



Texas Crop Progress and Condition

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Monthly Summary for February 2018

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Temperatures have been varied during the month, ranging from temperatures in the low teens in the Plains to temperatures in the low 90s in South Texas and the Lower Valley. Pastures and small grain crops suffered from the lack of precipitation during most of the month. Much needed precipitation was received late in the month, however many areas of the Plains received only trace amounts of moisture. Precipitation in East Texas, the Blacklands and the Upper Coast ranged from 5 to 15 inches, flooding cities and damaging the already fragile crops. The drought in the Plains ranged from severe to extreme. Supplemental feeding of cattle occurred on a daily basis in many areas of the state.

Small Grains: Wheat and oats suffered from extreme dry conditions across most of the state. Some wheat fields in the Plains did not receive enough moisture to emerge. Operators in South Texas continued to irrigate their small grains fields until rain came in the last week of the month.

Row Crops: Cotton planting had begun in the Lower Valley. Corn seeding was active in the Coastal Bend, the Upper Coast and the Lower Valley.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops: Harvest of sugarcane, citrus and vegetables continued in the Lower Valley.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: The dry conditions decreased pasture quality. Range and pasture condition was 67 percent fair to poor. Supplemental feeding of cattle occurred on a daily basis in many areas of the state.

Crop Condition

| Crop | Percent of Acreage | | | | | Index ¹ | |
|-------------------|--------------------|------|------|------|-----------|--------------------|------|
| | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Very Poor | 2018 | 2017 |
| Wheat | 0 | 4 | 23 | 41 | 32 | 29 | 63 |
| Oats | 0 | 20 | 31 | 33 | 16 | 46 | 65 |
| Range and Pasture | 2 | 18 | 36 | 31 | 13 | -- | -- |

¹ 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.

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

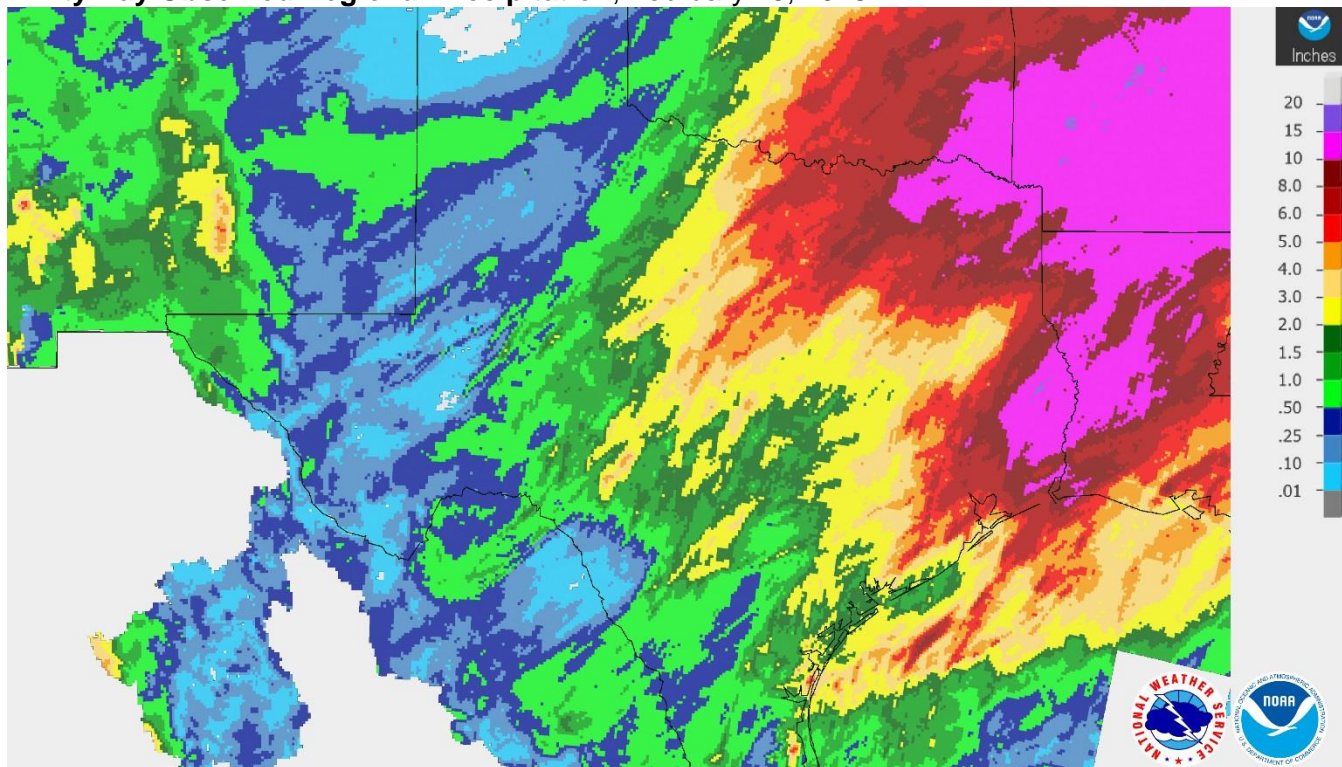
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call toll-free (888) 424-7828.*

