



Texas Crop Progress and Condition

Southern Plains Regional Field Office
Post Office Box 70 Austin, Texas 78767
(800) 626-3142 · FAX (855) 270-2725 · www.nass.usda.gov/tx

Issue: TX-CW0720

Weekly Summary for March 2 - March 8

Released: March 9, 2020

Most of Texas received from trace amounts to upwards of 3.0 inches of precipitation last week. Some counties in the Low Plains, the Edwards Plateau and East Texas received in excess of 4.0 to 5.0 inches. There were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork.

Small Grains: Winter wheat conditions improved in areas of the Low and High Plains where rainfall was received, while other areas reported still needing moisture. Small grains in North East Texas, the Blacklands, South Central Texas and South Texas continued to improve.

Row Crops: Producers in the Northern High Plains applied fertilizers to corn fields in preparation for upcoming plantings. Sorghum plantings in the Southern Low Plains benefited from the recent rainfall. Many Cross Timbers farmers were successful in getting their corn planted prior to rainfall. Meanwhile, corn plantings were delayed in the Blacklands and the Edwards Plateau due to wet conditions. Corn plantings in South Central Texas and the Upper Coast neared completion. Sorghum and corn planting continued in South Texas, while cotton plantings continued in the Coastal Bend.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops: Pecan pruning and orchard floor preparation were underway but behind in areas of the Trans-Pecos. Spinach harvest continued in South Texas while cabbage harvest will resume next week, weather permitting.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Livestock were rated in mostly fair to good condition. Supplemental feeding continued across the state. Pasture and range condition was rated mostly fair to good, though pasture conditions varied greatly across the state. Feral swine damage continued in areas of South East Texas.

Crop Progress

Stage	Percent of Acreage			
	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
Sorghum				
Planted	32	12	9	13
Corn				
Planted	28	12	11	10
Winter Wheat				
Headed	25	24	6	1
Oats				
Headed	13	12	11	2

Crop Condition

Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index ¹	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2020	2019
Wheat	2	24	40	26	8	55	57
Oats	10	40	37	10	3	72	58
Range and Pasture	7	31	34	18	10	61	61

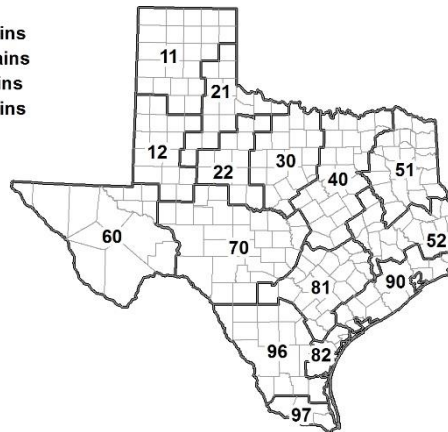
¹ The formula for the condition index is $I = (5V + 25P + 60F + 90G + 110E)/100$ where I = crop condition index and V, P, F, G, E = percentage of crop rated very poor, poor, fair, good, excellent.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable by District

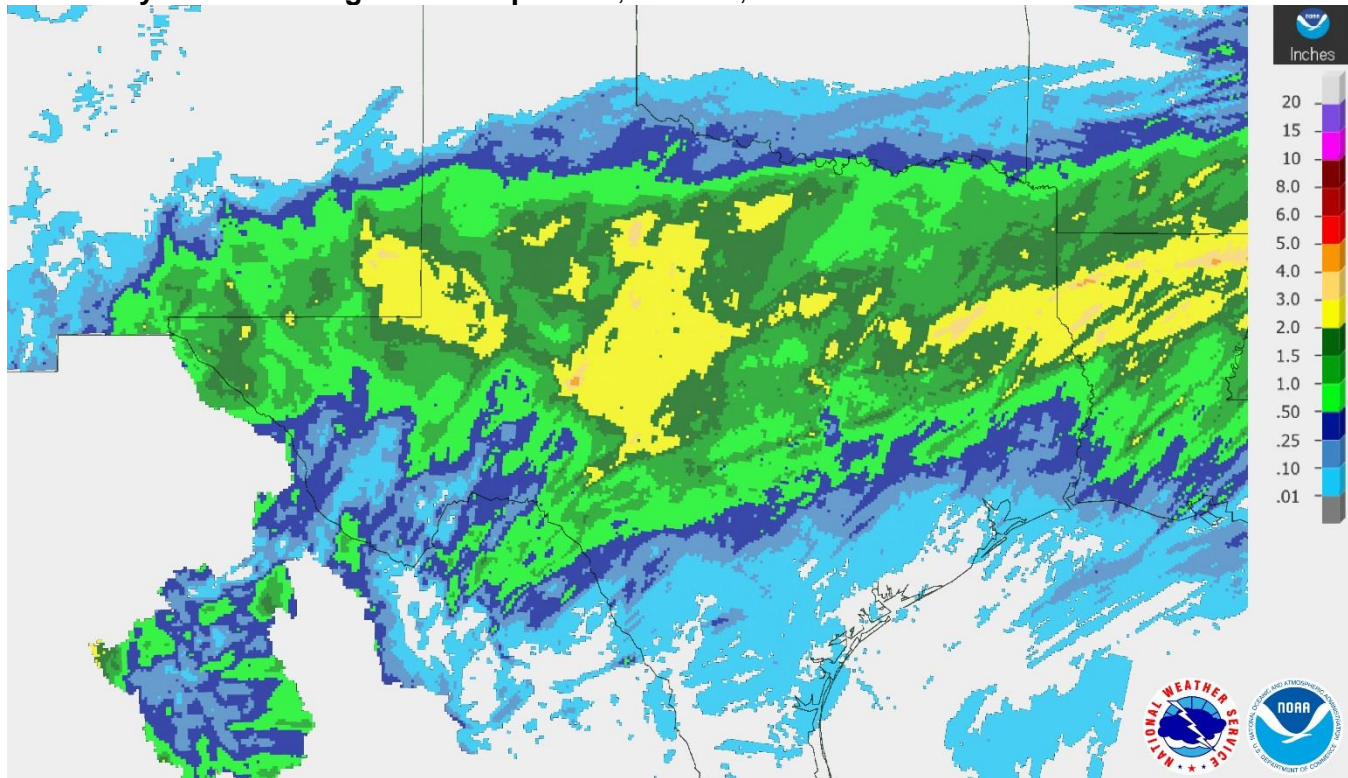
District	Topsoil Moisture Condition by District				Subsoil Moisture Condition by District				Days Suitable for Fieldwork
	Percentage of Acreage				Percentage of Acreage				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
11	18	35	45	2	13	34	50	3	5.6
12	7	56	35	2	4	56	37	3	6.9
21	6	43	50	1	9	37	53	1	6.0
22	1	29	50	20	1	32	61	6	5.8
30	0	9	78	13	0	10	89	1	4.8
40	1	5	45	49	0	17	47	36	3.5
51	0	2	77	21	0	1	78	21	5.9
52	1	16	69	14	1	18	73	8	4.5
60	1	28	46	25	3	29	43	25	6.3
70	16	34	49	1	15	48	36	1	6.4
81	8	42	42	8	14	42	44	0	5.6
82	41	42	17	0	42	50	8	0	7.0
90	8	24	66	2	6	55	31	8	5.0
96	79	20	1	0	64	35	1	0	6.5
97	33	42	23	2	22	41	37	0	5.2
State	11	32	46	11	9	35	48	8	5.6

