



**Louisiana Association of
Conservation Districts**



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Louisiana Agriculture Water Use and Drought Impacts

conserving
natural resources
for our future

Louisiana Water Resources Commission
September 27, 2023

LDAF Office of Soil & Water Conservation

Working Together Works

Crop	Irrigated	Not Irrigated	Total	Irrigated (%)	Not Irrigated (%)
BLUEBERRIES	337	3	340	99.0	1.0
CORN	510,010	179,142	689,152	74.0	26.0
COTTON UPLAND	56,817	56,800	113,617	50.0	50.0
COVER CROP	15,232	52,944	68,176	22.3	77.7
CRAWFISH	374,253	119	374,372	100.0	0.0
FINFISH	1,231		1,231	100.0	0.0
HAY/TURF	1,901	558,829	560,731	0.3	99.7
HEMP	8	16	24	32.5	67.5
MIXED FORAGE	106	20,346	20,451	0.5	99.5
NURSERY	188	22	209	89.7	10.3
OATS	45	2,340	2,385	1.9	98.1
PEANUTS	1,726	197	1,923	89.8	10.2
PEAS	49	218	266	18.2	81.8
PECANS	97	5,017	5,114	1.9	98.1
POTATOES SWEET	4,028	1,313	5,341	75.4	24.6
RICE	462,538		462,538	100.0	0.0
SORGHUM	2,123	6,907	9,029	23.5	76.5
SORGHUM FORAGE		115	115	0.0	100.0
SOYBEANS	470,446	555,057	1,025,502	45.9	54.1
STRAWBERRIES	31	0	31	99.9	0.1
SUGARCANE	24,870	508,862	533,731	4.7	95.3
SUNFLOWERS	56	252	307	18.1	81.9
TREES TIMBER	13	19,468	19,482	0.1	99.9
WATERMELON	136	104	240	56.8	43.2
WHEAT	5,843	48,659	54,502	10.7	89.3
Totals	1,932,082	2,016,728	3,948,810	48.9	51.1

Drought Related Losses

Livestock – heat stress, significant weight loss across much of the state

- Reduced forage availability
 - Hay/silage
 - Improved pasture
 - Rangeland across most regions of the state
- Herd liquidation / reduction common
 - Forage loss
 - Reduced stocking rate
 - Earlier weaning weights
 - Estimated LA herd reduction of approx $\geq 30\%$

Drought Related Losses

Row Crops – harvest remains underway

- Corn & sorghum– early maturation and harvest
- Rice – row rice \leq 1% statewide acreage
 - Low ratoon maintenance due to crawfishing intentions
- Soybeans – some losses, and lower than average yields in most non-irrigated soybeans; heat stress all around
 - Limited fodder-use option for inferior crops
- Sugarcane – Drastic yield reduction expected in northern and western production areas
 - No fodder – use option
- Cotton – yields down; some heat/drought stress
- Hay – decreased tonnage, fewer cuttings
- Crawfish – Undetermined but diminished yields likely

Key Conservation Practices Drought Loss Mitigation

Irrigation Land levelling

Irrigation Water management

Residue and Tillage Management – Reduced Till

Residue and Tillage Management – No Till/Strip-Till

Conservation Cover

Cover Crops

Conservation Crop Rotation

Prescribed Grazing

Shallow Water Area Development & Management

Irrigation Water Reuse



LDAF Office of Soil & Water Conservation Working Together Works



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service



conserving
natural resources
for our future

- Natural Resources Inventory
- Resource Assessment
- Research
- Technical Assistance
- Financial Assistance
- Outreach & Education
- Land User Connection/Trust
- Implementation
- Monitoring/Evaluation
- Stewardship & Sustainability

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**LDAF Office of Soil & Water Conservation
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State Soil & Water Conservation Commission

