



Texas Crop Progress and Condition

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WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR MARCH 5 – 11

ISSUE TX-CW1112

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Crop Condition							
Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2012	2011
Wheat	9	24	24	25	18	53	41
Oats	14	56	20	5	5	79	40
Range and Pasture	6	21	28	25	20	---	---

* 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

Much of the state received precipitation last week, with several areas reporting two or more inches for the week. High winds in the High Plains and the Trans-Pecos caused blowing dust and depleted soil moisture.

Crop Progress					
Crop	Stage	Percent of Acreage			
		Current	Prev Week	2011	5 Yr Avg
Corn	Planted	20	6	24	23
Sorghum	Planted	10	2	25	17

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: In areas of the Panhandle, dryland wheat and oat crops were stressed due to lack of moisture. High winds prevented some chemical applications. Irrigated crops were progressing well. In other areas, wheat and oat fields responded favorably to recent precipitation. Some producers were spraying pesticides to control bird cherry-oat aphid.

Row Crops: Corn and sorghum planting progressed well, although wet conditions delayed some plantings in East Texas and the Blacklands. Some corn had emerged in South Texas. Cotton fieldwork continued with producers preparing land and pre-watering. Some producers were still weighing the risks of planting cotton this year.

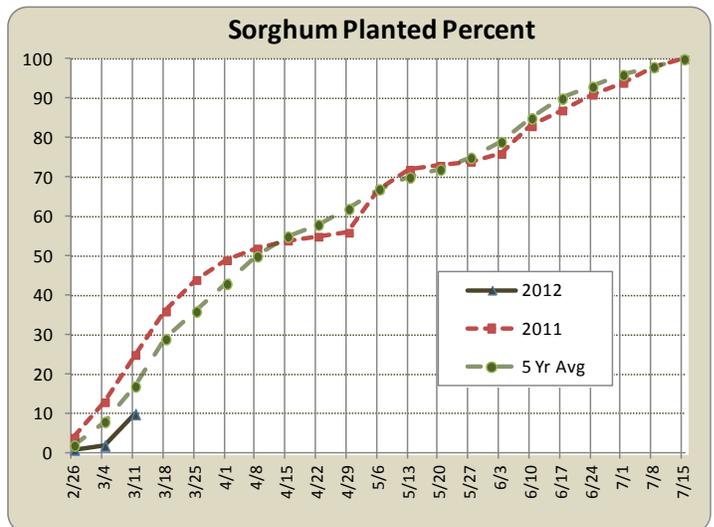
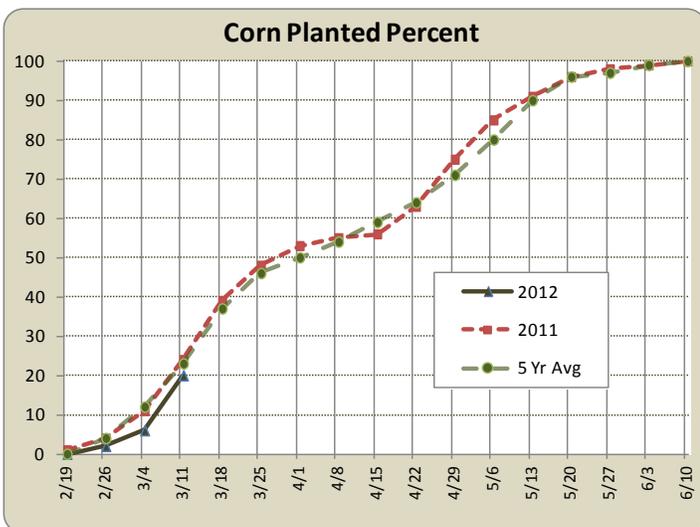
Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops: In South Texas, spinach and cabbage harvest was in progress. The potato crop was at flowering stage. Fall-planted onions in the Trans-Pecos were out of dormancy and beginning to grow. In the Lower Valley, onions and melons were making progress and preparations for onion harvest were underway.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: In much of the High Plains and the Trans-Pecos, range and pastureland continued to suffer due to dry, windy conditions. Supplemental feeding continued, with livestock consuming large amounts of minerals. In other areas, rainfall aided the growth of winter grasses, providing grazing and allowing producers to stretch hay supplies. In North East Texas, feral hogs caused damage to pastures and hayfields. Cattle bloat remained a problem for many ranchers due to clover growth. Some livestock deaths were reported. Rainfall improved stock tank levels in South Texas, however many tanks remained low or completely dried out.

