



Texas Crop Progress and Condition

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Weekly Summary for March 19-March 25

Released: March 26, 2018

Crop Progress

Stage	Percent of Acreage			
	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
Corn				
Planted	43	35	43	33
Emerged	19	(N/A)	13	7
Cotton				
Planted	8	2	3	2
Rice				
Planted	46	(NA)	22	13
Sorghum				
Planted	32	25	37	25
Winter Wheat				
Headed	5	(N/A)	10	4
Oats				
Headed	16	2	17	9

(N/A) Not available.

The state received little to no rainfall last week, with the highest measurable precipitation being under 0.5 of an inch in the Trans-Pecos. Extreme drought continued in the Plains, while many areas of the western, southern and central parts of the state were between moderate to severe drought conditions. There were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork.

Small Grains: Wheat conditions have improved in the Plains due to continued irrigation and some scattered rainfall. Non-irrigated wheat across the state was in need of moisture due to the warm weather and dry soils. Some farmers in the Blacklands took advantage of dry conditions to control weeds and apply fertilizer. Irrigated wheat and oat fields in South Texas were in the heading stage.

Row Crops: Lack of moisture in the Plains slowed field work in preparation for planting cotton. Meanwhile, cotton planting continued in South Texas, the Lower Valley, the Upper Coast, and the Coastal Bend. Corn planting continued in areas where conditions allowed. Emergence of sorghum was delayed in areas of the Upper Coast due to lack of moisture.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops: Peach producers in North East Texas expect this year's harvest to be one of the best in a number of years. Onions, spinach and other crops were being irrigated in South Texas. Harvest of sugarcane, citrus, and vegetables continued in areas of the Lower Valley.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Producers were providing supplemental feed daily to their livestock in some areas due to dry conditions. Pasture was rated at 63 percent fair to good condition, basically unchanged from the previous week. Ground water is running low in the Plains due to the long standing drought.

Crop Condition

Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index ¹	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2018	2017
Wheat	2	10	25	29	34	35	62
Oats	4	25	42	21	8	58	66
Range and Pasture	4	26	37	24	9	--	--

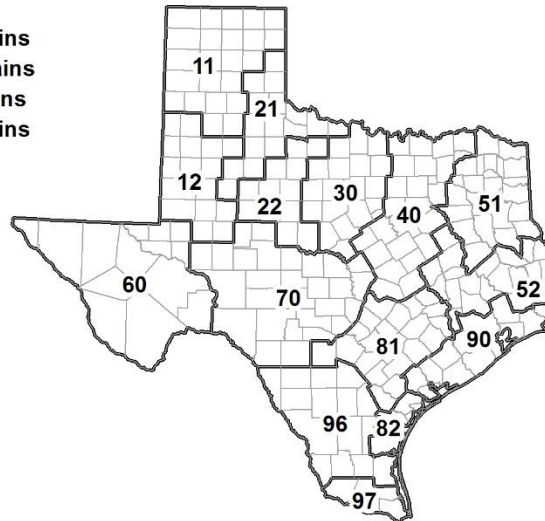
¹ The formula for the condition index is $I = (5V + 25P + 60F + 90G + 110E)/100$ where I = crop condition index and V, P, F, G, E = percentage of crop rated very poor, poor, fair, good, excellent.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable by District

