



Drought Collaboration in the West

WAEA Annual Conference

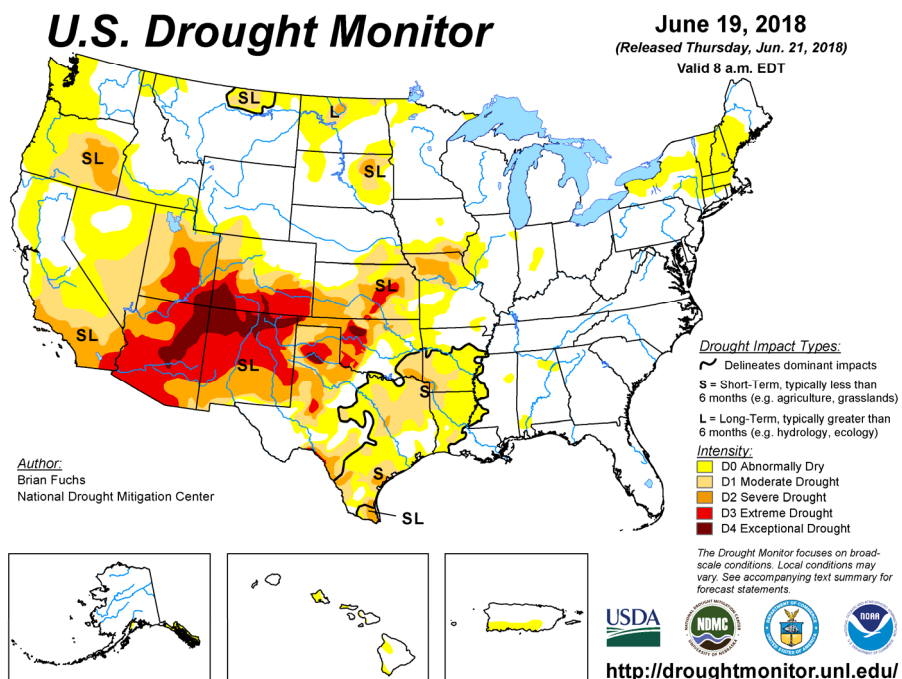
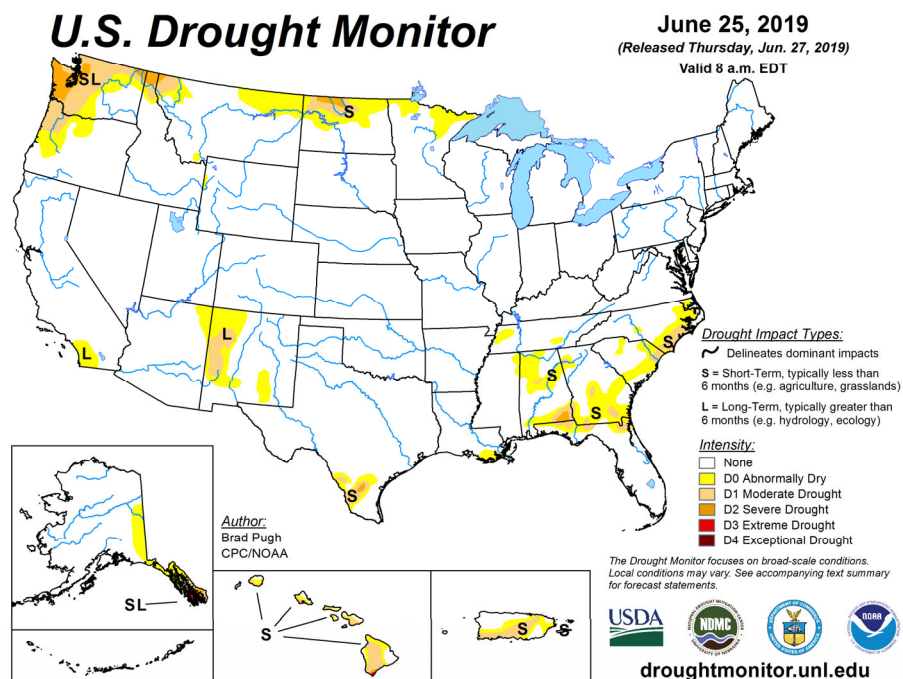
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Presentation Overview

- Drought Impacts
 - Motivated by flood of questions
- Survey overview
- Survey Results
- **Key Discussion Question:** Should there be a coordinated effort in the west to tackle drought management issues?

