



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 MARCH 11 – 17

ISSUE TX-CW0513

RELEASED MARCH 18, 2013

Crop	Crop Condition						Index	
	Percent of Acreage					2013	2012	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor			
Wheat	1	15	40	31	13	47	56	
Oats	3	21	43	26	7	55	81	
Range and pasture	1	14	27	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.

Summary

Warmer temperatures were reported across the state last week. Dry conditions continued to be a problem, with winds depleting soil moisture. Only the Blacklands and North East Texas received significant rainfall during the week, with some areas reporting as much as 2 to 4 inches.

Crop	Stage	Crop Progress			
		Percent of Acreage			
		Current	Prev Week	2012	5 Yr Avg
Corn	Planted	42	29	31	33
Cotton	Planted	1	0	1	2
Rice	Planted	7	0	1	4
Sorghum	Planted	26	16	20	24
Soybeans	Planted	2	0	1	1
Oats	Headed	3	0	6	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/.

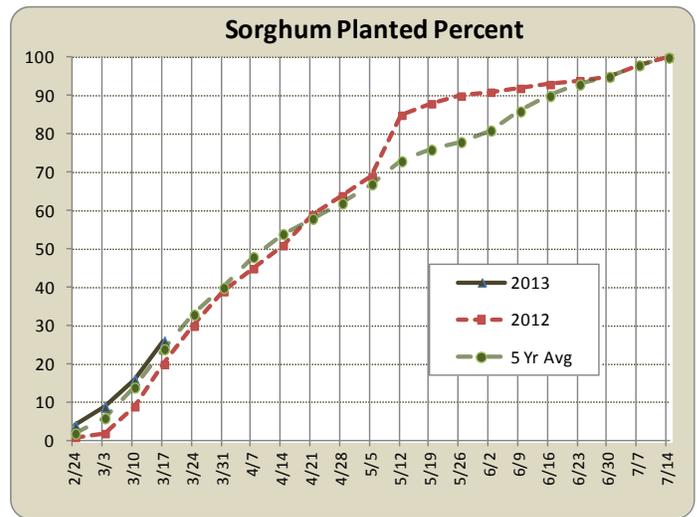
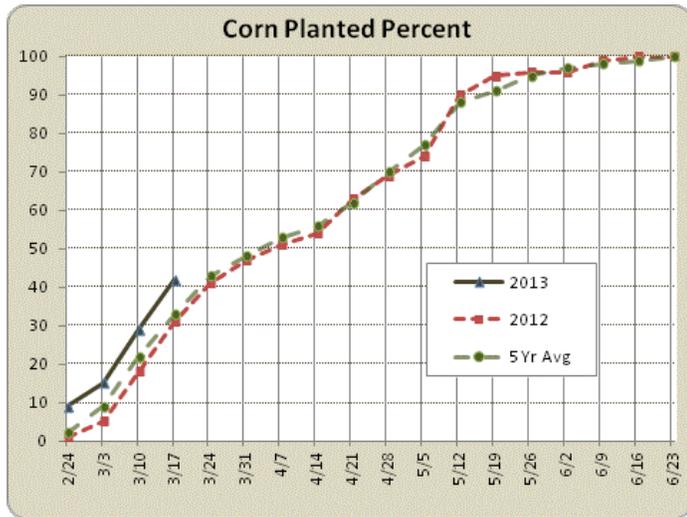
Small Grains: Small grains in the Blacklands and North East Texas made gains last week, and oats started to head out. Irrigated fields in the Panhandle and South Texas also did well, but dry land wheat across the rest of the state was stressed by a lack of moisture.

Row Crops: Wet conditions in the Blacklands interrupted some planting activities last week, while corn planting in East Texas and the Edwards Plateau continued. Producers in the Plains continued field preparations, and some in the Upper Coast and Coastal Bend took advantage of existing moisture to begin planting cotton.

