



# Texas Crop Progress and Condition

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**WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR MARCH 19 - 25**

**ISSUE TX-CW1312**

**RELEASED MARCH 26, 2012**

Crop Condition							
Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2012	2011
Wheat	11	28	31	19	11	61	35
Oats	25	51	18	4	2	85	36
Range and Pasture	9	28	30	18	15	---	---

\* 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.

## Summary

Rain fell across most of the state last week. Many parts of the Panhandle and the Trans-Pecos received much-needed moisture. Rainfall totals mostly ranged from 0.01 to 5 inches for the week.

**Small Grains:** Wheat and oats benefited from recent moisture, though irrigation was still active in some areas. Overall, small grain condition improved. Some producers were scouting fields for insects and fungal diseases. Problems with rust, powdery mildew, and armyworms in winter wheat were reported.

Crop Progress					
Crop	Stage	Percent of Acreage			
		Current	Prev Week	2011	5 Yr Avg
Corn	Planted	42	33	48	46
	Emerged	16	0	11	16
Cotton	Planted	9	1	7	5
Oats	Headed	22	7	8	9
Rice	Planted	3	1	36	23
Sorghum	Planted	31	22	44	36
Soybeans	Planted	3	1	16	7
Winter Wheat	Headed	3	0	1	4

Visit our web site to view the crop progress regional maps, available at [www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Texas/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/maps/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Texas/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/maps/).

**Row Crops:** High Plains producers continued to prepare land for corn and cotton with pre-watering and herbicide applications. In other areas, cropland preparation was complete and corn, cotton, and sorghum planting was active. Soybean and sunflower planting preparations were also underway.

**Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops:** Fruit trees were in full bloom and pecan trees were budding in many areas. Some pecan producers were beginning to fertilize trees with nitrogen. In the Trans-Pecos, chile planting continued and onions were beginning bulb formation. In South Texas, cabbage harvest was active as fields dried out.

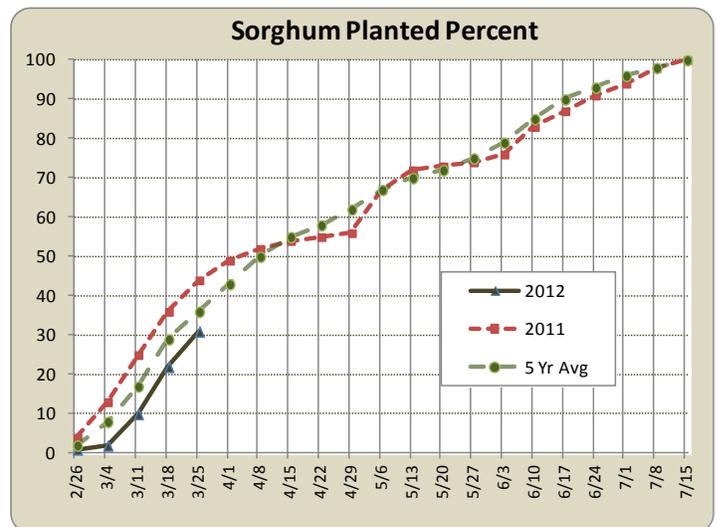
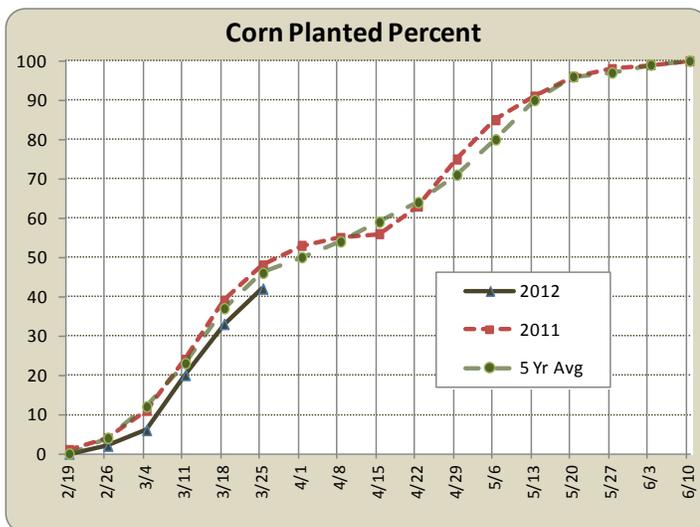
**Livestock, Range, and Pasture:** Pastures in many areas greened with recent rains. However, many producers remained cautious about grazing livestock on recovering pastureland. Weeds were also a concern in pastures and some producers were spraying herbicides. Some cool-season grasses were being cut for hay. Supplemental feeding continued as

