



Texas Crop Progress and Condition

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WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 17 – 23

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Summary

Rainfall was spotty around the state last week. Areas of East and South Texas, the Panhandle, and the Edwards Plateau received most of the precipitation, with some locations reporting two inches or more for the week. Portions of Central and West Texas received little or no rainfall.

Small Grains: Weather conditions last week were favorable for small grains seeding in many parts of the state. Many producers were taking advantage of improved soil moisture to get seed in the ground. Others were still waiting to plant and were busy applying pre-plant fertilizers and plowing. Some early-sown winter wheat was beginning to emerge in areas of North Texas.

Row Crops: Corn, sorghum, and peanuts continued to mature in the Plains with harvest underway in some areas. Silage harvest was active as well, with producers chopping corn and sorghum silage and adding it to their winter feed supplies. High Plains soybeans were still setting pods and dropping leaves. Cotton and soybean harvest progressed in areas of East and South Texas. Cotton bolls were still opening in the western half of the state and harvest had yet to begin.

Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops: In South Texas, preparations for spinach and onion planting were ongoing and cabbage planting was active. In the Lower Valley, producers were irrigating fall corn, citrus, and sugarcane. Producers continued to plant fall vegetables. Pecan nut fill progressed in orchards around the state. In areas of South Central Texas, sesame harvest was wrapping up.

		Crop Progress			
Crop	Stage	Percent of Acreage			
		Current	Prev Week	2011	5 Yr Avg
Corn	Dough	99	98	99	100
	Dent	97	96	96	98
	Mature	88	86	86	83
	Harvested	69	68	67	69
Cotton	Setting Bolls	100	99	100	99
	Bolls Opening	61	50	71	51
	Harvested	14	10	17	15
Peanuts	Harvested	4	2	7	8
Rice	Harvested	97	95	99	96
Sorghum	Headed	99	98	98	99
	Coloring	83	81	82	87
	Mature	75	74	72	74
	Harvested	61	60	60	66
Soybeans	Dropping Leaves	79	76	92	87
	Harvested	62	55	76	66
Sunflowers	Harvested	41	35	47	36
Winter Wheat	Planted	30	11	12	25
	Emerged	4	0	1	4
Oats	Planted	23	8	6	14

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/.