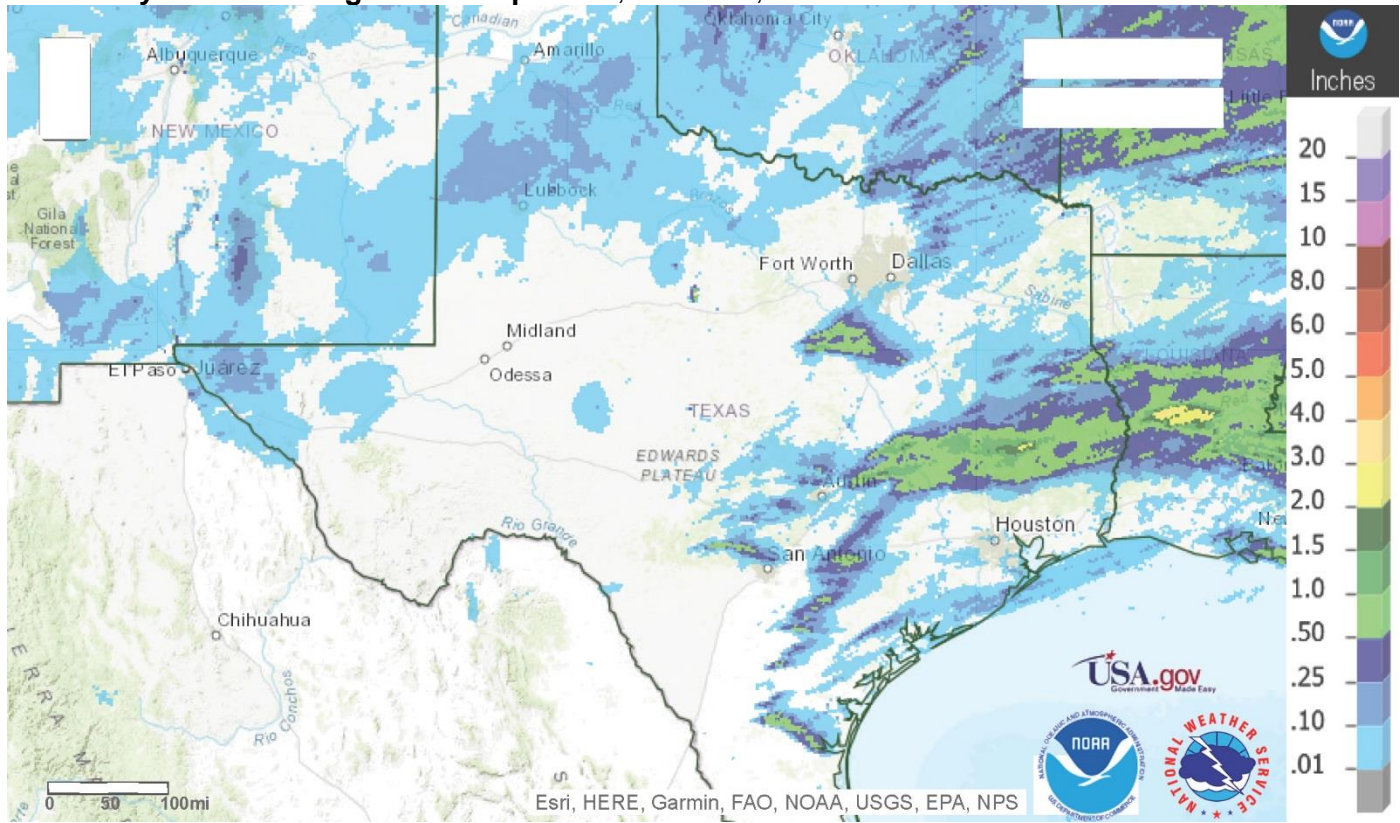
District	Topsoil Moisture Condition by District				Subsoil Moisture Condition by District				Days Suitable for Fieldwork
	Percentage of Acreage				Percentage of Acreage				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
11	80	19	1	0	31	43	26	0	6.7
12	81	19	0	0	76	22	2	0	6.6
21	64	33	3	0	61	34	5	0	6.6
22	48	39	13	0	30	53	17	0	6.5
30	8	41	51	0	7	31	62	0	6.2
40	2	23	73	2	4	12	78	6	5.8
51	3	10	75	12	2	7	78	13	6.8
52	2	9	78	11	2	13	71	14	6.8
60	48	2	50	0	39	11	50	0	6.6
70	22	48	30	0	19	37	44	0	6.7
81	6	59	35	0	0	58	42	0	6.6
82	6	23	66	5	9	35	54	2	7.0
90	5	36	53	6	5	16	76	3	6.9
96	20	48	32	0	21	34	45	0	6.8
97	60	39	1	0	0	93	7	0	7.0
State	44	28	27	1	29	33	36	2	6.6