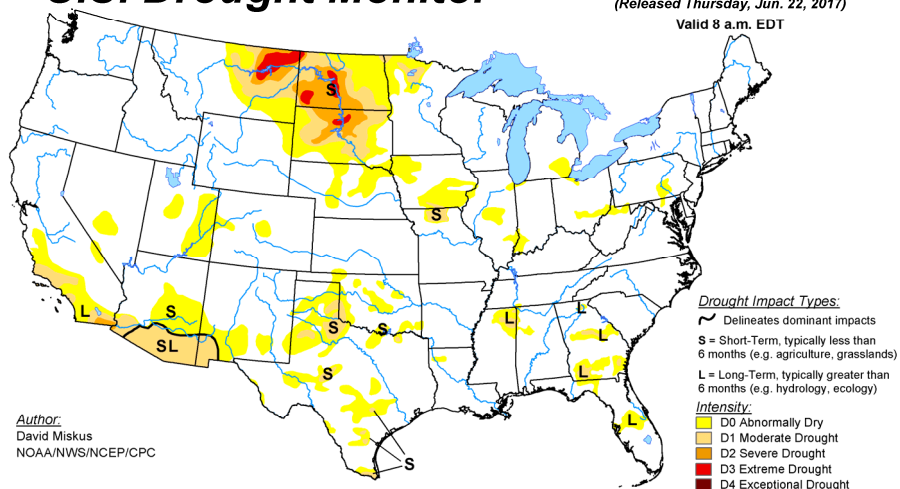
2018 vs 2019



2017 vs 2016

U.S. Drought Monitor

June 20, 2017
(Released Thursday, Jun. 22, 2017)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Author:
David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



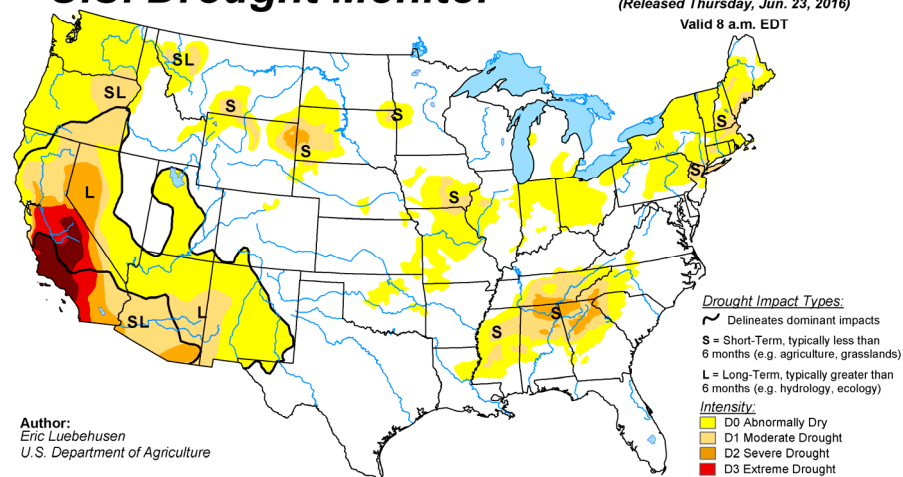
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

USDA NDMC NOAA

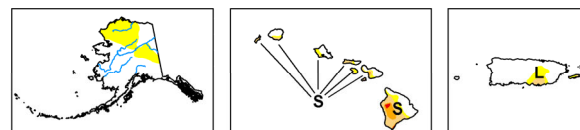
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

U.S. Drought Monitor

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Author:
Eric Luebbehusen
U.S. Department of Agriculture



