



# Texas Crop Progress and Condition

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**WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR FEBRUARY 18 - 24**

**ISSUE TX-CW0213**

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## Summary

Precipitation remained scarce for much of the state, however districts to the north and east saw up to an inch of rainfall with pockets experiencing up to two inches. The Northern

High Plains received light to heavy snowfall, providing some much-needed moisture. Conditions in West, Central and South Texas continued to be dry and windy, and were still in need of additional moisture.

**Small Grains:** Recent precipitation in the Northern and Southern Plains proved mostly adequate to sustain the current wheat crop condition, but more moisture will be required in the near future. In the Blacklands and East Texas, recent moisture provided a significant boost to the wheat crop. Non-irrigated small grains in South Texas continued to struggle due to dry conditions.

**Row Crops:** Preparations continued in the Northern and Southern Plains regions for spring planting, with producers applying herbicides and fertilizers in anticipation of spring rains. Some planting in the Blacklands was underway, with other producers making their final preparations ahead of planting corn and milo. In the Trans-Pecos, producers were preparing their land for this year's cotton crop, but in the Edwards Plateau and South Central Texas dry conditions delayed planting. Producers from the Upper Coast down to the Lower Valley continued planting activity.

**Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops:** Some producers in East Texas planted potatoes and onions, whereas producers in the Trans Pecos began preparing land for the chile crop. Harvesting continued in South Texas and the Lower Valley on cabbage, citrus, sugarcane, and other vegetable crops.

**Livestock, Range, and Pasture:** Livestock producers continued to supplement with hay across the state as most pasture and rangeland required additional moisture. East Texas, however, received sufficient rainfall for some producers to ease cattle off of hay and graze ryegrass and clover where available. Lambing in the Edwards Plateau was underway, even as pasture conditions in Central and South Texas continued to struggle and stock tanks remained critically low.

Crop Progress					
Crop	Stage	Percent of Acreage			
		Current	Prev Week	2012	5 Yr Avg
Corn	Planted	9	0	1	2
Sorghum	Planted	4	0	1	2
Winter Wheat	Emerged	99	97	100	99

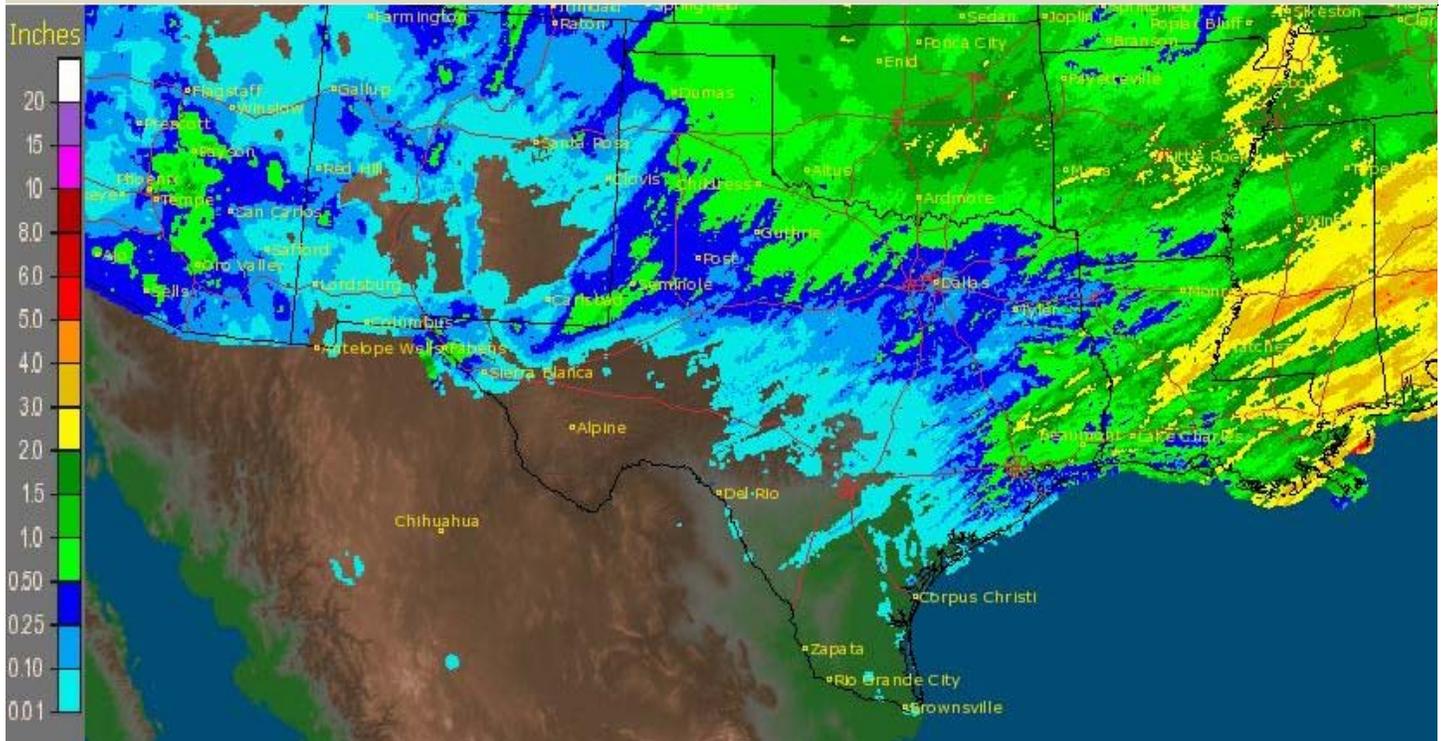
Visit our web site to view the crop progress regional maps, available at [www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Texas/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/maps/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Texas/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/maps/).