necessary although hay and supplemental feed remained in short supply. Overall, livestock body condition continued to improve. Creeks, ponds and tanks around the state benefited from recent rainfall. More rain was needed to fill stock tanks in South Texas and the Lower Valley.

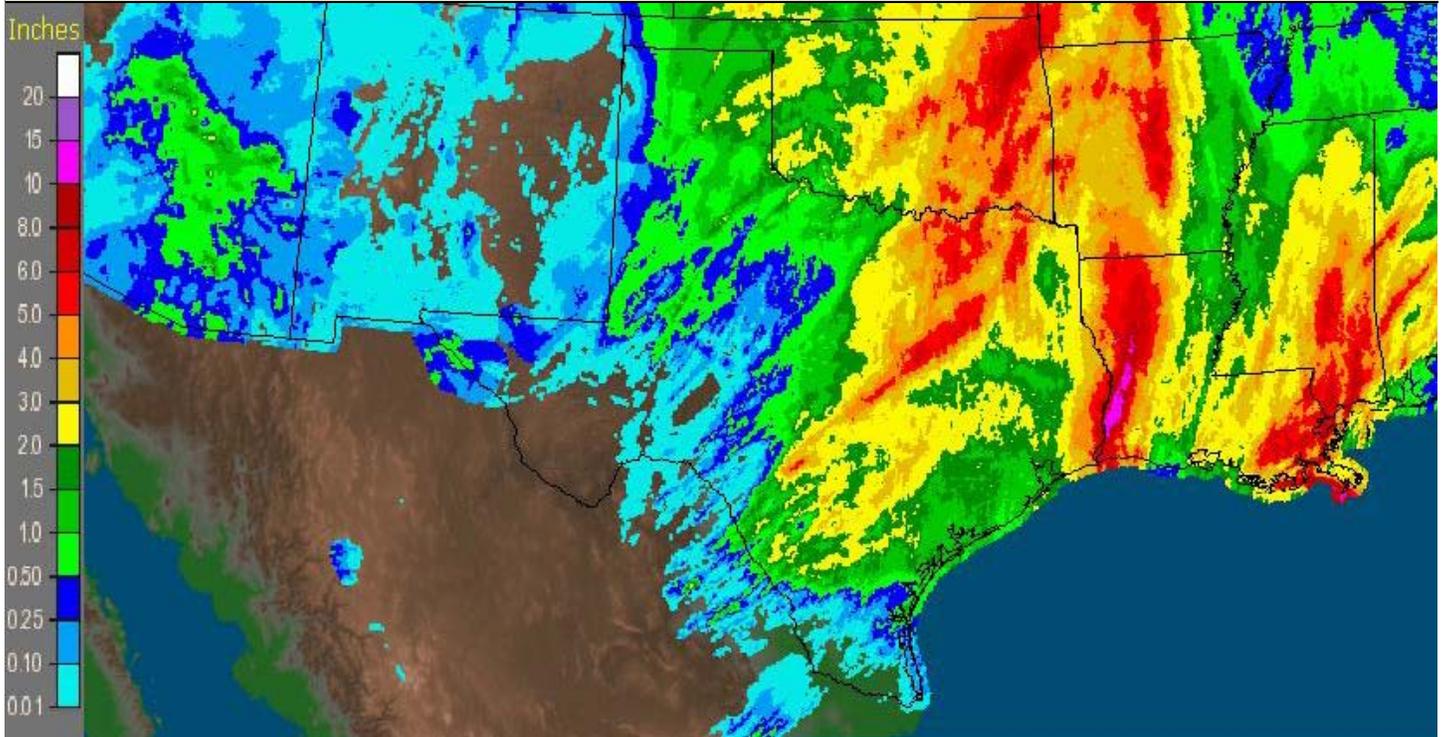
Top Soil Moisture by District															
Condition	Percent of Acreage														
	1-N	1-S	2-N	2-S	3	4	5-N	5-S	6	7	8-N	8-S	9	10-N	10-S
Very Short	43	35	36	1	1	1	3	0	70	14	0	23	1	15	42
Short	39	48	26	37	16	1	6	3	28	19	10	35	5	32	28
Adequate	18	15	31	62	72	49	75	68	2	59	82	28	56	52	30
Surplus	0	2	7	0	11	49	16	29	0	8	8	14	38	1	0

