

## DRIED UP: Texas cattle industry faces existential crisis from historic drought

Written by The Hill Press

Thursday, 18 August 2022 10:01 -

---

<http://newiproggressive.com/images/stories/S5/texas-dry-land-2022-s446.png>



***More than 80 percent of the West is in severe drought this year, according to the National Drought Monitor — up from just 20 percent last year.***

---

AUSTIN, Texas — The megadrought in the Western U.S., the region's worst in 1,200 years, is threatening America's cattle heartland: withering pastures, wrecking feed harvests and endangering a quintessential way of life.

The drought is forcing ranchers here in Texas and across the Southern plains to make an agonizing decision: Sell early now for less money than they planned on — or hold on, pray for rain and risk losing everything.

[READ THE LATEST INSTALLMENT OF THE HILL'S SERIES HERE](#) :