



Texas Crop Progress and Condition

Texas Field Office · Post Office Box 70 · Austin, Texas 78767 · 800-626-3142 · www.nass.usda.gov/tx

WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR APRIL 30 - MAY 6

ISSUE TX-CW1912

RELEASED MAY 7, 2012

Crop Condition							
Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2012	2011
Corn	16	50	26	7	1	80	49
Rice	2	76	17	5	0	71	74
Sorghum	10	53	28	5	4	77	50
Wheat	7	27	29	20	17	55	26
Oats	21	48	20	6	5	80	23
Range and Pasture	4	23	29	25	19	--	--

* 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

Portions of Central Texas received up to 2 inches of rainfall last week while other areas of the state observed isolated showers. Some hail damage was reported in areas of the Low Plains.

Small Grains: Warm weather continued to mature wheat and oats ahead of schedule. Some producers began harvesting winter wheat for grain and many others were preparing to harvest within the next few weeks. In the Northern Plains, dryland wheat conditions were in decline due to a lack of moisture while irrigated wheat fields were generally in good condition.

Crop Progress					
Crop	Stage	Percent of Acreage			
		Current	Prev Week	2011	5 Yr Avg
Corn	Planted	75	70	85	80
	Emerged	60	58	59	65
Cotton	Planted	27	25	22	25
	Squaring	1	0	6	2
