



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 SEPTEMBER 3 – 9

ISSUE TX-CW3712

RELEASED SEPTEMBER 10, 2012

Summary

Areas of South Texas, the Trans-Pecos, and the Plains received up to two inches of rainfall last week. Other areas received scattered showers, with large portions of Central and East Texas recording no measurable precipitation.

Small Grains: Winter wheat and oats planting was underway in areas with adequate moisture. In drier areas, some producers were waiting on rain; others were pre-irrigating fields, while some were dusting in small grains with hopes of adequate rainfall over the next month.

Row Crops: Fall field work was in full swing around the

state. Corn harvest was ongoing in the Trans-Pecos and the Plains, while harvest had wrapped up in the rest of the state. Sorghum harvest was active in the Plains and the Edwards Plateau. Peanuts continued to mature in the High Plains with harvest set to begin in the next few weeks. Irrigated cotton made good progress with bolls continuing to open in many fields.

Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops: In South Texas, vegetable producers were pre-watering ahead of cabbage and spinach planting. Some vegetable planting had begun in the Lower Valley and irrigation was active on sugarcane and citrus. Preparations were underway for fall sugarcane harvest. Pecan irrigation was at peak levels for the season in parts of the Edwards Plateau. In the Low Plains, there were some reports of pecan tree losses due to the drought.

Livestock, Range, and Pasture: Hot, dry conditions across much of the state left range and pastureland drought-stressed. Forage growth slowed and grasses were drying out. In parts of the Trans-Pecos, the Plains, and the Lower Valley, scattered

		Crop Progress			
Crop	Stage	Percent of Acreage			
		Current	Prev Week	2011	5 Yr Avg
Corn	Dough	97	96	93	97
	Dent	89	88	80	90
	Mature	74	73	70	71
	Harvested	62	61	54	58
Cotton	Setting Bolls	98	97	99	96
	Bolls Opening	42	31	49	31
	Harvested	9	8	15	11
Peanuts	Harvested	1	0	0	0
Rice	Harvested	90	80	96	92
Sorghum	Headed	96	94	96	97
	Coloring	77	76	74	79
	Mature	73	72	70	68
	Harvested	59	58	58	61
Soybeans	Blooming	100	99	100	100
	Setting Pods	99	98	100	100
	Dropping Leaves	75	74	90	77
	Harvested	49	36	58	43
Sunflowers	Harvested	29	19	40	23
Winter Wheat	Planted	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/.

showers helped improve pasture conditions. However around the state, slow, soaking rains were needed to improve soil moisture. In South Texas, temperatures in excess of 100 degrees led to increased stock tank evaporation rates. Hay production continued in East Texas with some reports of armyworm pressure. Livestock producers continued to sell calves and cull cows.