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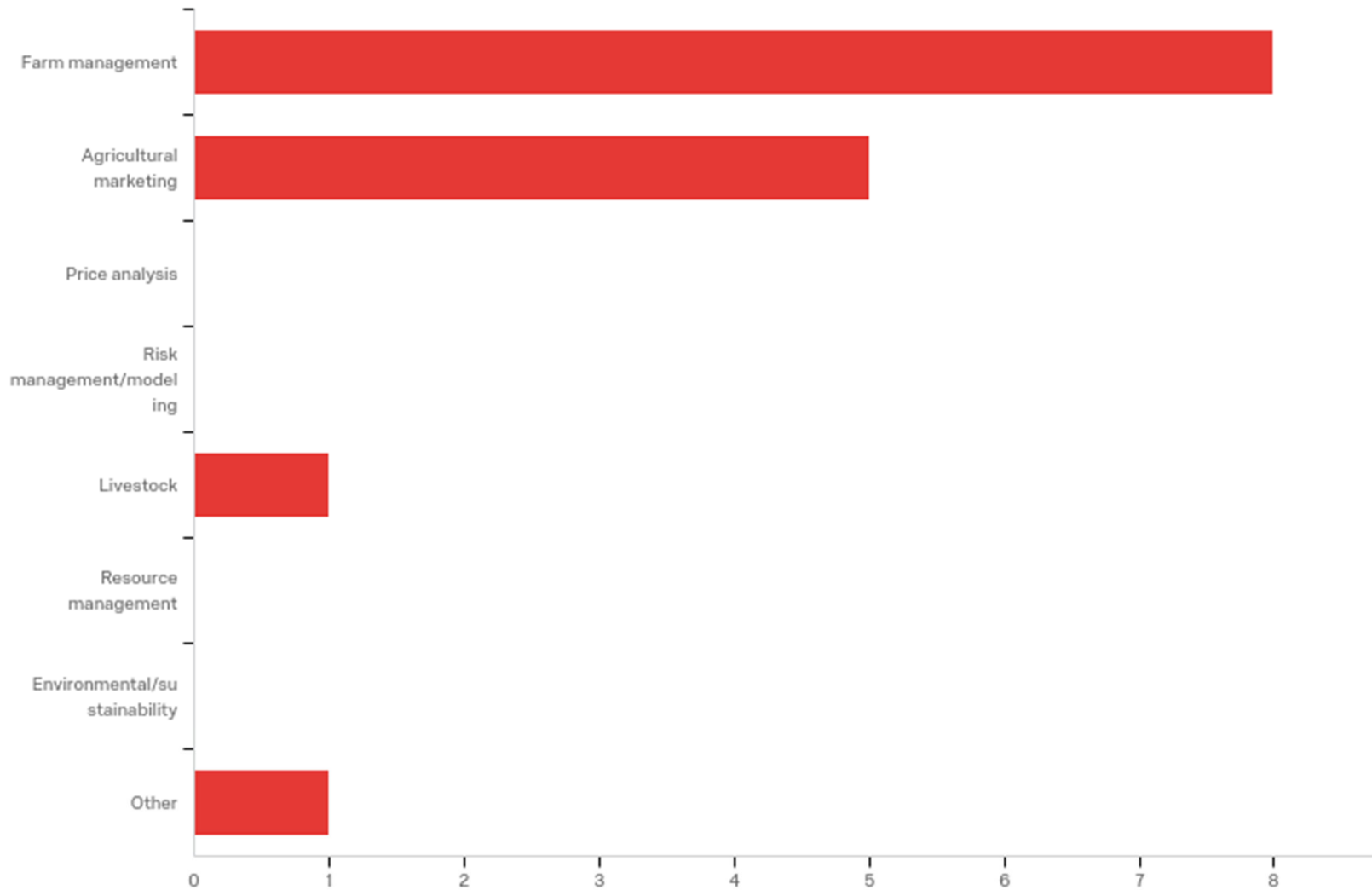