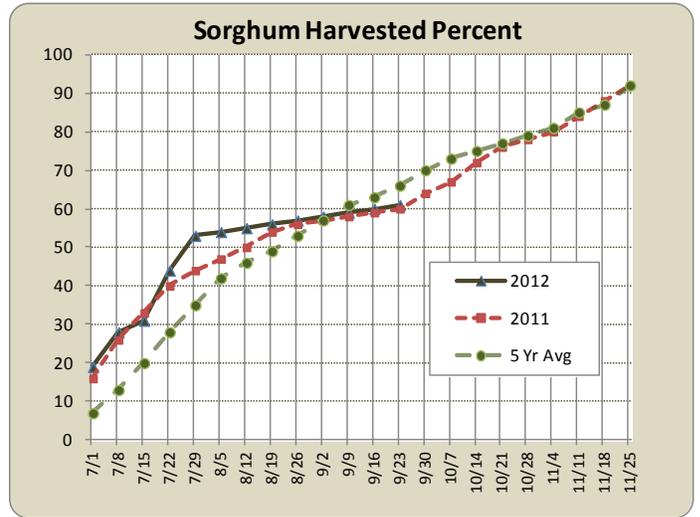
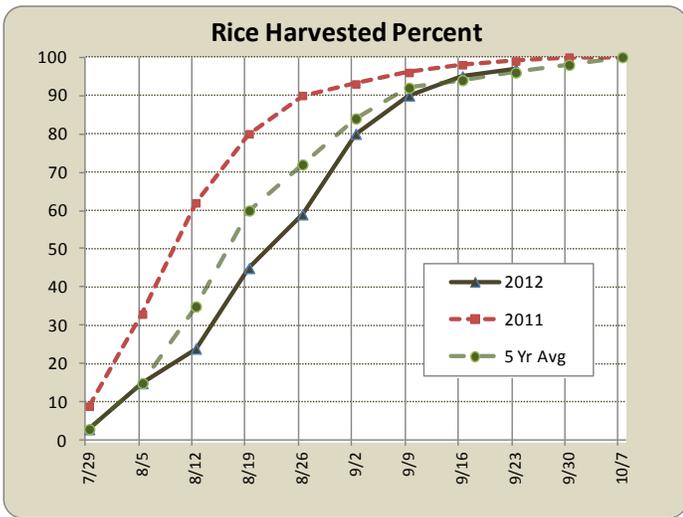
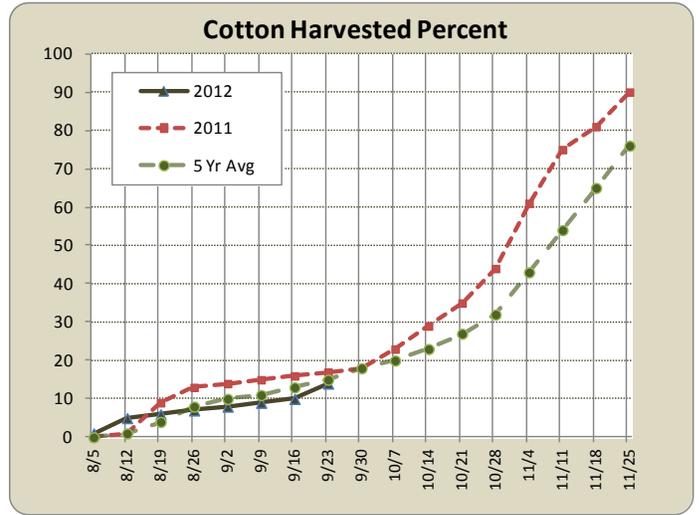
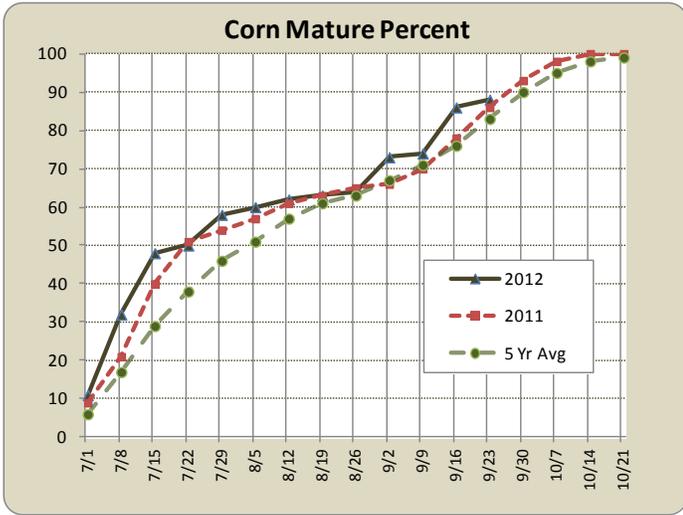
Livestock, Range, and Pasture: Cooler temperatures and recent precipitation left range and pastureland in good condition in many areas, providing much-needed forage for livestock. Many producers were able to make a final hay cutting and some had started to plant winter annual grasses. In other areas though, dry conditions left pastures and stock tanks in need of moisture. Some supplemental feeding of livestock was necessary and some ranchers continued to thin their herds. In general, cooler weather around the state helped to improve livestock condition. In North and West Texas, weaning and shipping of calves, lambs, and goats continued.

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	19	31	28	18	48	34
Peanuts	8	62	26	3	1	81	46
Rice	18	32	38	10	2	74	74
Sorghum	16	33	27	15	9	68	49
Soybeans	6	31	50	12	1	68	18
Range and Pasture	2	16	29	29	24	--	--