Crop Condition							
Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2013	2012
Wheat	2	16	37	28	17	47	52
Range and Pasture	1	15	31	30	23	---	---

\* 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.

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	34	48	18	0	6	50	46	4	0
1-S	42	37	18	3	7	50	40	10	0
2-N	15	39	44	2	8-N	21	50	29	0
2-S	53	42	5	0	8-S	61	17	19	3
3	26	54	20	0	9	2	15	65	18
4	8	31	54	7	10-N	45	36	19	0
5-N	3	17	62	18	10-S	91	8	1	0
5-S	2	27	54	17	State	27	36	32	5

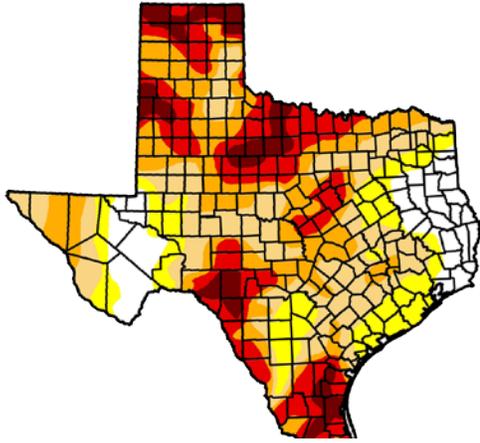
Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, February 24, 2013



Source: National Weather Service, [www.nws.noaa.gov](http://www.nws.noaa.gov)

# Drought Monitor

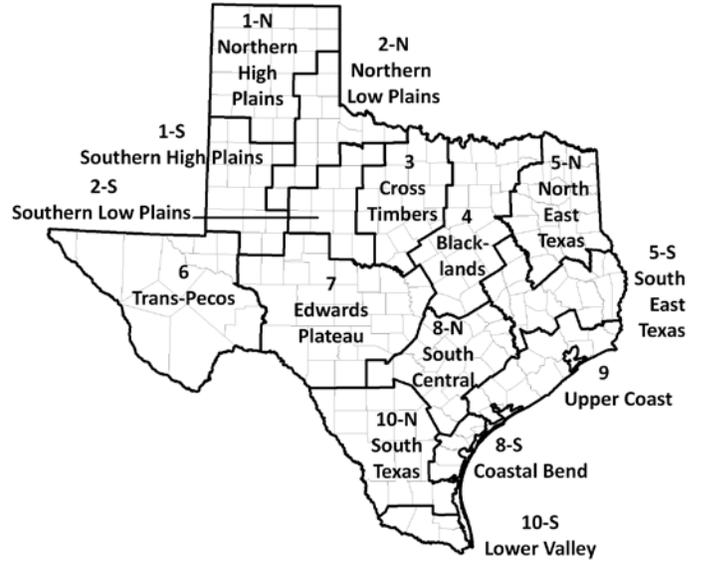
Valid 02/19/2013, 7:00 am EST



## Intensity:



# Texas Agricultural Districts



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