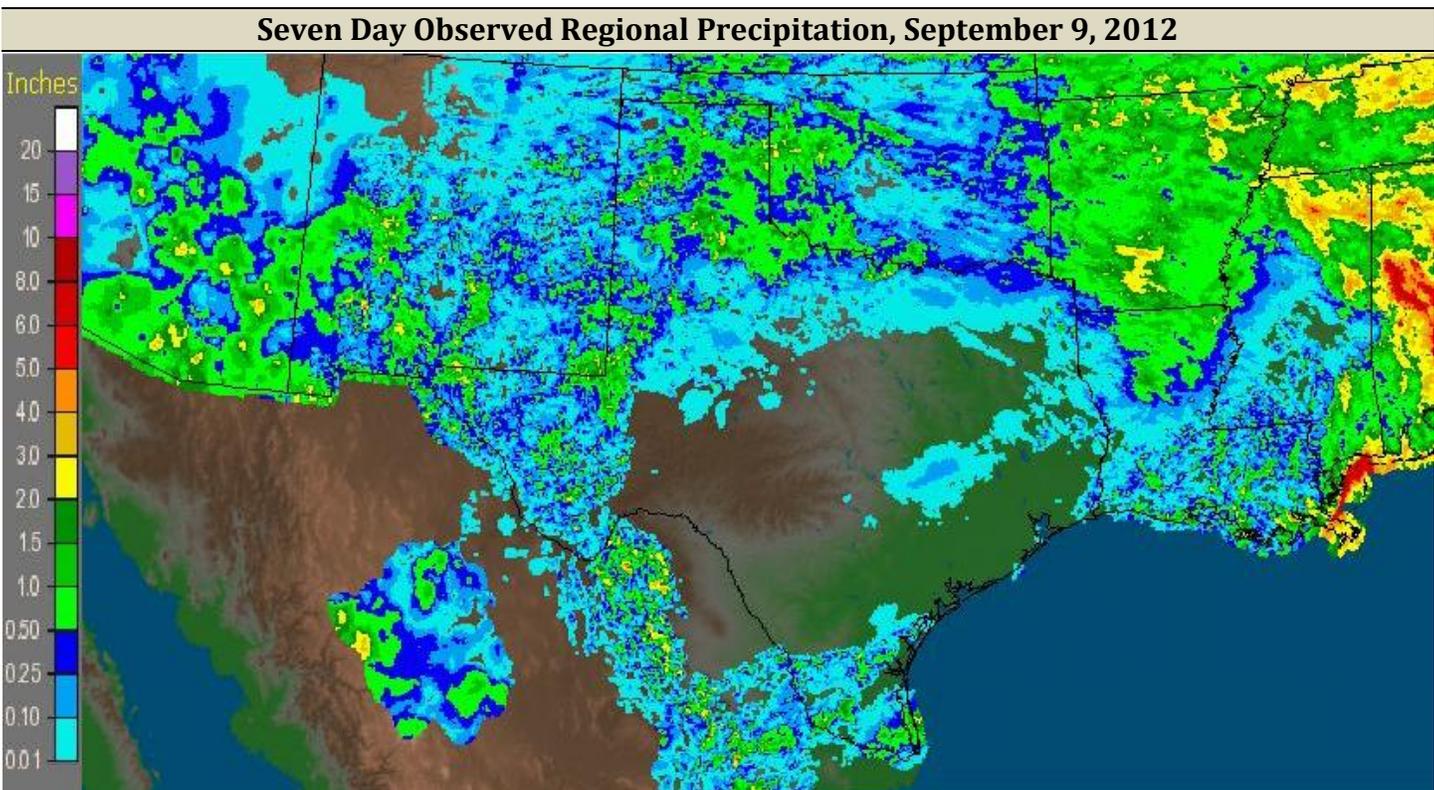
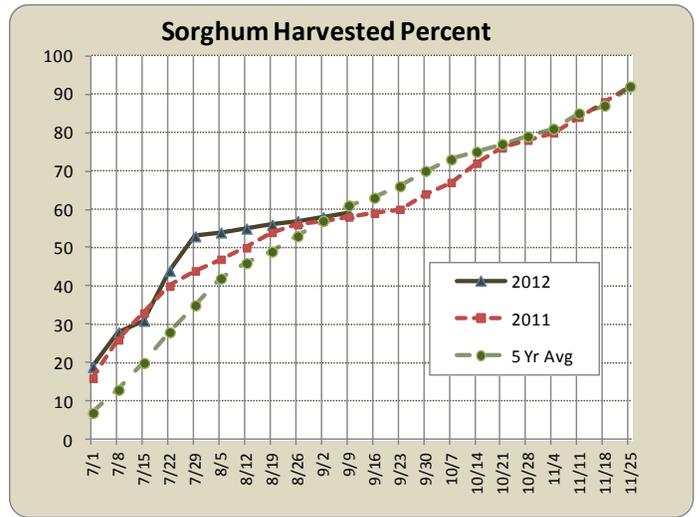
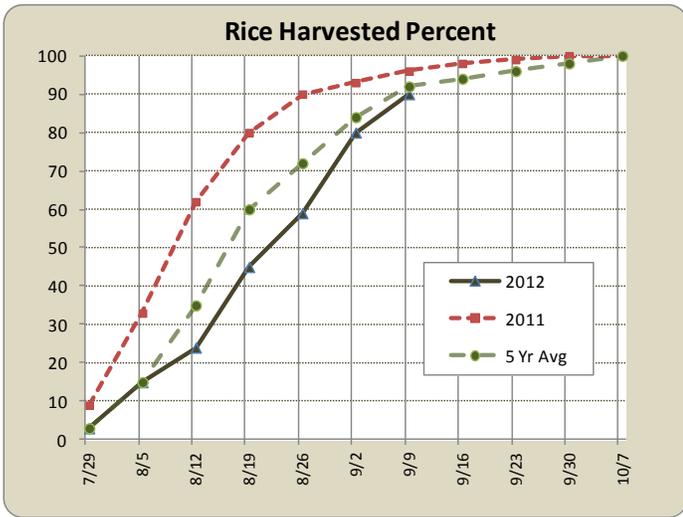
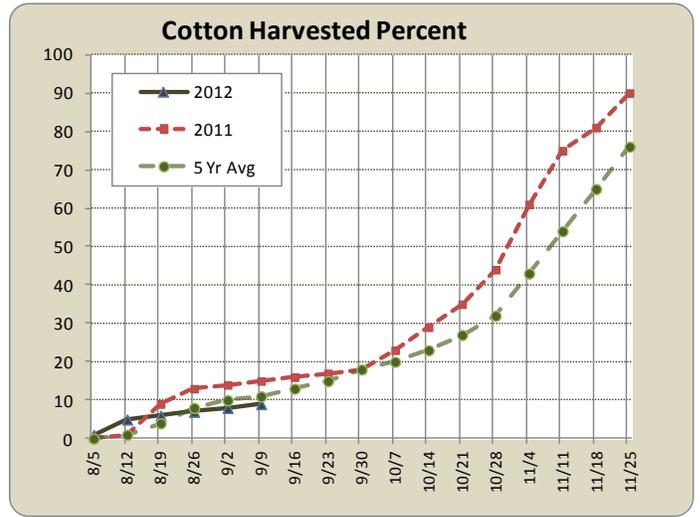
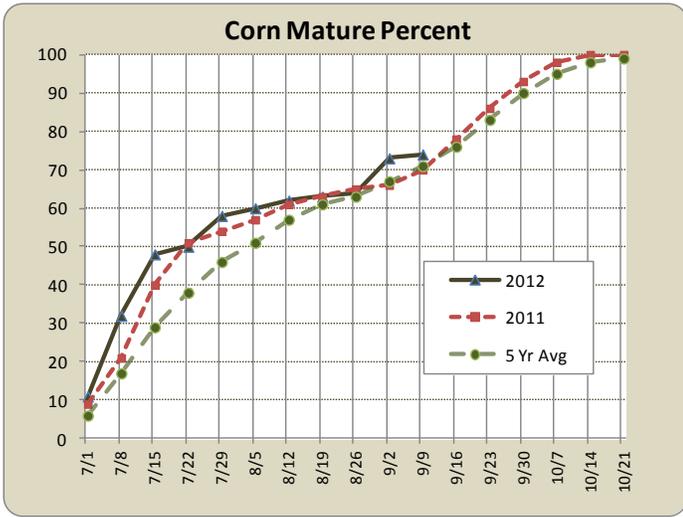
Crop Condition							
Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2012	2011
Corn	14	37	30	12	7	70	33
Cotton	4	18	31	28	19	47	33
Peanuts	7	55	31	6	1	77	45
Rice	18	32	38	10	2	74	74
Sorghum	16	33	27	15	9	68	49
Soybeans	1	37	45	16	1	65	18
Range and Pasture	1	11	30	32	26	--	--

