

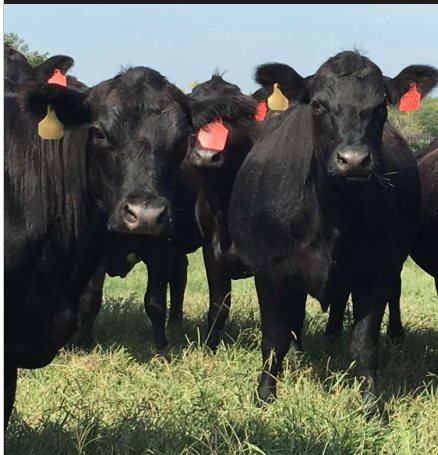


MONTHLY TIP

Feeding hay is always a labor-intensive task. However, it's important to remember that not all hay in the bales will be consumed, and some will inevitably be lost. In a dry year like the one we're experiencing in Tennessee, every bale counts to help us get through the winter. Take stock of your hay inventory now to ensure you won't need to buy more in February when hay availability will be very limited, and prices will be high.

If you're unrolling hay, try to unroll only what is needed for the day to minimize waste. Unrolling too much at once often leads to greater losses. Whenever possible, use hay-feeding devices such as cone feeders, rings, or cradles, as these can significantly reduce hay waste.

Dr. Bruno Pedreira
UT Extension Forage Specialist



“There is not a sprig of grass that shoots uninteresting to me.”

- Thomas Jefferson

COOL-SEASON WEED CONTROL

Roger Furlan - Graduate Student and Dr. Bruno Pedreira- UT Extension Forage Specialist

Weeds can significantly reduce the yield and quality of forage in cool-season pastures, thereby compromising animal performance. This issue is often caused by factors such as poor pasture establishment, overgrazing, neglecting soil fertility, fire, and unpredictable climate conditions, all of which create an environment conducive to weed growth. Effective weed management is crucial for optimizing forage production and ensuring animal health. Addressing weed problems in pastures requires a combination of immediate and long-term strategies. While herbicide use offers a quick solution, adopting practices, such as proper grazing management and maintaining soil fertility, acts as a preventive measure that strengthens the pasture's resistance to weeds over time. These practices reduce the reliance on herbicides and create a more resilient pasture system. In addition, successful weed management begins with accurate identification, which is essential for selecting the appropriate control methods. For chemical control, applying herbicides such as dicamba or 2,4-D at the right time, before weeds reach the bloom stage, maximizes effectiveness. Scouting fields early and understanding weed growth cycles are crucial for timely interventions. Combining these strategies with avoiding overgrazing and ensuring proper nutrient levels can help control weed populations while maintaining healthy forage stands.

TFGC ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

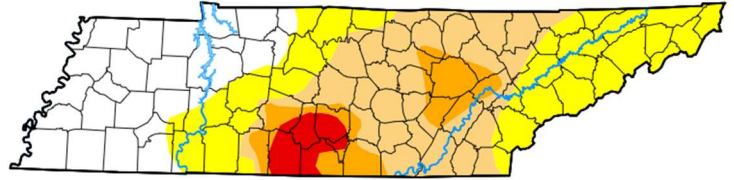
Malerie Fancher- Research Specialist

On November 8th, the Tennessee Forage and Grassland Council hosted their annual meeting in Murfreesboro, TN. The annual meeting welcomed over 75 producers and industry representatives alongside USDA-NRCS and UT Extension faculty and staff. Members joined together to hear from forage specialists and producers on a variety of topics centered around “Forages Practices that Pay.” Dr. Dennis Hancock, Center Director of the US Dairy Forage Research Center, joined the meeting as the keynote speaker, presenting on “Identifying Forage Practices that Make an Economic Impact.” Another highlight of the meeting included producers representing each region of Tennessee coming together to form a panel and discussing different forage practices and techniques that increase efficiency and time management from a personal perspective. A forage plot tour, procured by Rutherford County UT Extension agent, Rebekah Norman, concluded the meeting's events. In all, attendees were eager to learn more about forage production and how we can implement “practices that pay”. For more information about the TFGC please visit: <https://utbeef.tennessee.edu/tennessee-forage-grassland-council/>

WEATHER

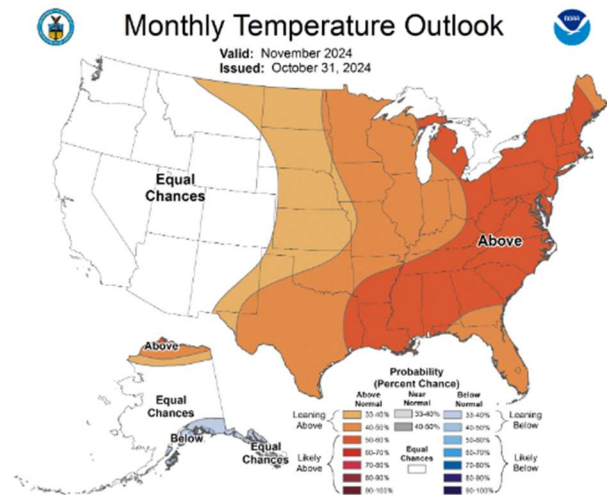
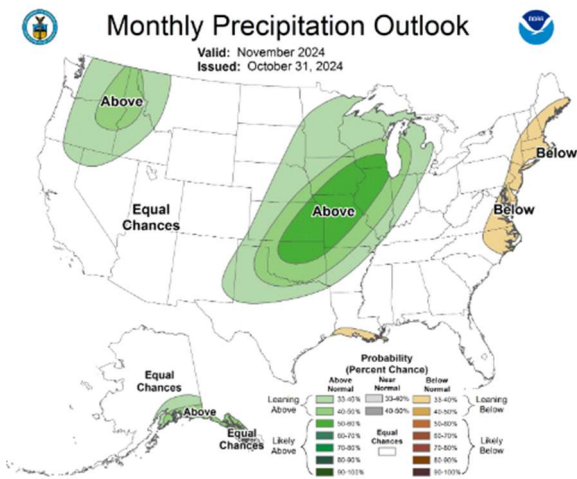
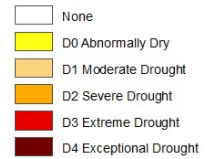
Dr. Bruno Pedreira, UT Extension Forage Specialist

October temperatures averaged 0.8°F higher, and rainfall was 3.3 inches below the 10-year average of 60.9°F and 3.7 inches. ncei.noaa.gov



November's average temperature is 48.3°F. Although colder than October, this month is expected to bring above-average temperatures. Precipitation is forecasted to be near the average of 3.48 inches. Despite Hurricane Helene bringing significant rainfall a few weeks ago, East Tennessee remains classified as D0 (abnormally dry). Middle Tennessee continues to be the most affected region in the state since July, with dry conditions ranging from D0 (abnormally dry) to D2 (severe drought). Giles and Lincoln counties have remained in D3 (extreme drought) since last month, and now Moore, Bedford, Marshall, and Maury counties have also been classified as D3. droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Intensity:



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Live.Stock** - Join us for our live stream December 11, 2024 at 2 PM ET
- **UT Performance Tested Bull Sale** December 12, 2024 at 12 PM CT

These events can be found on UTBEEF.COM



Photo of the Month by Malerie Fancher: The UT Forage Bowl team preparing in the field for the forage identification portion of the AFGC Forage Bowl Competition with David McIntosh, UT Beef and Forage Center Coordinator.

This and other useful information can be found at your local UT Extension office, or on our website.

UTBEEF.COM

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment and admission without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, and parental status