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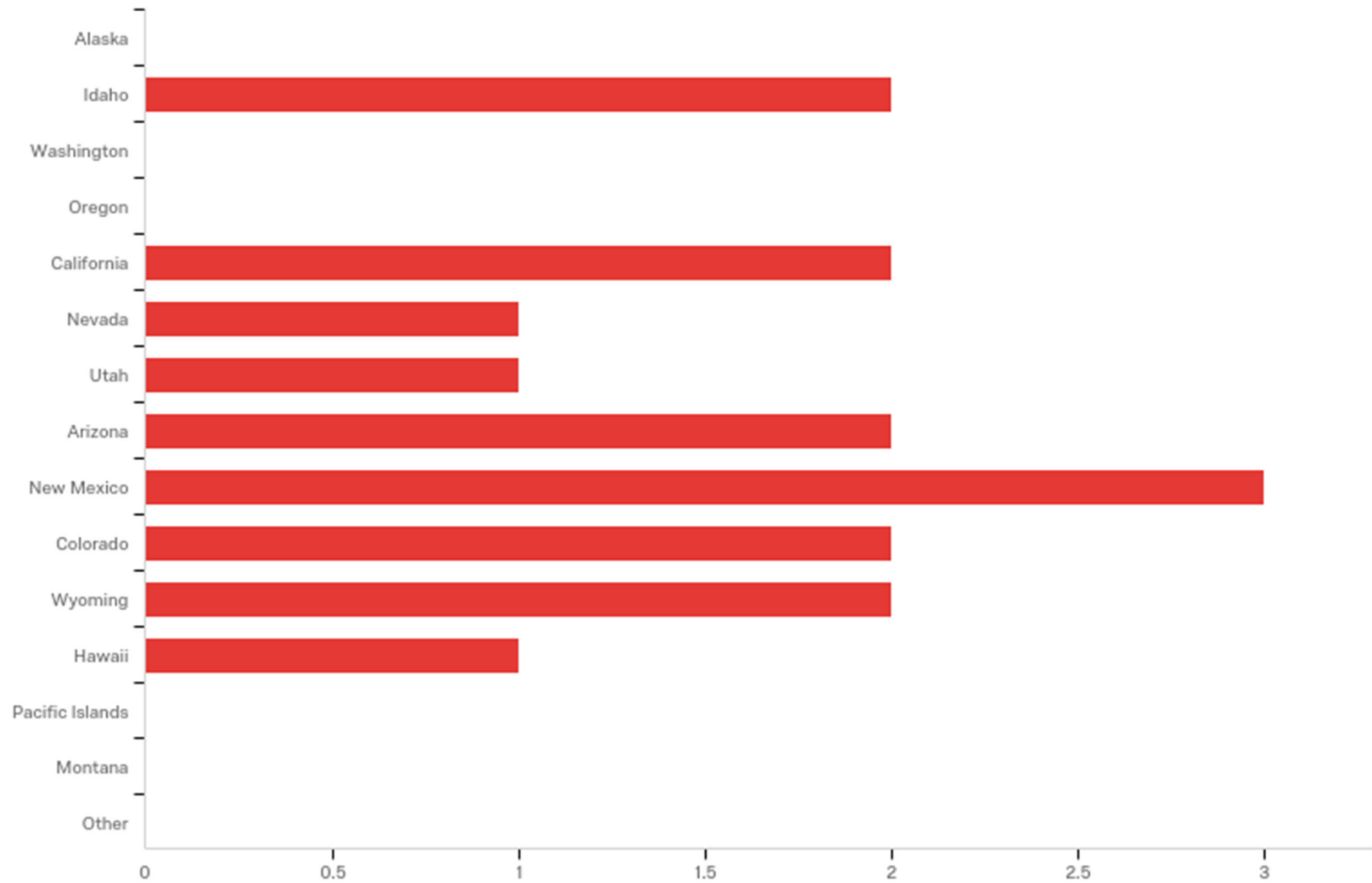
Survey Instrument

