



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 23 - 29

ISSUE TX-CW1812

RELEASED APRIL 30, 2012

Crop Condition							
Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2012	2011
Corn	14	63	21	2	0	85	48
Rice	5	76	15	4	0	84	72
Sorghum	9	60	22	7	2	79	56
Wheat	8	28	30	18	16	57	27
Oats	22	45	22	6	5	80	26
Range and Pasture	7	26	33	20	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 areas of the state received little or no rainfall last week. Isolated portions of the Northern Plains received up to 3 inches for the week while warm, dry conditions persisted in most other areas.

Small Grains: Wheat and oats continued to mature ahead of schedule in many areas due to hot and dry conditions. Small grains were in need of rain and many fields showed signs of stress. Around the state, haying and silage chopping continued.

Row Crops: Cotton field preparation and planting continued around West Texas. However, many producers continued to wait for a good planting rain. Corn and sorghum planting was active in the Plains and completed in most other areas. Row crops in East and South Texas made good progress with irrigation continuing on many recently planted fields in South Texas.

Crop Progress					
Crop	Stage	Percent of Acreage			
		Current	Prev Week	2011	5 Yr Avg
Corn	Planted	70	65	75	71
	Emerged	58	53	56	62
Cotton	Planted	25	23	15	20
Peanuts	Planted	4	1	13	9
Rice	Planted	89	79	91	89
	Emerged	76	64	76	73
Sorghum	Planted	65	60	56	62
Soybeans	Planted	68	60	74	70
	Emerged	25	0	22	27
Sunflowers	Planted	29	18	22	25
Winter Wheat	Headed	82	67	61	54
Oats	Headed	97	95	88	83

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/.