* 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.

Texas Precipitation					
National Weather Service Climatic Divisions *	Inches of Accumulation **				Percent
	Previous Week (Sep 3 – 9, 2012)	Month-to-Date (Sep 1 – 9, 2012)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Sep 9, 2012)	Annual Normal 1971-2000	Normal Previous Three Months (Jun – Aug)
High Plains	0.09	0.09	1.58	19.64	11
Low Rolling Plains	0.07	0.07	2.19	24.51	13
North Central Texas	0.00	0.00	3.49	35.23	12
East Texas	0.00	0.01	5.11	48.08	15
Trans-Pecos	0.02	0.02	1.19	13.19	11
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.00	2.43	24.73	10
South Central Texas	0.00	0.01	3.18	36.21	12
Upper Coast	0.00	0.10	6.32	50.31	20
South Texas	0.02	0.02	1.88	24.08	7
Lower Valley	0.11	0.14	1.84	25.43	8

* 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>.

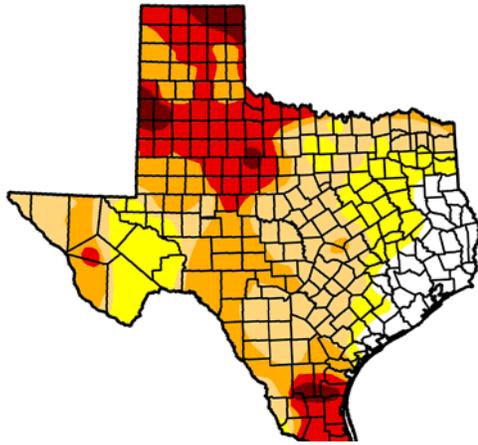
Top Soil Moisture by District															
Condition	Percent of Acreage														
	1-N	1-S	2-N	2-S	3	4	5-N	5-S	6	7	8-N	8-S	9	10-N	10-S
Very Short	65	48	49	41	23	24	14	12	47	41	24	59	8	66	67
Short	31	37	32	53	59	44	50	52	38	44	60	26	39	31	10
Adequate	4	15	17	6	18	32	36	33	15	14	16	15	48	3	20
Surplus	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	5	0	3



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

Drought Monitor

Valid 9/4/2012, 7:00 am EST

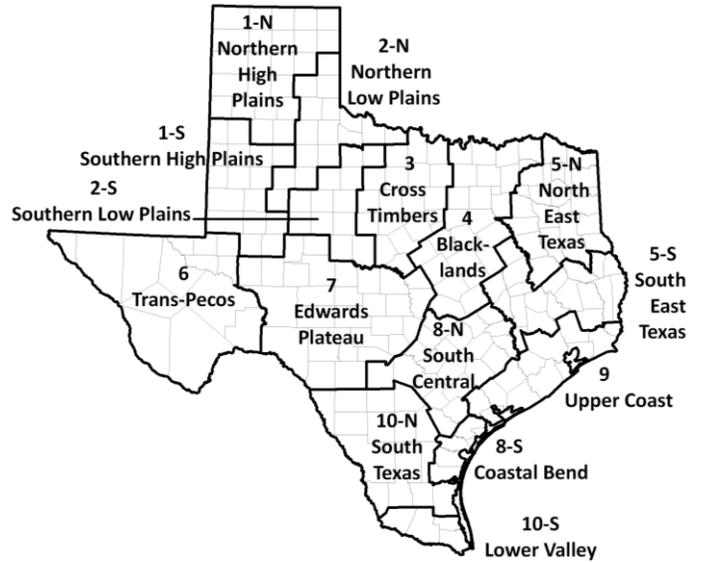


Intensity:



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

Texas Agricultural Districts



NASS is currently conducting our annual September surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of September, NASS is surveying U.S. small grains growers for final production. We are also asking hog producers about their summer pig crop, next year's farrowing intentions, and current inventory. The responses will provide the foundation for 2012 production estimates. All participating farmers should respond. Your information matters!