



# Texas Crop Progress and Condition

Texas Field Office · Post Office Box 70 · Austin, Texas 78767 · 800-626-3142 · [www.nass.usda.gov/tx](http://www.nass.usda.gov/tx)

**WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR MARCH 26 – APRIL 1**

**ISSUE TX-CW1412 CORRECTED**

**RELEASED APRIL 3, 2012**

Crop	Crop Condition						Index	
	Percent of Acreage					2012	2011	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor			
Wheat	10	24	33	21	12	58	36	
Oats	24	49	18	2	7	82	32	
Range and Pasture	9	27	31	19	14	--	--	

\* 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

Most of the state received rainfall last week. Weekly totals in areas of South Texas reached two inches or more while other areas received scattered showers. Parts of the High Plains and the Trans-Pecos experienced unseasonably warm and dry weather.

**Small Grains:** Rainfall and warm temperatures helped small grains to progress well

last week. Wheat and oats were maturing ahead of schedule in parts of the state. In the High Plains, some wheat was showing signs of stress and remained in need of additional moisture. Many producers were irrigating and applying herbicides to wheat. Scouting and spraying for insects continued. Some wheat producers also reported problems with rust.

**Row Crops:** Corn and sorghum planting was active around most of the state. In the High Plains, field preparation, pre-watering and fertilizer applications were in progress ahead of planting. In the Blacklands, producers were able to resume corn and sorghum planting as fields dried out. In South Texas, cotton planting was underway.

**Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops:** Warm temperatures aided in the development of pecan and fruit trees in North and East Texas. Pecan producers continued to fertilize trees with nitrogen and began to prepare equipment for spring spraying and zinc applications. In South Texas, spinach harvest was completed while cabbage harvest continued. Onions continued to progress well.

Crop	Stage	Crop Progress			
		Percent of Acreage			
		Current	Prev Week	2011	5 Yr Avg
Corn	Planted	48	42	53	50
	Emerged	30	16	27	30
Cotton	Planted	12	9	9	7
Oats	Headed	39	22	28	24
Rice	Planted	4	3	60	43
Sorghum	Planted	40	31	49	43
Soybeans	Planted	7	3	35	17
Winter Wheat	Headed	19	3	8	8

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/).

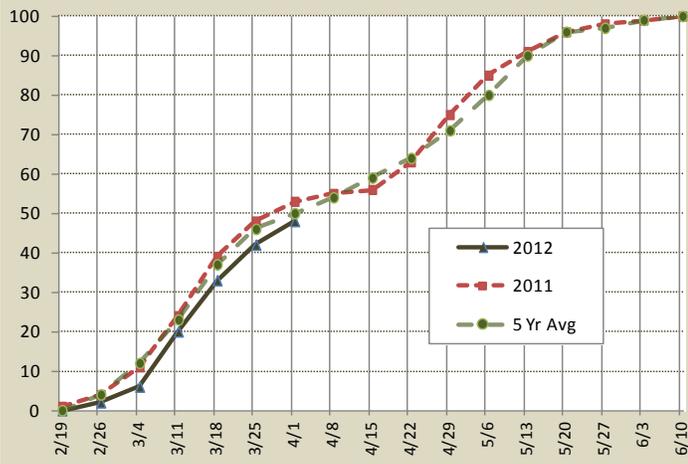
**Livestock, Range, and Pasture:** Range and pastureland continued to make gains in areas that received moisture. Many producers were able to begin cutting and baling hay. However in parts of the Panhandle and the Tran-Pecos, conditions remained dry and producers saw little or no improvement in grass growth. Weed management was a major concern across the state. Calving, lambing and kidding season continued with some producers beginning to mark their lambs and goats. Supplemental feeding of cattle was active in many areas. Stock tank levels remained low in the southern part of the state. Low tank levels were also reported in parts of the Low Plains and the Cross Timbers. Elsewhere, ponds and tanks were mostly full.

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	48	53	35	9	2	1	4	0	76	14	0	22	1	8	42
Short	43	33	34	48	25	3	12	3	23	24	9	28	4	19	20
Adequate	9	12	27	43	67	81	71	71	1	54	81	40	54	72	25
Surplus	0	2	4	0	6	15	13	26	0	8	10	10	41	1	13

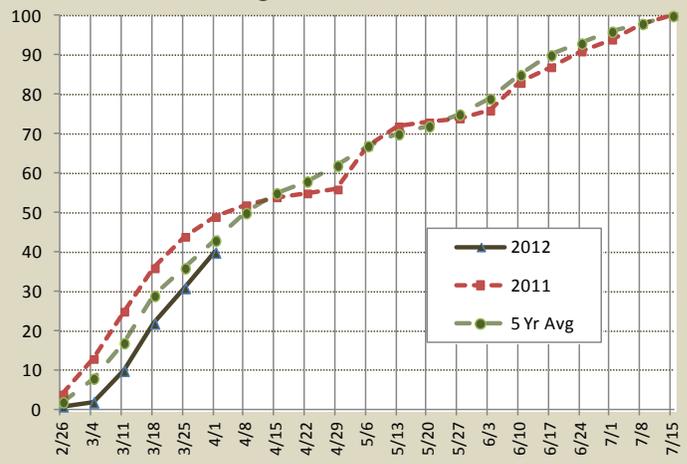
Texas Precipitation					
National Weather Service Climatic Divisions *	Inches of Accumulation **				Percent
	Previous Week (Mar 26 – Apr 1, 2012)	Month-to-Date (March 1 – 31, 2012)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Apr 1, 2012)	Annual Normal 1971-2000	Normal Previous Three Months (Dec, Jan, Feb)
High Plains	0.00	0.12	0.24	19.64	4
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	0.14	0.46	24.51	20
North Central Texas	0.01	0.81	1.90	35.23	16
East Texas	0.05	1.01	2.61	48.08	15
Trans-Pecos	0.03	0.04	0.09	13.19	25
Edwards Plateau	0.04	0.33	0.88	24.73	17
South Central Texas	0.13	0.58	1.39	36.21	15
Upper Coast	0.14	0.88	2.47	50.31	14
South Texas	0.19	0.26	0.70	24.08	28
Lower Valley	0.19	0.19	0.67	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>.