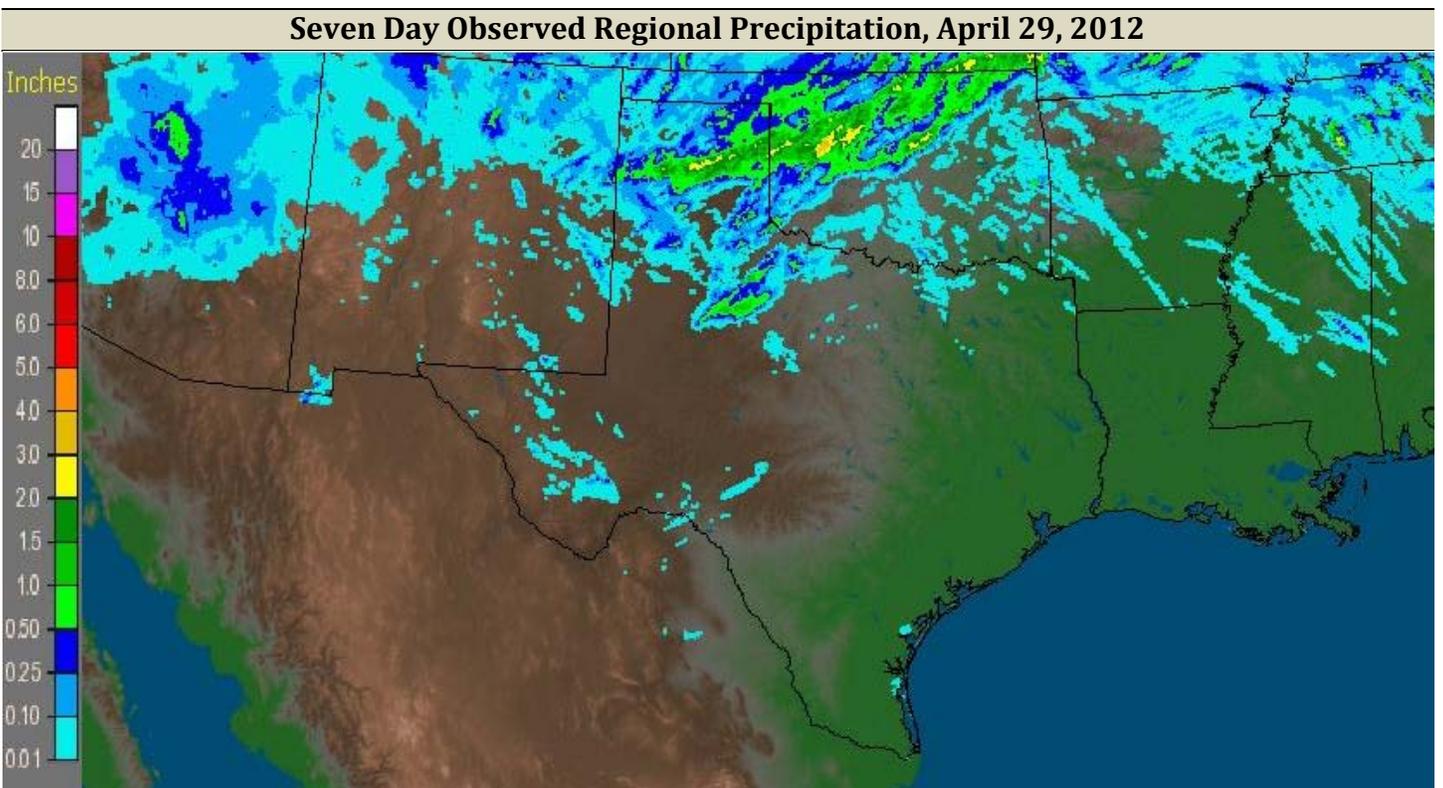
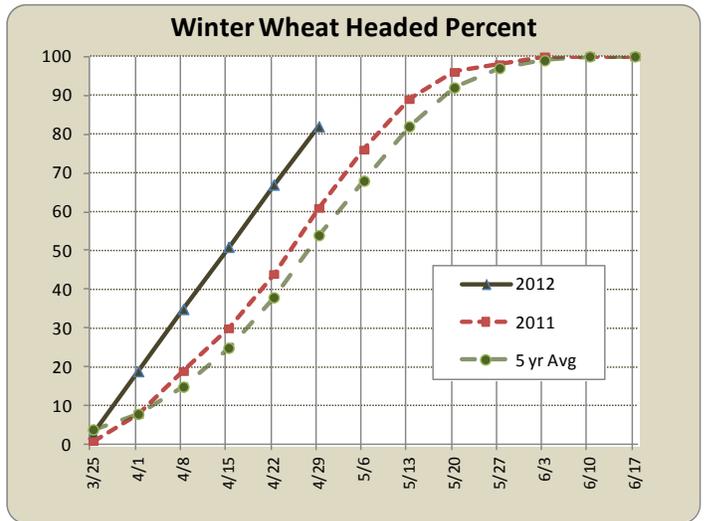
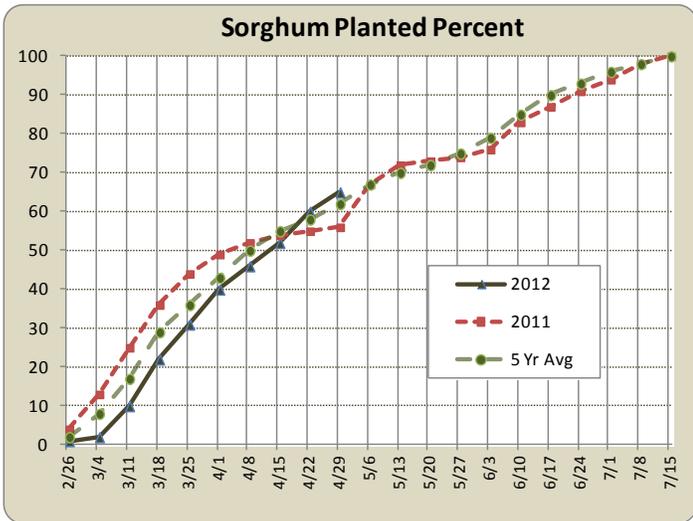
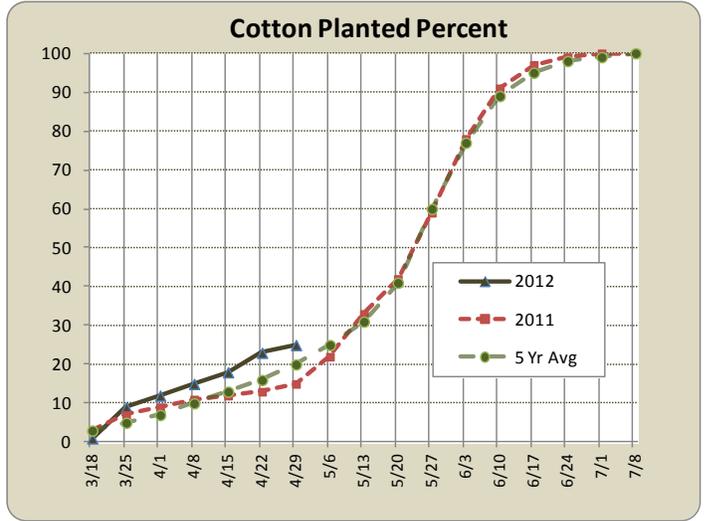
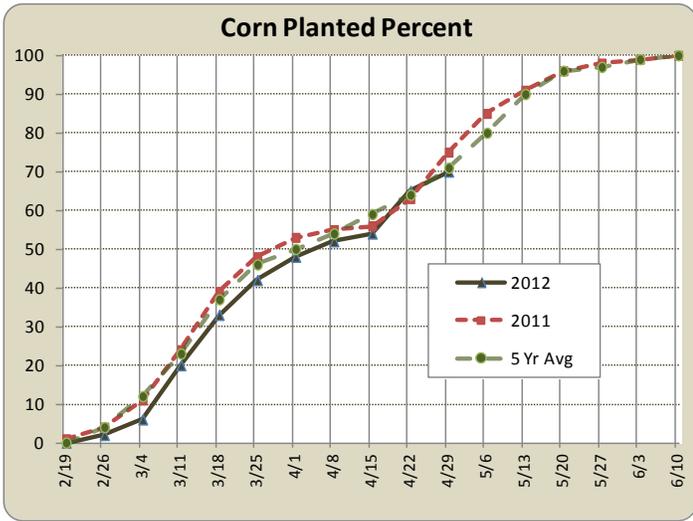
Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops: Pecan trees were in full bloom with growers reporting signs of a good early crop. Spraying for pecan nut casebearer began earlier than normal this year. Peaches progressed well in East Texas. In South Texas, potato, onion and cabbage harvests were active. In the Lower Valley, melon and squash harvests began, tomato and onion harvests continued, and citrus harvest was winding down.

