United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

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 FEBRUARY 13 – 19 **ISSUE TX-CW0812** **RELEASED FEBRUARY 21, 2012**

Crop Condition							
Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2012	2011
Wheat	7	25	32	23	13	56	37
Range and Pasture	1	17	23	30	29	---	---

* 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

Precipitation fell over much of the state last week, mostly ranging from 0.01 inch to 3 inches. Areas across North Texas and the Panhandle received significant snowfall with some areas reporting as much as 5 inches. Dry conditions persisted in much of the High Plains and Trans-Pecos where high winds dried out any moisture received.

Crop Progress					
Crop	Stage	Percent of Acreage			
		Current	Prev Week	2011	5 Yr Avg
Winter Wheat	Emerged	99	98	99	99

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: Recent precipitation improved wheat and oat crops across much of the state. In the Blacklands, some crops were maturing earlier than normal and producers applying fertilizer or herbicides had to be cautious not to damage the plants. In the High Plains, wheat fields remained in need of additional moisture. Irrigated fields continued to be watered.

Row Crops: Farmers continued to prepare fields and equipment for the planting of corn and sorghum. Some early corn planting took place in the Lower Valley, but most will begin in the next couple of weeks. In the High Plains, cotton fields were being listed and prepared for spring herbicide applications.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop: Fruit tree pruning neared completion in East Texas. Some fruit growers were concerned by trees budding earlier than normal. In the Trans-Pecos, chile land was being prepared. In the Lower Valley, cabbage, onions and spinach continued to make good progress.

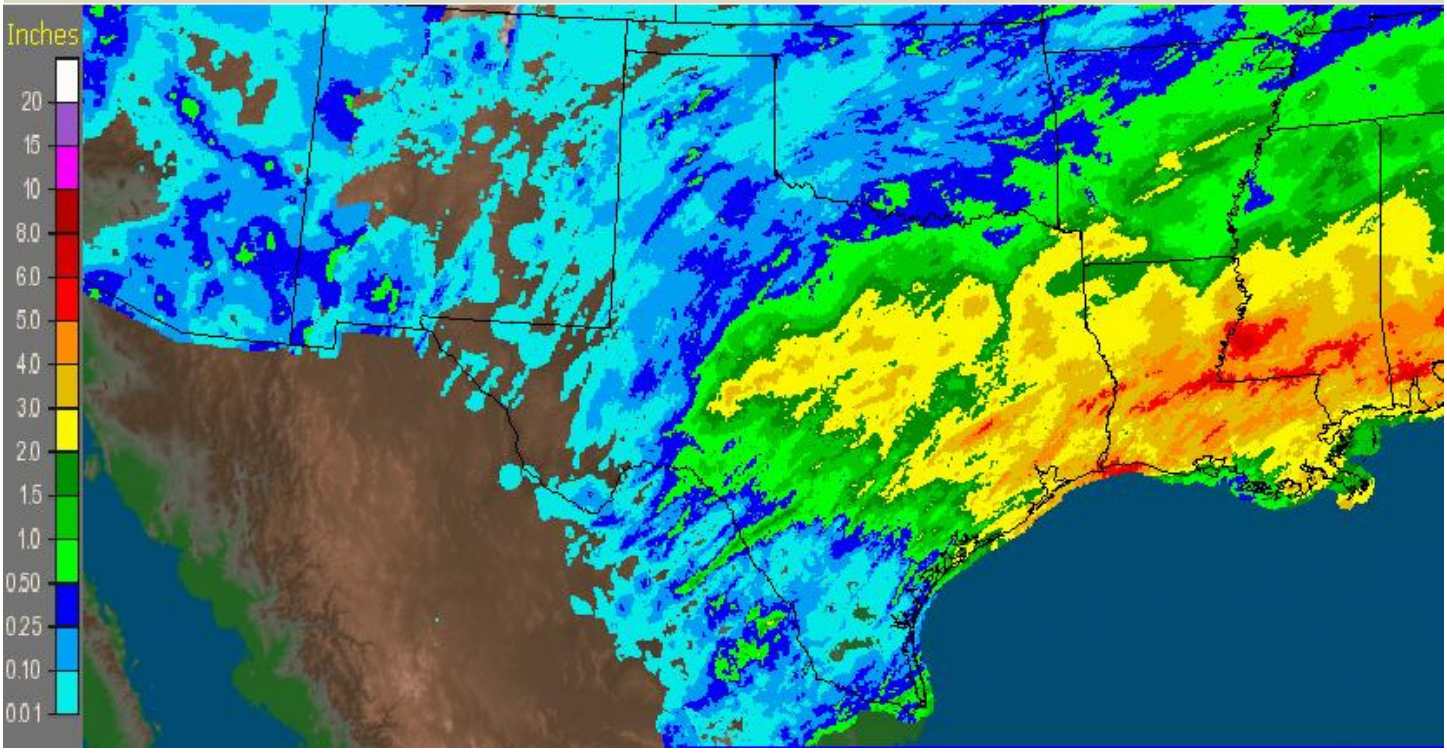
Livestock, Range and Pasture: Pastures from East Texas to South Texas and the Lower Valley benefitted from precipitation last week, reducing the need for supplemental feeding and improving livestock body condition. Cattle bloat remained problematic due to clover growth. Some pastures in East Texas were damaged by feral hog activity. In the Trans-Pecos and High Plains, range and pastureland continued to suffer from inadequate moisture and supplemental feeding further reduced hay supplies. Precipitation continued to fill stock tanks from Cross Timbers to East Texas while many tanks in South Texas and the Lower Valley remained low.