Texas Precipitation					
National Weather Service Climatic Divisions *	Inches of Accumulation **				Percent
	Previous Week (March 19 – 25, 2012)	Month-to-Date (March 1 – 25, 2012)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Mar 25, 2012)	Annual Normal 1971-2000	Normal Previous Three Months (Dec, Jan, Feb)
High Plains	0.05	0.12	0.24	19.64	4
Low Rolling Plains	0.01	0.14	0.46	24.51	20
North Central Texas	0.51	0.80	1.89	35.23	16
East Texas	0.44	0.96	2.56	48.08	15
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.01	0.06	13.19	25
Edwards Plateau	0.15	0.29	0.84	24.73	17
South Central Texas	0.32	0.45	1.26	36.21	15
Upper Coast	0.30	0.78	2.33	50.31	14
South Texas	0.11	0.12	0.51	24.08	28
Lower Valley	0.00	0.00	0.48	25.43	39

\* High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Texas: 3, 4; East Texas: 5-N, 5-S. Trans-Pecos: 6; Edwards Plateau: 7; South Central Texas: 8-N, 8-S; Upper Coast: 9; South Texas: 10-N; Lower Valley: 10-S. \*\* Average of all stations reporting precipitation data. For more information, please visit the following web sites: <http://water.weather.gov> and <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>.



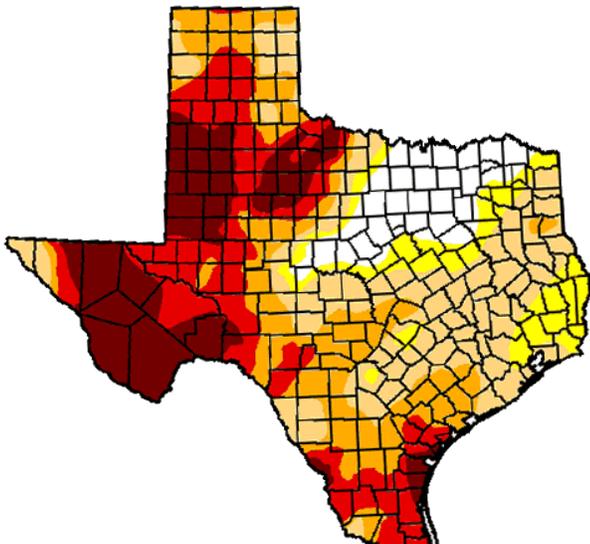
## Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, March 25, 2012



Source: National Weather Service, [www.nws.noaa.gov](http://www.nws.noaa.gov)

## Drought Monitor

Valid 3/20/2012, 7:00 am EST



### Intensity:



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

## Texas Agricultural Districts

