

The National Weather Service says that the melting winter snowpack is not expected to do enough to alleviate dry soil conditions around Minnesota. And that means another year of drought and lost crops. Minnesota Commerce Commissioner Mike Rothman says it could have been worse in 2012 for farmers.

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With that in mind, he and Agriculture Commissioner Dave Frederickson issued a consumer alert encouraging Minnesota farmers to consider purchasing crop insurance ahead of this year's growing season. And the deadline...is today.