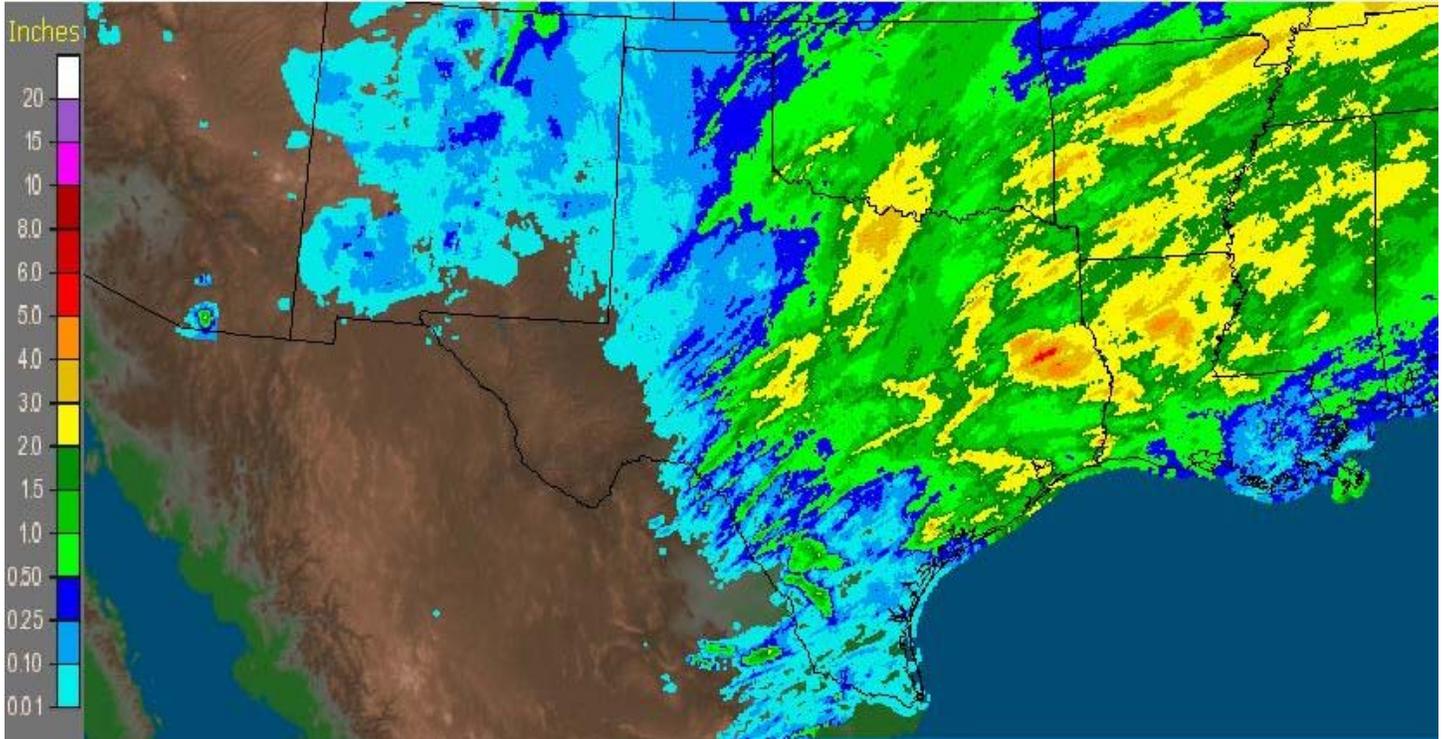
Top Soil Moisture by District															
Condition	Percent of Acreage														
	1-N	1-S	2-N	2-S	3	4	5-N	5-S	6	7	8-N	8-S	9	10-N	10-S
Very Short	64	65	51	19	1	2	3	0	78	20	0	25	2	13	21
Short	35	19	25	49	14	12	10	0	21	27	9	70	15	23	34
Adequate	1	14	24	32	69	69	56	85	1	51	85	5	63	64	37
Surplus	0	2	0	0	16	17	31	15	0	2	6	0	20	0	8

Texas Precipitation					
National Weather Service Climatic Divisions *	Inches of Accumulation **				Percent
	Previous Week (March 5 – 11, 2012)	Month-to-Date (March 1 – 11, 2012)	Year-to-Date (Jan 1 – Mar 11, 2012)	Annual Normal 1971-2000	Normal Previous Three Months (Dec, Jan, Feb)
High Plains	0.01	0.01	0.13	19.64	4
Low Rolling Plains	0.05	0.05	0.37	24.51	20
North Central Texas	0.29	0.29	1.38	35.23	16
East Texas	0.52	0.52	2.12	48.08	15
Trans-Pecos	0.00	0.00	0.05	13.19	25
Edwards Plateau	0.13	0.13	0.68	24.73	17
South Central Texas	0.13	0.13	0.94	36.21	15
Upper Coast	0.45	0.48	2.03	50.31	14
South Texas	0.01	0.01	0.40	24.08	28
Lower Valley	0.00	0.00	0.48	25.43	39

* 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>.



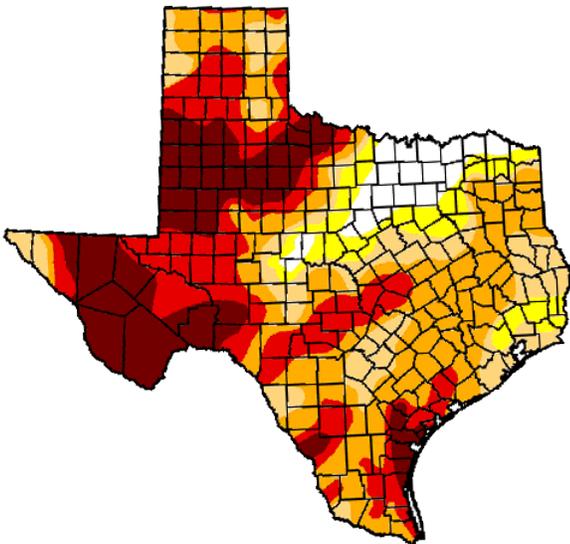
Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, March 11, 2012



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

Drought Monitor

Valid 3/6/2012, 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