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	44	56	36	15	3	4	4	2	69	21	5	20	7	12	28
Short	48	31	44	47	18	6	12	6	28	33	16	57	16	42	43
Adequate	8	12	20	38	70	73	69	62	3	35	74	23	46	39	14
Surplus	0	1	0	0	9	17	15	30	0	11	5	0	31	7	15

Texas Precipitation					
National Weather Service Climatic Divisions *	Inches of Accumulation **				Percent
	Previous Week (Feb 13 – 19, 2012)	Month-to-Date (Feb 1 – 19, 2012)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Feb 19, 2012)	Annual Normal 1971-2000	Normal Previous Three Months (Nov – Jan)
High Plains	0.02	0.10	0.12	19.64	77
Low Rolling Plains	0.10	0.17	0.32	24.51	57
North Central Texas	0.21	0.30	1.09	35.23	40
East Texas	0.52	0.85	1.59	48.08	39
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.01	0.05	13.19	75
Edwards Plateau	0.23	0.31	0.55	24.73	41
South Central Texas	0.09	0.33	0.78	36.21	43
Upper Coast	0.57	0.82	1.53	50.31	45
South Texas	0.07	0.20	0.28	24.08	98
Lower Valley	0.07	0.43	0.45	25.43	108

* 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.

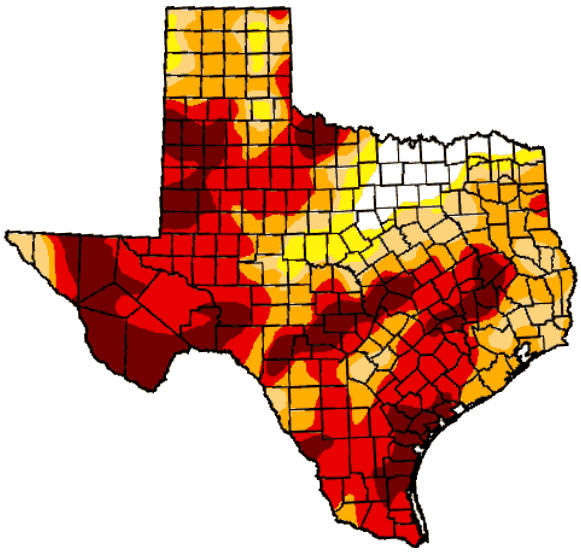
Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, February 20, 2012



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

Drought Monitor

Valid 2/14/2012, 7:00 am EST



Intensity:

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

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

Texas Agricultural Districts