Texas Agricultural Districts

- 11 Northern High Plains
- 12 Southern High Plains
- 21 Northern Low Plains
- 22 Southern Low Plains
- 30 Cross Timbers
- 40 Blacklands
- 51 North East
- 52 South East
- 60 Trans-Pecos
- 70 Edwards Plateau
- 81 South Central
- 82 Coastal Bend
- 90 Upper Coast
- 96 South
- 97 Lower Valley

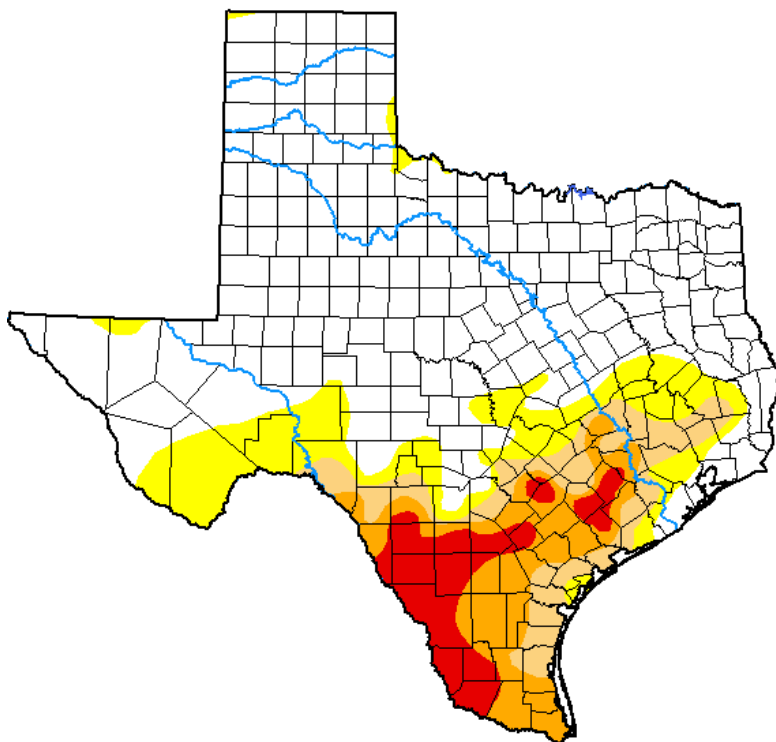


Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, March 8, 2020.



Source: National Weather Service, www.nws.noaa.gov.

Drought Monitor, Valid March 3, 2020.



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	65.58	34.42	21.16	13.93	5.87	0.00
Last Week 02-25-2020	67.75	32.25	19.79	10.95	2.66	0.00
3 Months Ago 12-03-2019	44.14	55.86	33.54	8.42	0.67	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12-31-2019	44.69	55.31	36.12	9.19	0.74	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2019	31.74	68.26	46.05	22.33	6.32	0.00
One Year Ago 03-05-2019	45.94	54.06	19.92	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Adam Hartman
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



Source: National Drought Mitigation Center, a partnership with USDA, U.S. Department of Commerce/NOAA, <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>.