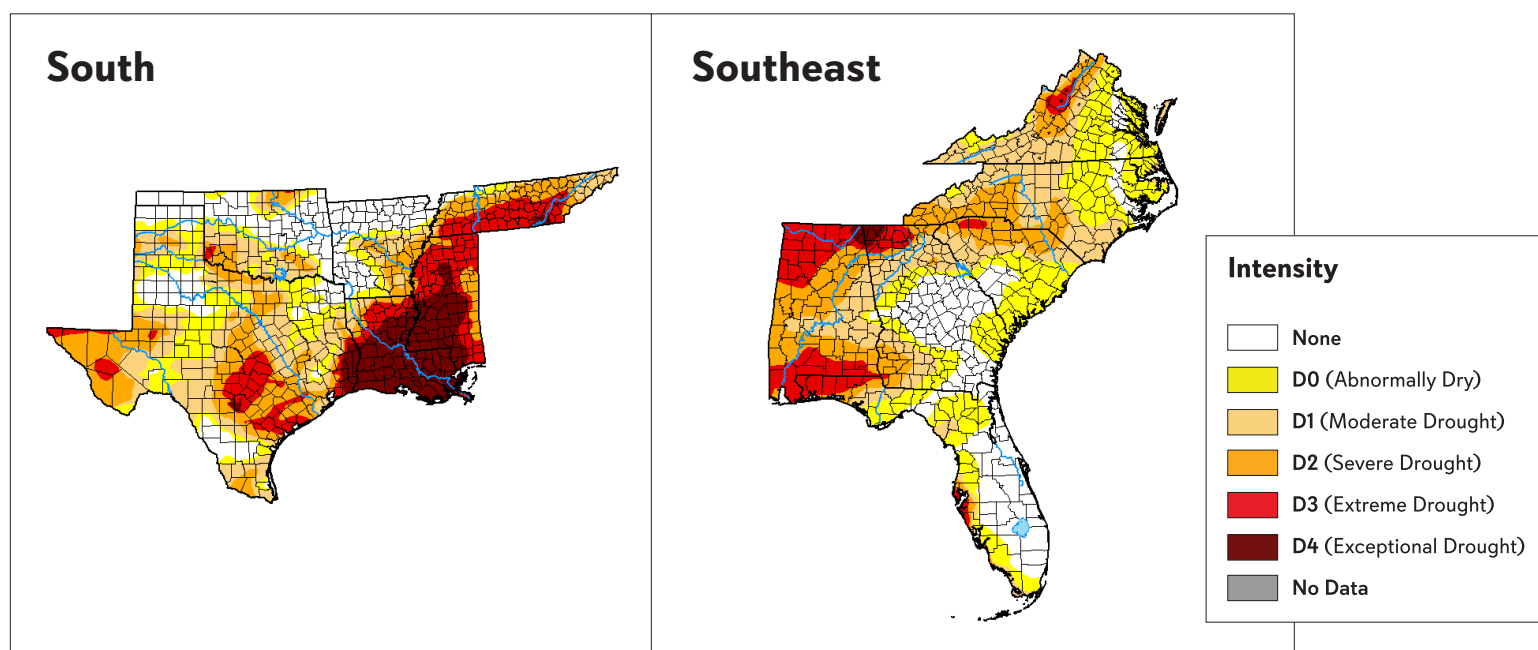
Management Alert 23-01

Southern Forest Nursery Management Cooperative

DROUGHT CONDITIONS MAY IMPACT SEEDLING SURVIVAL ACROSS the SOUTH and SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES

As we enter the climatological winter, and even with temperatures being below normal, there is a lack of precipitation that is causing soil moisture deficits and noteworthy drought conditions across the South and Southeastern United States. Flash drought conditions are being observed from Louisiana and Mississippi, eastward through Alabama and Georgia, in Florida, and along the Atlantic coast to Virginia.

The entire Southern region is experiencing precipitation levels that are at or below 25% percent of the normal range. Louisiana is especially affected, with 50% of the state experiencing exceptional drought. Mississippi and locations along the tri-state border of Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia are also affected by extreme drought.



Map released: Thurs. November 9, 2023

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Management Implications

The lack of soil moisture will impact tree planting activities in some areas, especially in Louisiana and Mississippi. Planting in drought conditions may cause significant mortality and growth abnormalities. Drought stress can also make plants more susceptible to pests and pathogens. There were no extreme changes in Texas and Oklahoma, but continued monitoring is recommended.