



Texas Crop Progress and Condition

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WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR FEB 27 – MAR 4

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Crop	Crop Condition						Index	
	Percent of Acreage					2012	2011	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor			
Wheat	10	23	28	23	16	55	41	
Oats	19	49	23	5	4	80	38	
Range and Pasture	3	19	24	29	25	--	--	

* 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 Texas received scattered showers last week with weekly totals mostly ranging from 0.01 to 1 inch. The Trans-Pecos and the Edwards Plateau received little or no precipitation. Across West Texas and the High Plains dry, windy conditions caused blowing dust and topsoil erosion.

Crop	Stage	Crop Progress			
		Percent of Acreage			
		Current	Prev Week	2011	5 Yr Avg
Corn	Planted	6	2	11	12
Sorghum	Planted	2	1	13	8

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: Dryland winter wheat continued to struggle in much of the High Plains and the Trans-Pecos. Irrigated fields made good progress. In most other areas of the state, wheat and oat crops showed improvement due to moisture and warmer temperatures. Wheat producers were topdressing fields. Cattle were moved off of fields that producers plan to harvest.

Row Crops: Corn and sorghum planting was underway across much of the state, with some planting delays in South Central and Coastal Texas due to wet field conditions. Some cotton producers were applying pre-plant fertilizers to fields and pre-watering irrigated fields.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops: Fruit trees from the High Plains to East Texas were in bloom. Some pecan producers were concerned that trees may come out of dormancy early. In the Trans-Pecos, chile irrigating and planting were in progress. In South Texas, green beans were being planted and potato crops had emerged and continued to develop. Spinach, onion, and cabbage crops also made good progress in South Texas, with some irrigation taking place.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: In the High Plains and the Trans-Pecos dry, windy conditions left range and pastureland mostly in poor condition, with supplemental feeding necessary to maintain cattle body condition. High winds increased fire danger. In most other areas, rains and warmer temperatures provided good cool-season forage growth. Many

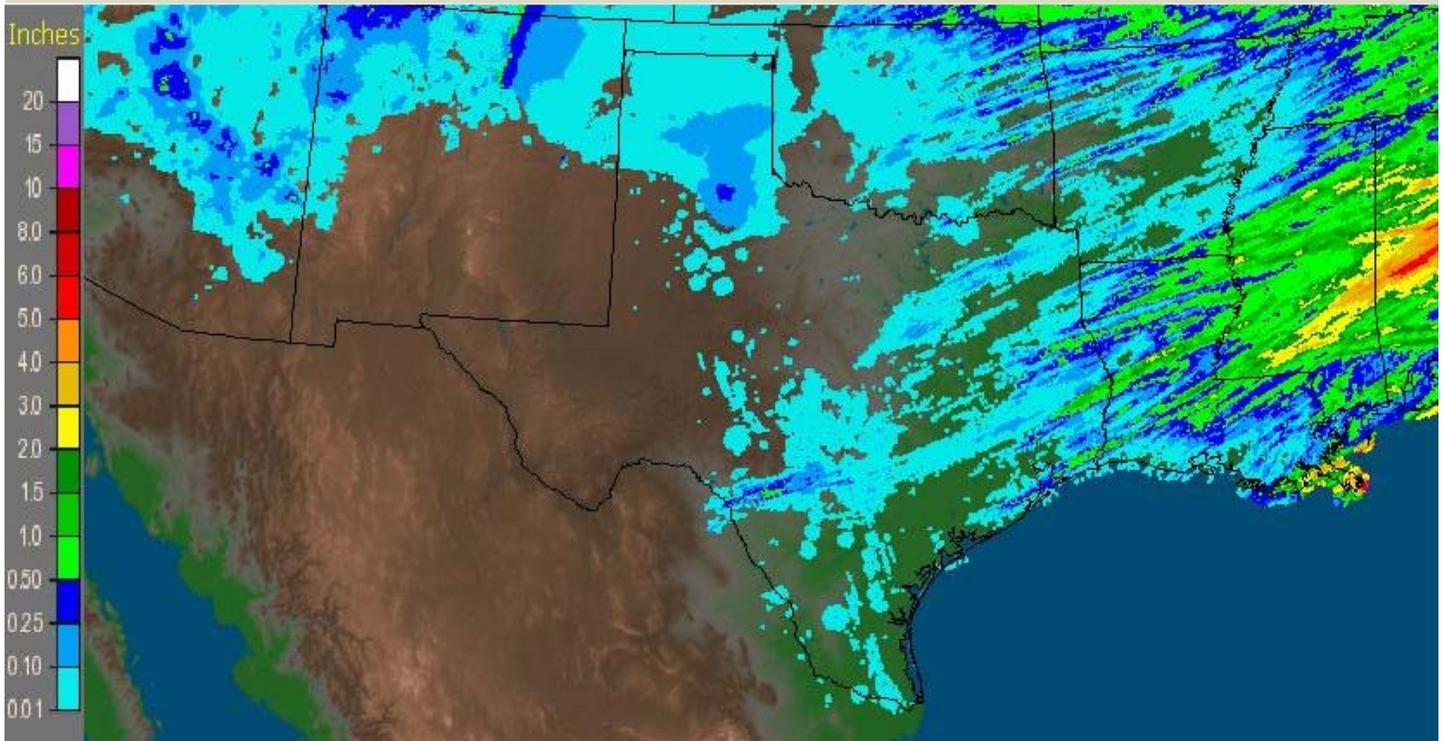
producers were able to reduce hay feeding which helped to improve body condition. Weed growth and cattle bloat remained a problem for ranchers. Spring calving, lambing, and kidding continued around the state. Most stock tanks and ponds were in good condition. However, many tanks in South Texas were at low to moderate levels.