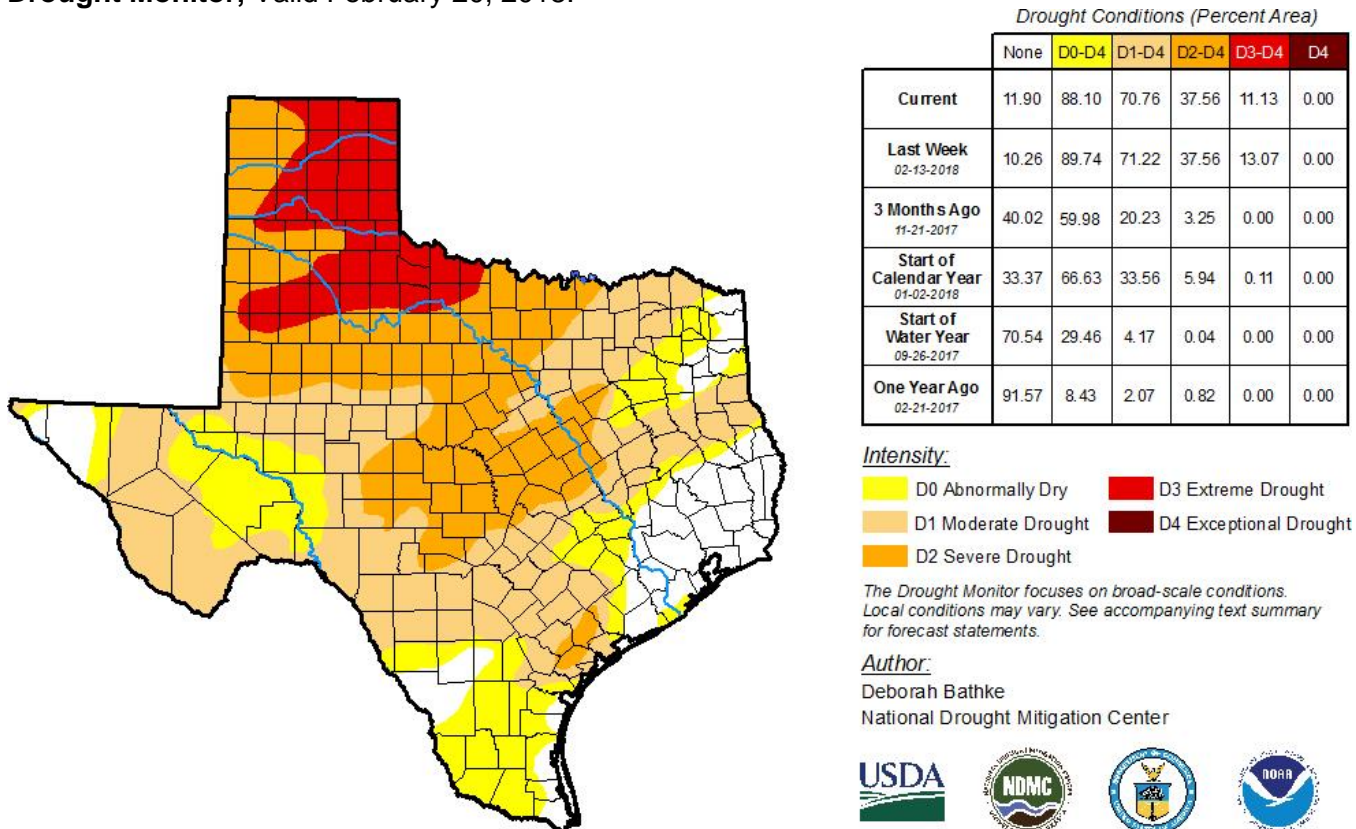
www.agcensus.usda.gov

Thirty Day Observed Regional Precipitation, February 25, 2018.



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

Drought Monitor, Valid February 20, 2018.



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