EPA - Clean Water Act, Section 319(h) - Ag NPS Reduction Program

Agricultural Solid Waste Management Program

Coastal Revegetation Program

Agricultural and Marshland Prescribed Burner Certification Program

Louisiana Master Farmer Certification

Conservation Information-Education and Outreach Programs

Farm Bill Conservation Program Delivery Assistance

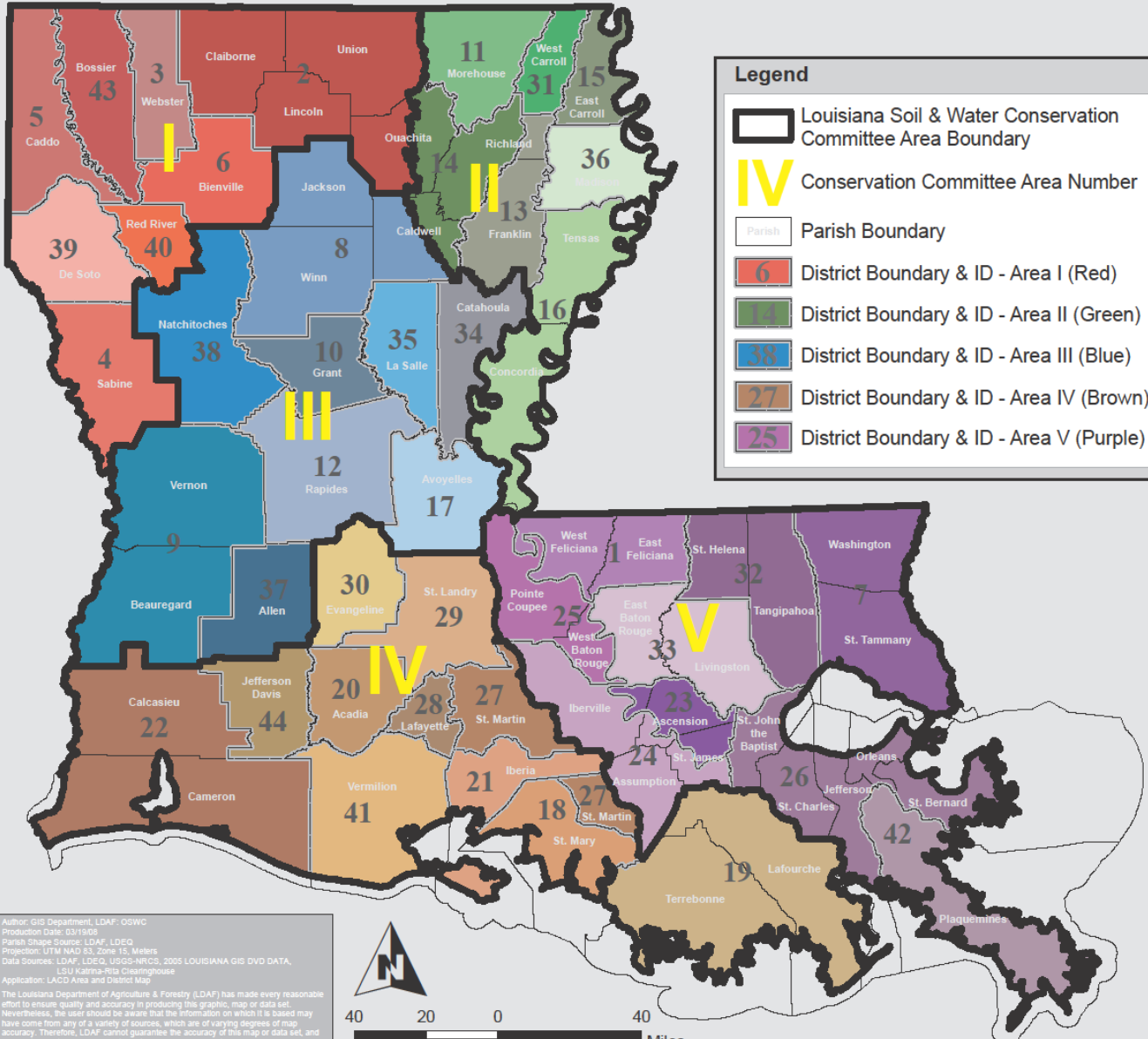
Special Conservation Projects and Partnerships

Louisiana Master Farmer Certification

- Sustainability of natural resources and farm production
 - Phase 1-Cassroom Instruction
 - Phase 2-Attendance of on-farm Conservation BMP field day
 - Phase 3- implementation of a farm-specific Resource Management System Conservation Plan
 - 5-year certification; continuing ed credits and RMS plan updates required
- 267 Producers Certified, 98 Recertified to date
- LA Cattlemen's Association
- LA Farm Bureau
- LSU Ag Center
- LA Dept. of Agriculture & Forestry
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



Louisiana Soil & Water Conservation Districts & Areas



Legend

- Louisiana Soil & Water Conservation Committee Area Boundary
- Conservation Committee Area Number
- Parish Boundary
- District Boundary & ID - Area I (Red)
- District Boundary & ID - Area II (Green)
- District Boundary & ID - Area III (Blue)
- District Boundary & ID - Area IV (Brown)
- District Boundary & ID - Area V (Purple)

Louisiana Conservation District Legend

District Num.	Area	SW Conservation District
1	V	Felician SWCD
2	I	D'Arbonne SWCD
3	I	Dorcheat SWCD
4	I	Sabine SWCD
5	I	Caddo SWCD
6	I	Saline SWCD
7	V	Bogue Chitto-Pearl River SWCD
8	III	Dugdemona SWCD
9	III	Calcasieu SWCD
10	III	Grant SWCD
11	II	Morehouse SWCD
12	III	Rapides SWCD
13	II	Northeast SWCD
14	II	Boeuf River SWCD
15	II	East Carroll SWCD
16	II	Tensas-Concordia SWCD
17	III	Avoyelles SWCD
18	IV	St. Mary SWCD
19	IV	Lafourche-Terrebonne SWCD
20	IV	Acadia SWCD
21	IV	Iberia SWCD
22	IV	Gulf Coast SWCD
23	V	New River SWCD
24	V	Lower Delta SWCD
25	V	Upper Delta SWCD
26	V	Crescent SWCD
27	IV	St. Martin SWCD
28	IV	Lafayette SWCD
29	IV	St. Landry SWCD
30	IV	Evangeline SWCD
31	II	West Carroll SWCD
32	V	Tangipahoa-St. Helena SWCD
33	V	Capital SWCD
34	III	Catahoula SWCD
35	III	La Salle SWCD
36	II	Madison SWCD
37	III	Allen SWCD
38	III	Natchitoches SWCD
39	I	De Soto SWCD
40	I	Red River SWCD
41	IV	Vermilion SWCD
42	V	Plaquemines SWCD
43	I	Bodcau SWCD
44	IV	Jefferson Davis SWCD

Author: GIS Department, LDAF, OSWG
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 Parish Shape Source: LDAF, LDEQ
 Projection: UTM NAD 83, Zone 15, Meters
 Data Sources: LDAF, LDEQ, USGS-NRCS, 2005 LOUISIANA GIS DVD DATA, LSU Katrina-Rita Clearinghouse
 Application: LACD Area and District Map

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