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	75	48	13	9	3	4	2	75	18	1	13	3	15	0
Short	41	18	37	46	25	8	17	8	23	37	14	47	16	41	31
Adequate	4	7	15	41	62	87	76	71	2	43	81	33	60	44	62
Surplus	0	0	0	0	4	2	3	19	0	2	4	7	21	0	7

Texas Precipitation					
National Weather Service Climatic Divisions *	Inches of Accumulation **				Percent
	Previous Week (Feb 27 – Mar 4, 2012)	Month-to-Date (Feb 1 – 29, 2012)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Mar 4, 2012)	Annual Normal 1971-2000	Normal Previous Three Months (Nov – Jan)
High Plains	0.00	0.10	0.12	19.64	77
Low Rolling Plains	0.00	0.17	0.32	24.51	57
North Central Texas	0.00	0.30	1.09	35.23	40
East Texas	0.00	0.86	1.60	48.08	39
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.01	0.05	13.19	75
Edwards Plateau	0.00	0.31	0.55	24.73	41
South Central Texas	0.00	0.36	0.81	36.21	43
Upper Coast	0.03	0.84	1.58	50.31	45
South Texas	0.00	0.31	0.39	24.08	98
Lower Valley	0.00	0.46	0.48	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>.

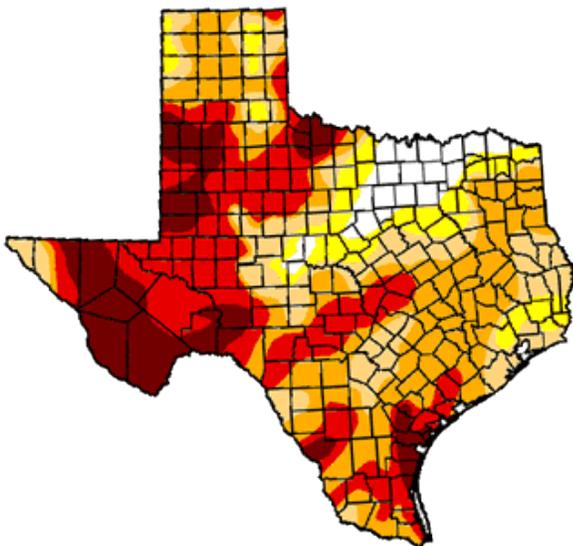
Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, March 4, 2012



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

Drought Monitor

Valid 2/28/2012, 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