Peanuts		16	4	32	27
Rice	Planted	93	89	93	93
	Emerged	84	76	79	80
Sorghum	Planted	70	65	67	67
Soybeans	Planted	74	68	80	78
	Emerged	47	25	57	50
Sunflowers	Planted	36	29	29	29
Winter Wheat	Headed	92	82	76	68
Oats	Headed	99	97	92	90

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/.

Row Crops: Many producers in the High Plains were planting corn, cotton, sorghum, sunflowers, and peanuts. Others continued to water fields ahead of planting. In North Texas, corn and sorghum were progressing well, though some fields were beginning to show stress due to a lack of moisture. Across the state, recently planted fields were in need of rain. Irrigation was active on row crops from East and Central Texas to the Lower Valley.

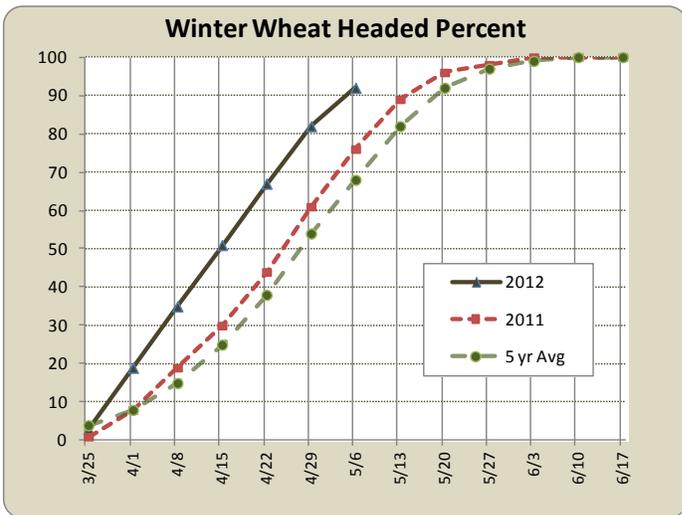
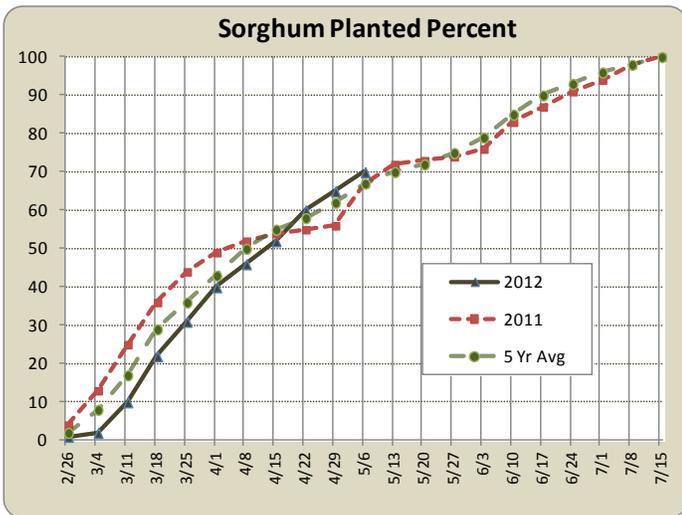
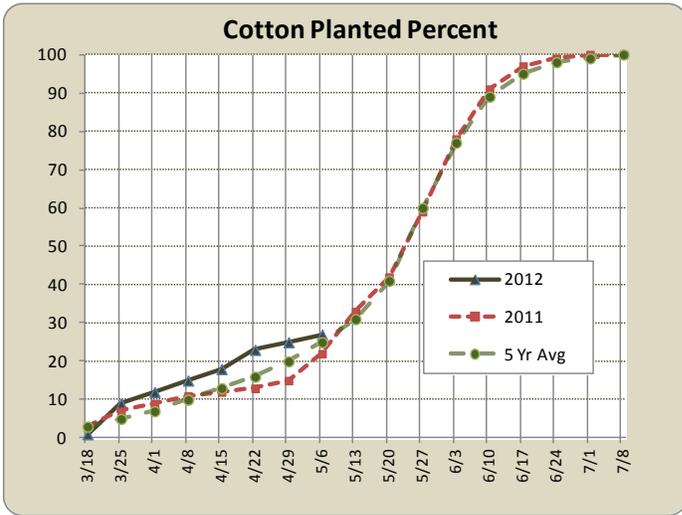
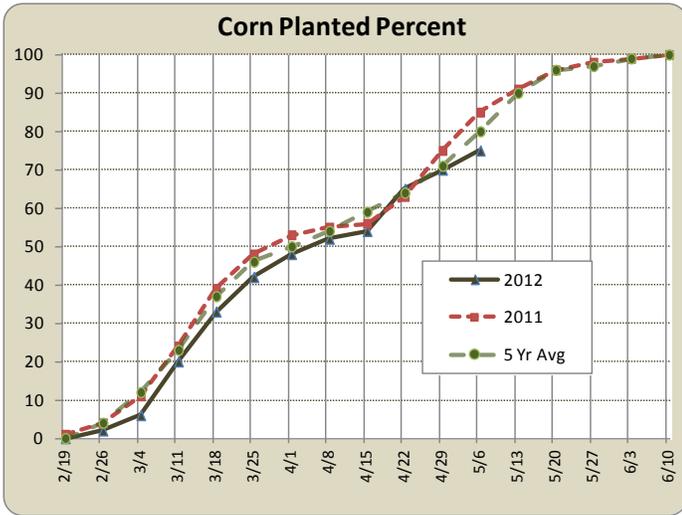
Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops: In East Texas and the Edwards Plateau, peaches appeared to be doing very well with only limited insect damage. Pecan producers were irrigating trees and spraying for pests. In the Low Plains, some insect pressure was reported on vegetable fields. In the Lower Valley, melon, squash, tomato, pepper, and sweet corn harvests continued.