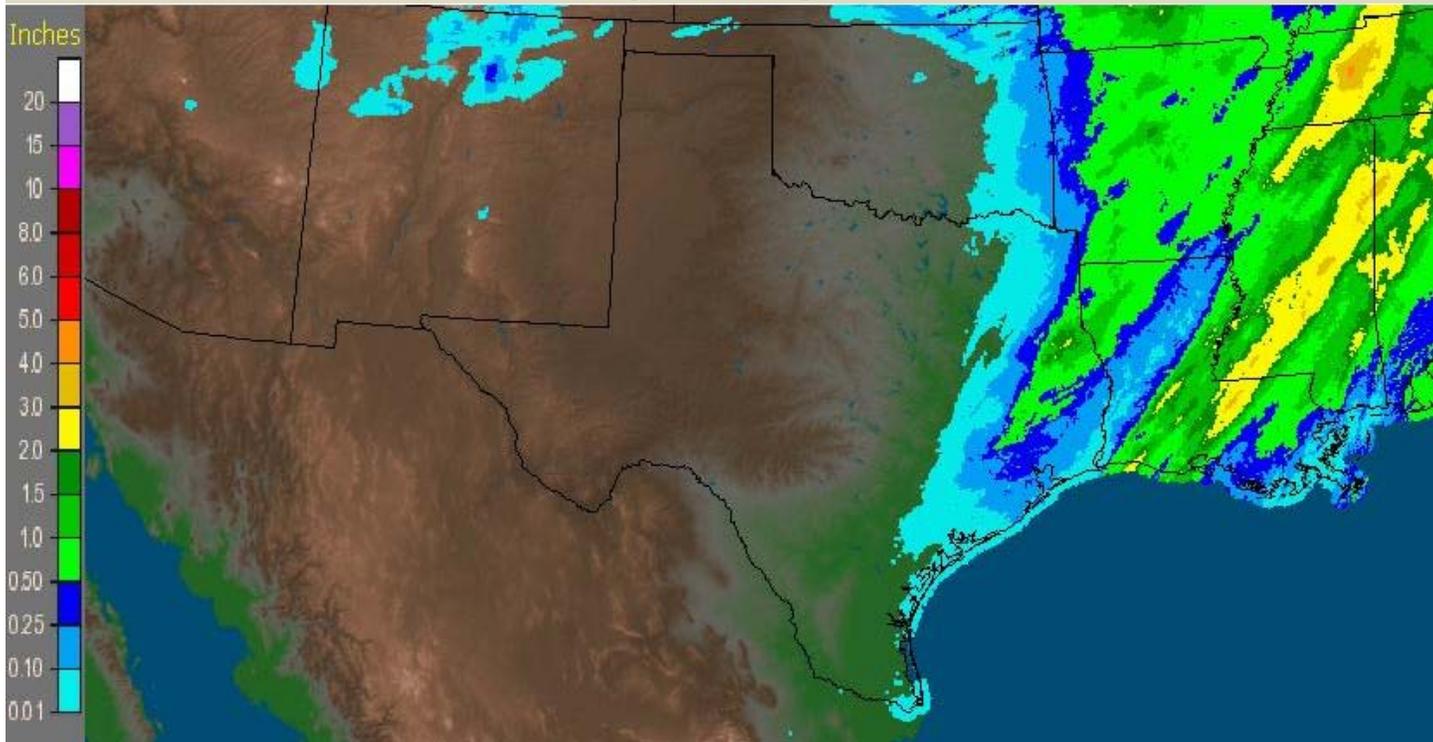
Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops: In the Trans-Pecos, pecan orchards were irrigated last week, while fall planted onions made progress. Harvesting of spinach, cabbage, sugarcane, citrus, and other vegetables continued in South Texas and the Lower Valley, and producers began preparing to harvest onions. Vegetable planting continued in East Texas, although activity slowed due to dry conditions.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Some cattle in the Plains continued grazing on wheat fields while producers waited for pasture conditions to improve. Pastures and winter grazing in the Blacklands benefitted from recent rains. Warm weather in East Texas helped clover and rye grass growth, which allowed some producers to reduce supplemental feeding. Lack of moisture across Central and South Texas, however, continued to negatively impact pasture conditions, with producers continuing to provide hay and other supplements. Spring lambing and kidding was underway in the Edwards Plateau and producers began to mark lambs.

Tops Soil Moisture Condition by District									
District	Percent of Acreage				District	Percent of Acreage			
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus		Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
1-N	32	46	22	0	6	55	44	1	0
1-S	36	48	16	0	7	49	39	12	0
2-N	19	41	39	1	8-N	35	49	16	0
2-S	47	45	8	0	8-S	67	20	10	3
3	28	56	16	0	9	9	44	43	4
4	3	38	58	1	10-N	72	25	3	0
5-N	11	39	49	1	10-S	97	3	0	0
5-S	8	36	54	2	State	31	41	27	1



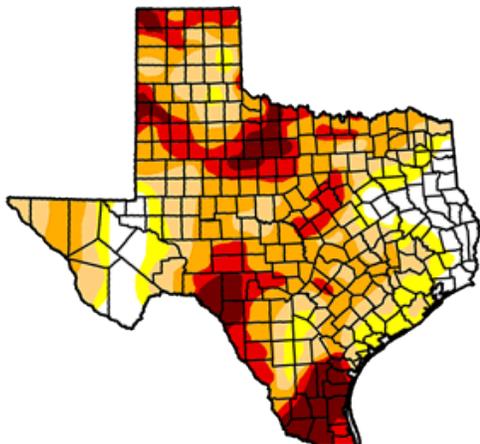
Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, March 17, 2013



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

Drought Monitor

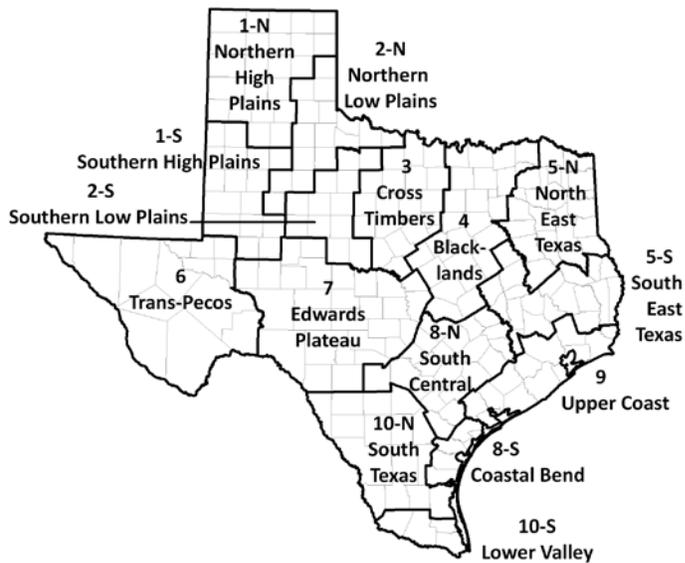
Valid 3/12/2013, 7:00 am EST



Intensity:

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

Texas Agricultural Districts



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