- Survey focused on three key issues:
 - What is currently being done
 - What tools already exist
 - What needs exist
- Qualtrics survey was used
 - Special thanks to Kynda Curtis for assisting with survey design
 - 18 respondents from 9 western states

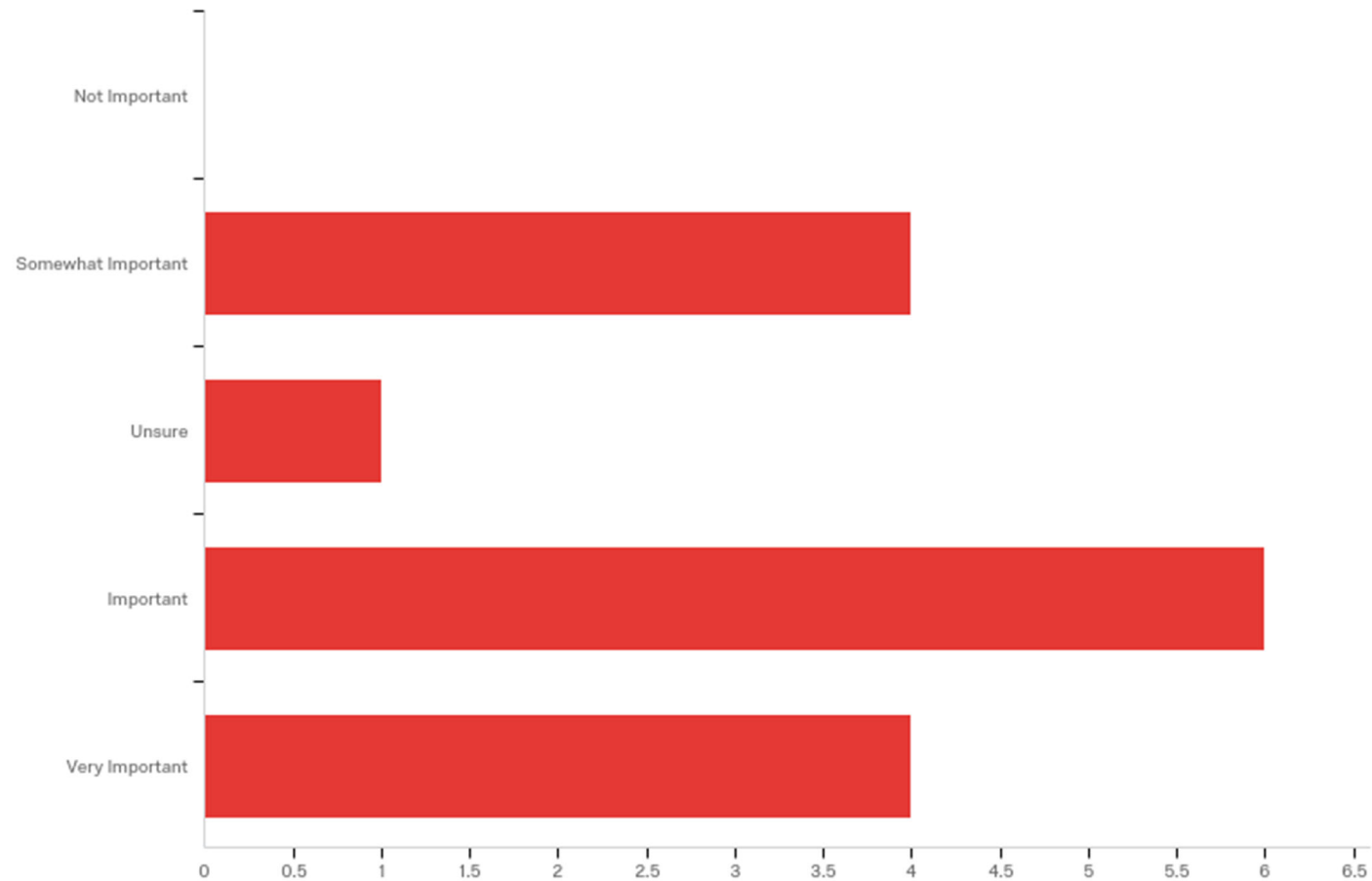
What is your primary area of expertise?