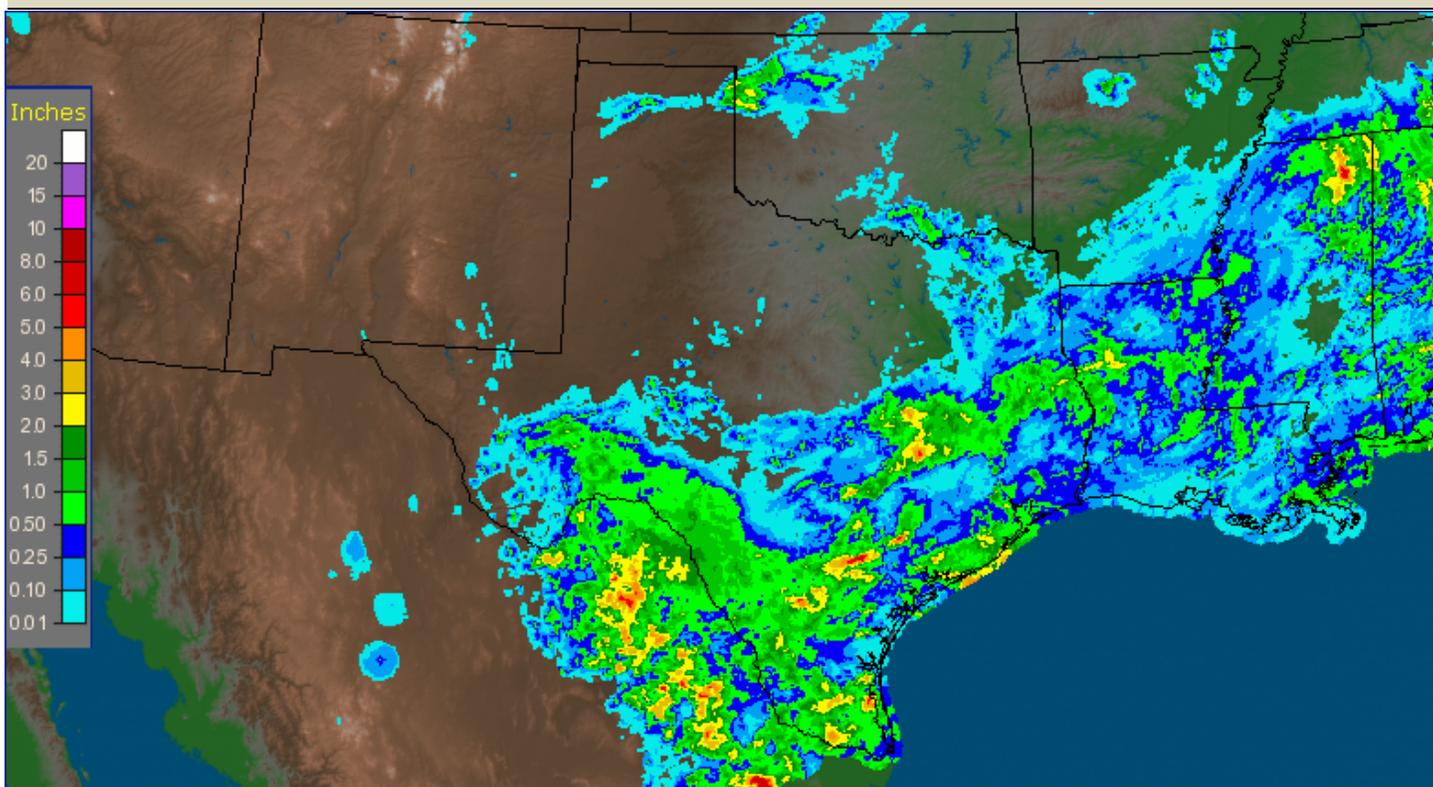
### Corn Planted Percent



### Sorghum Planted Percent



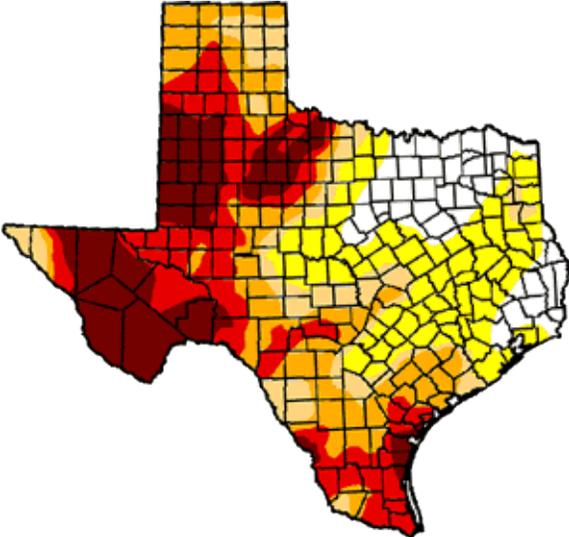
### Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, April 1, 2012



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

# Drought Monitor

Valid 3/27/2012, 7:00 am EST



**Intensity:**

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

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

# Texas Agricultural Districts