Livestock, Range, and Pasture: Hot, windy conditions across much of West Texas caused range and pastureland to dry out in many areas. Grasses remained thin in drought-damaged pastures. Pastures in North and East Texas were in better condition but still in need of moisture. Baling of winter forages continued, as did spraying for warm season weeds. Cattle were in fair to good condition in most areas but many were rapidly running out of grazing. Stock tank levels were a concern for livestock producers in South Texas. Ranchers around the state continued to work spring calves and shear sheep.

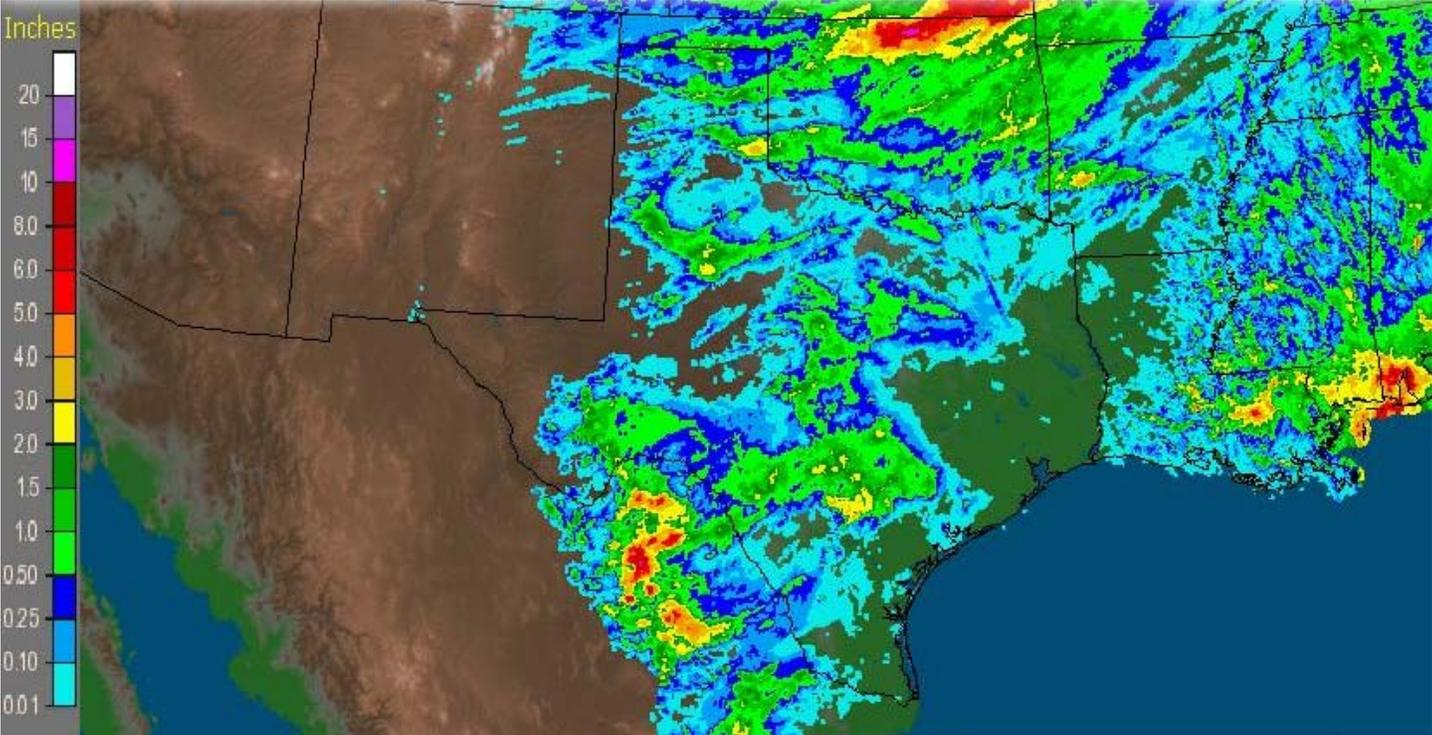
Top Soil Moisture by District															
Condition	Percent of Acreage														
	1-N	1-S	2-N	2-S	3	4	5-N	5-S	6	7	8-N	8-S	9	10-N	10-S
Very Short	48	67	55	40	17	13	6	10	83	27	14	42	5	42	35
Short	41	29	22	28	57	38	24	48	17	49	58	42	39	46	13
Adequate	10	4	22	31	26	47	64	42	0	23	28	16	48	12	52
Surplus	1	0	1	1	0	2	6	0	0	1	0	0	8	0	0

Texas Precipitation					
National Weather Service Climatic Divisions *	Inches of Accumulation **				Percent
	Previous Week (Apr 30 – May 6, 2012)	Month-to-Date (April 1 – 30, 2012)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – May 6, 2012)	Annual Normal 1971-2000	Normal Previous Three Months (Jan, Feb, Mar)
High Plains	0.02	0.16	0.40	19.64	11
Low Rolling Plains	0.04	0.23	0.70	24.51	13
North Central Texas	0.04	0.18	2.12	35.23	27
East Texas	0.02	0.46	3.09	48.08	23
Trans-Pecos	0.04	0.12	0.21	13.19	7
Edwards Plateau	0.09	0.13	1.07	24.73	23
South Central Texas	0.06	0.16	1.61	36.21	21
Upper Coast	0.01	0.55	2.99	50.31	24
South Texas	0.02	0.10	0.76	24.08	18
Lower Valley	0.00	0.26	0.93	25.43	17

* 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>.



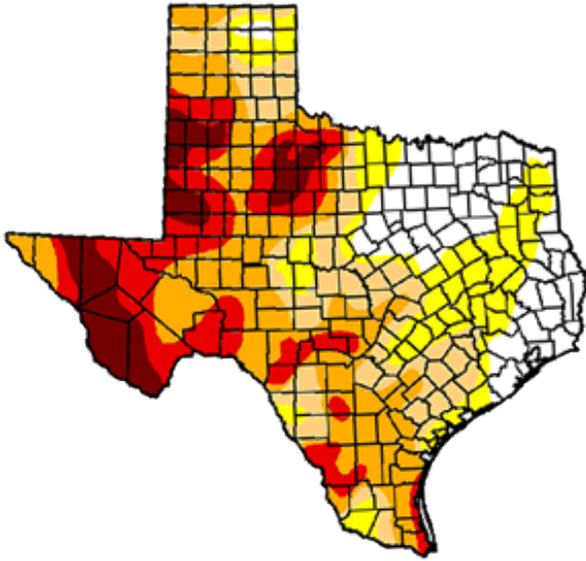
Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, May 6, 2012



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

Drought Monitor

Valid 5/1/2012, 7:00 am EST



Intensity:

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

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

Texas Agricultural Districts