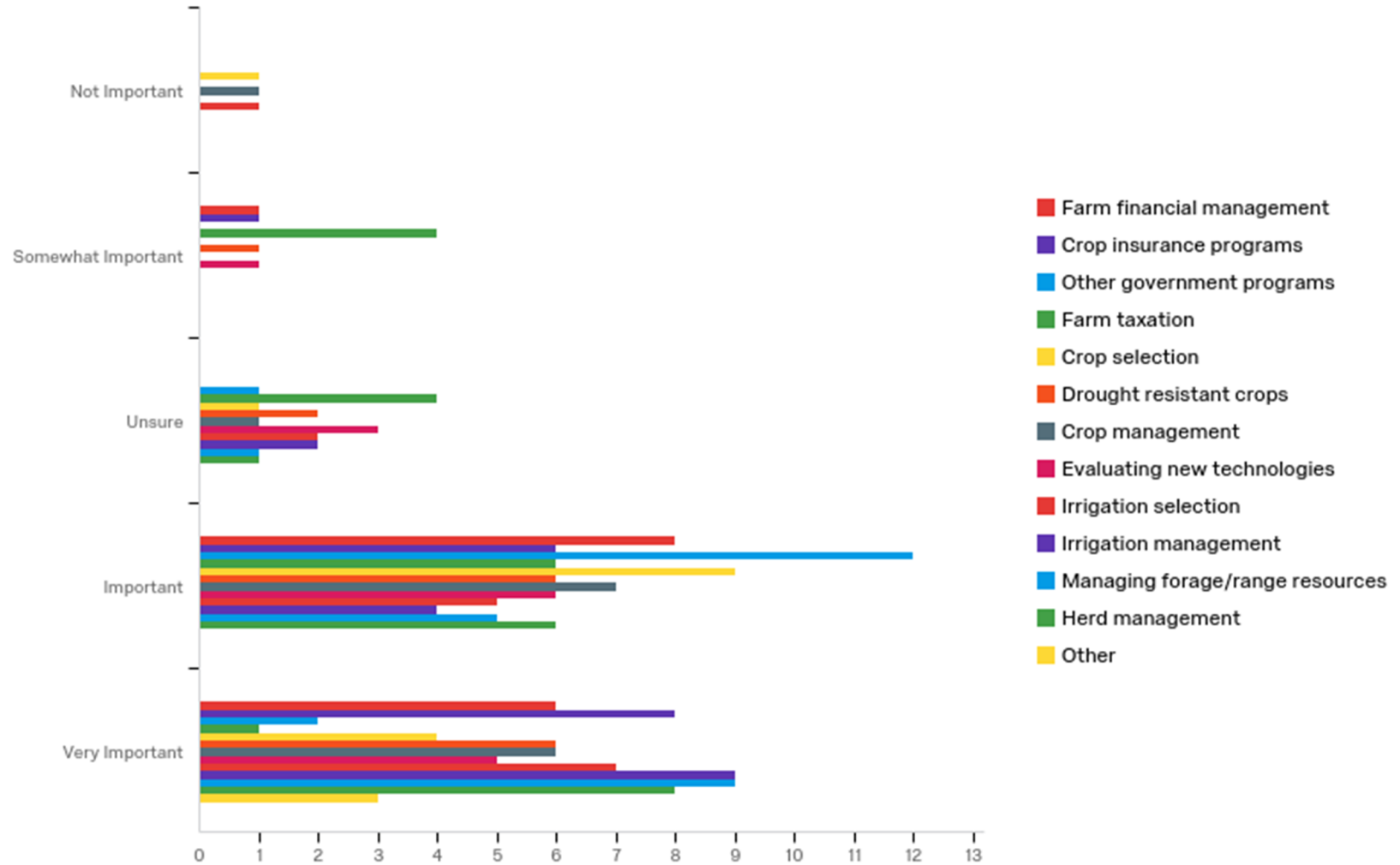
What state or states do you primarily work in? Select all that apply.