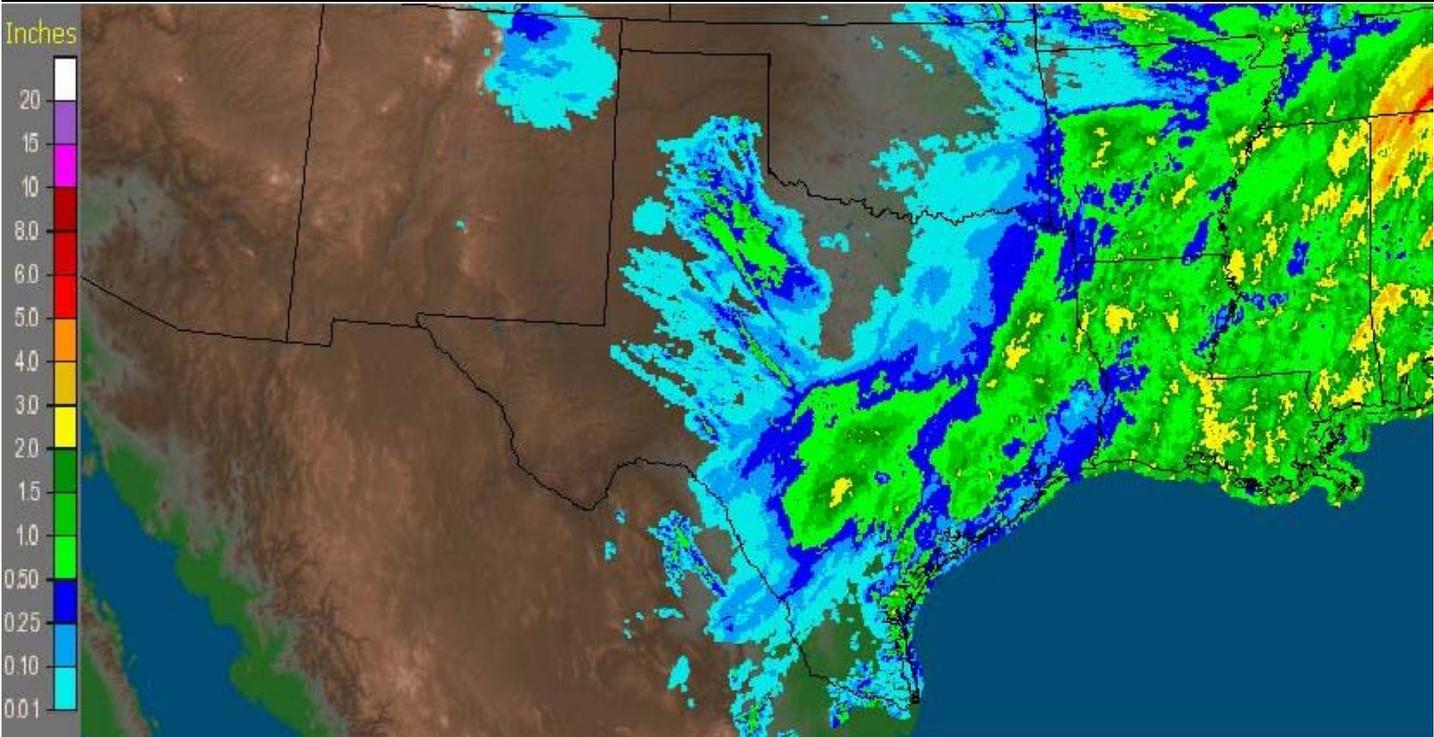
* The formula for the condition index is $I = (5V + 25P + 60F + 90G + 110E)/100$ where I = crop condition index and V, P, F, G, E = percentage of crop rated very poor, poor, fair, good, excellent.

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	55	33	22	35	22	23	14	3	50	20	13	52	6	32	70
Short	41	46	46	54	46	45	31	34	39	41	34	22	23	37	12
Adequate	4	21	31	11	32	32	54	54	11	34	53	23	64	29	18
Surplus	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	9	0	5	0	3	7	2	0

The Texas precipitation table is unavailable this week.



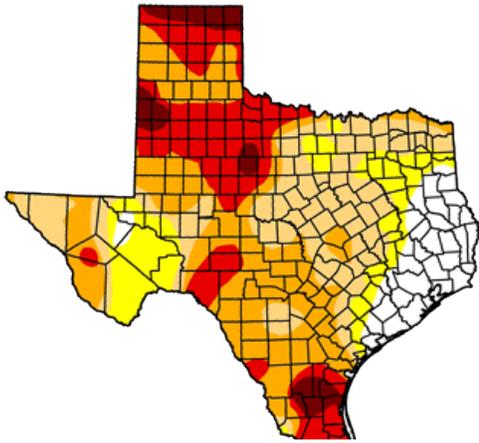
Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, September 23, 2012



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

Drought Monitor

Valid 9/18/2012, 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://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Texas Agricultural Districts

