

Drought Continues in Northwest Missouri

(KTNC) - A University of Missouri Extension climatologist says the drought is far from over in Missouri, and the further north you go, the worse it is.

Pat Guinan (guh-NAN) says things have greened up over much of the state due to a mild September and October, but he says looks can be deceiving. (play audio :14 “things are dry.”)

Guinan says winter likely won't provide much relief, as the outlook calls for average temperatures and precipitation, which won't be enough to pull certain areas of the state out of the current drought.

While some moderate precipitation over the past couple of months has helped, the state is still far below where it needs to be for rainfall. (play audio :23 “below the ground.”)

Guinan says southern Missouri has gotten significantly more rainfall than northwest Missouri, which is actually worse off than it was when summer ended. (play audio :13 “parts of Missouri.”)

Forecasters had been calling for a possible El Nino effect this winter, but not now. Guinan says that makes predicting how much precipitation the state gets this winter even more difficult. He says he expects the drought to continue into next year for most of the state.

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