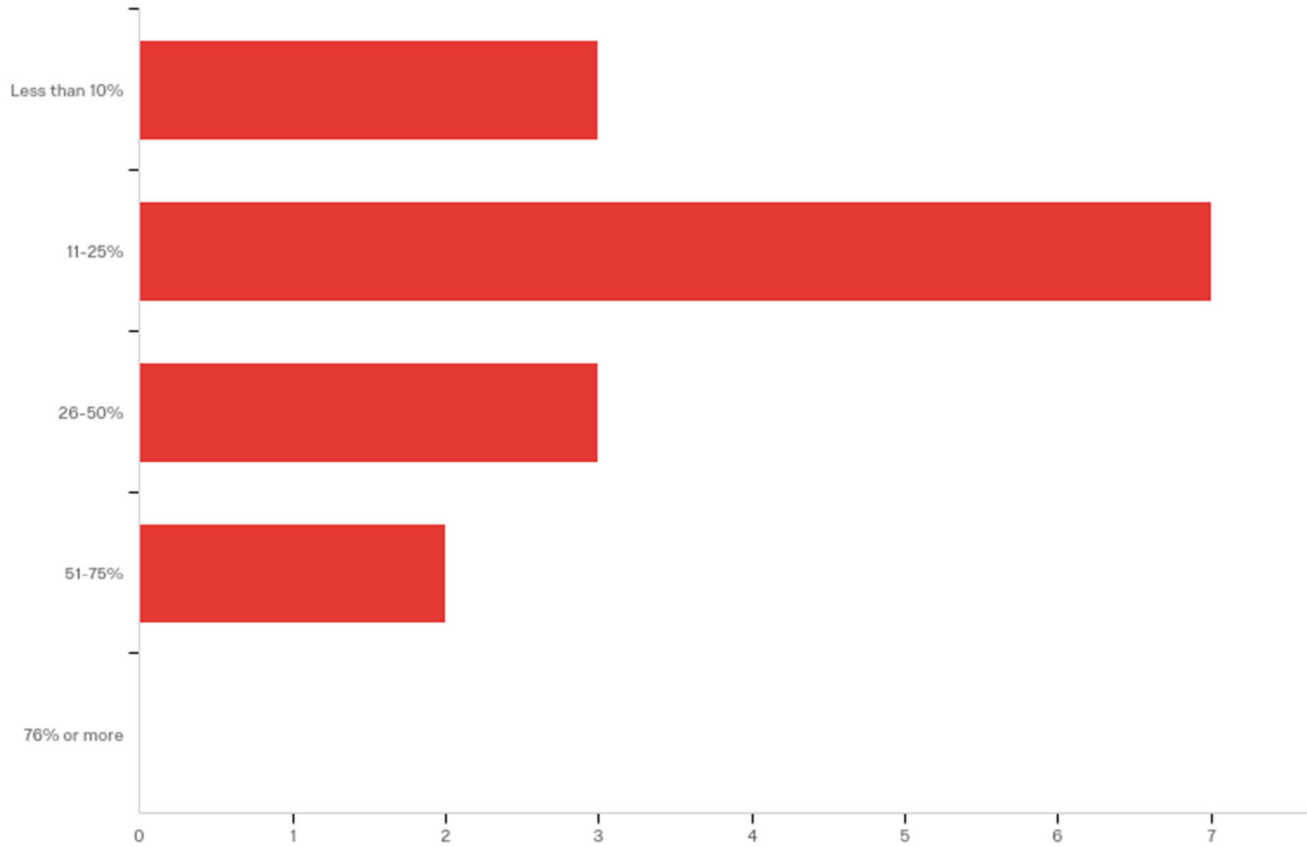
How important is increased collaboration in agriculture
Extension/research surrounding drought mitigation/management in
the West?



How important are the following topics in drought mitigation/management education?



Q3 - How would you characterize the degree of drought mitigation/management in your current agricultural Extension programs?



Key Tools Being Used

- NOAA Data
- NDVI Data
- Extension workshops and one on one visits
- Range management workshops
- Drought tolerant crop research
- Enterprise budgets
- Spreadsheet decision tools
- Insurance options

Largest Hurdles Faced by Farmers

- Price of water and irrigation
- Understanding irrigation technology and management
- Finding feed
- Managing available resources and mitigating short and long term financial impact
- Dealing with multi-year droughts
- Lack of funding and systematic disincentives to adopt water saving practices
- Herd reduction strategies

Future Collaboration and Discussion

- Is there a need?