Livestock, Range, and Pasture: Range and pastureland remained in need of moisture in most areas of the state. Warm, dry conditions limited grass growth while high winds continued to dry out topsoil. There were increased concerns about wildfire danger due to weeds and grasses drying out. Supplemental feeding of livestock was active, especially in the Trans-Pecos. Many producers reported concerns about cattle body condition. Flies were a major nuisance in some areas and feral hogs were a problem for some producers in East Texas.

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	45	67	31	26	12	5	5	4	78	20	5	35	3	30	21
Short	39	23	47	56	38	35	17	22	21	57	58	45	16	54	28
Adequate	15	9	22	18	50	59	72	69	1	22	37	17	71	16	47
Surplus	1	1	0	0	0	1	6	5	0	1	0	3	10	0	4

Texas Precipitation					
National Weather Service Climatic Divisions *	Inches of Accumulation **				Percent
	Previous Week (April 23 – 29, 2012)	Month-to-Date (April 1 – 29, 2012)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Apr 29, 2012)	Annual Normal 1971-2000	Normal Previous Three Months (Jan, Feb, Mar)
High Plains	0.06	0.14	0.38	19.64	11
Low Rolling Plains	0.03	0.20	0.66	24.51	13
North Central Texas	0.00	0.18	2.08	35.23	27
East Texas	0.00	0.46	3.07	48.08	23
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.08	0.17	13.19	7
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.10	0.98	24.73	23
South Central Texas	0.00	0.16	1.55	36.21	21
Upper Coast	0.00	0.55	2.98	50.31	24
South Texas	0.00	0.09	0.74	24.08	18
Lower Valley	0.00	0.26	0.93	25.43	17

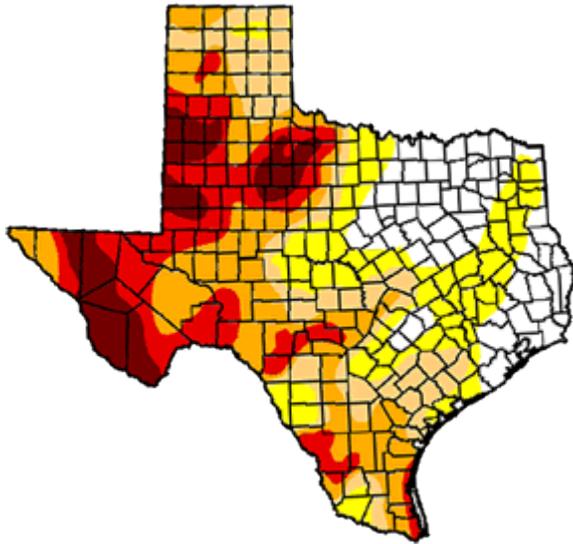
* High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Texas: 3, 4; East Texas: 5-N, 5-S. Trans-Pecos: 6; Edwards Plateau: 7; South Central Texas: 8-N, 8-S; Upper Coast: 9; South Texas: 10-N; Lower Valley: 10-S. ** Average of all stations reporting precipitation data. For more information,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



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

Drought Monitor

Valid 4/24/2012, 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