Texas Agricultural Districts

- 11 Northern High Plains
- 12 Southern High Plains
- 21 Northern Low Plains
- 22 Southern Low Plains
- 30 Cross Timbers
- 40 Blacklands
- 51 North East
- 52 South East
- 60 Trans-Pecos
- 70 Edwards Plateau
- 81 South Central
- 82 Coastal Bend
- 90 Upper Coast
- 96 South
- 97 Lower Valley

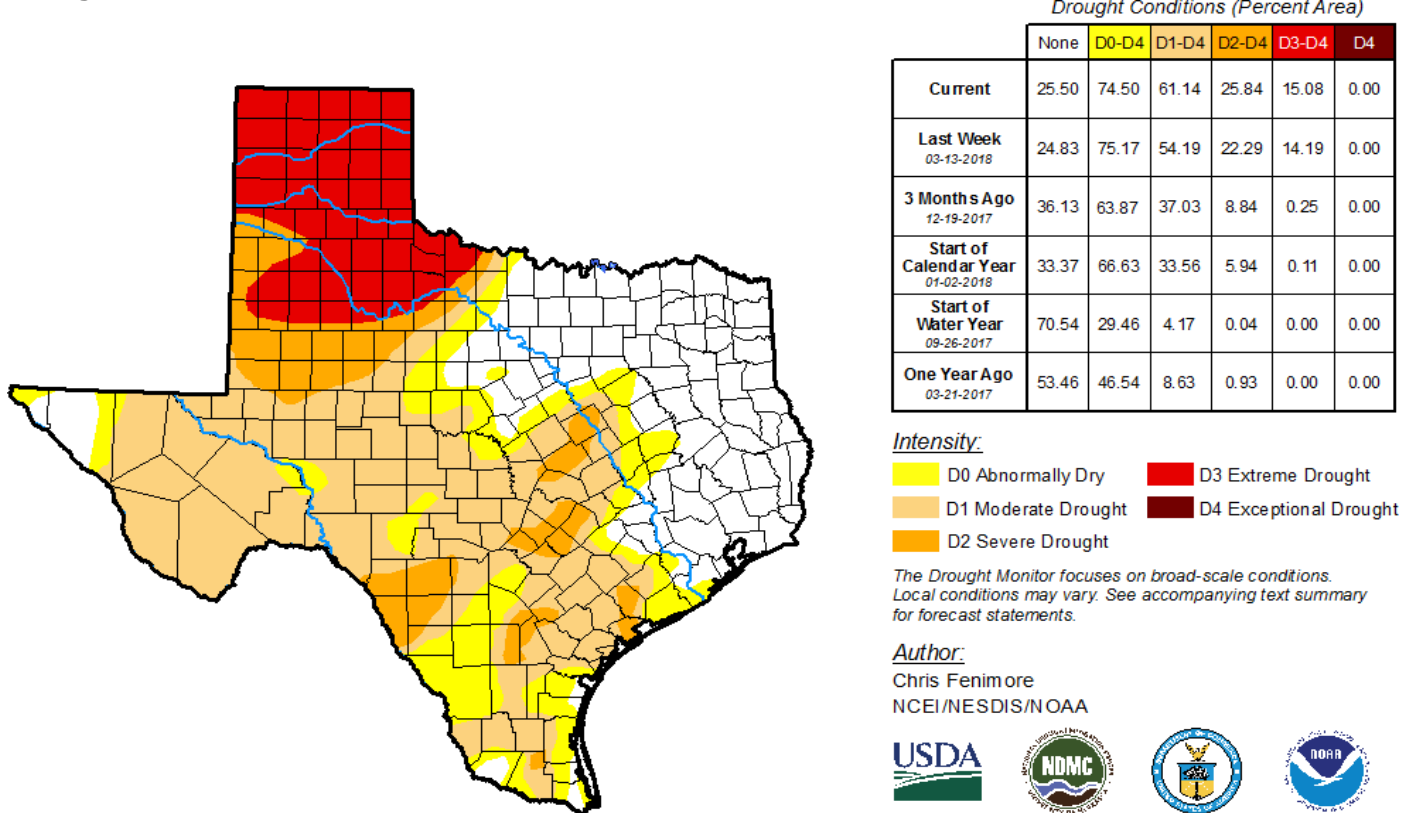


Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, March 25, 2018.

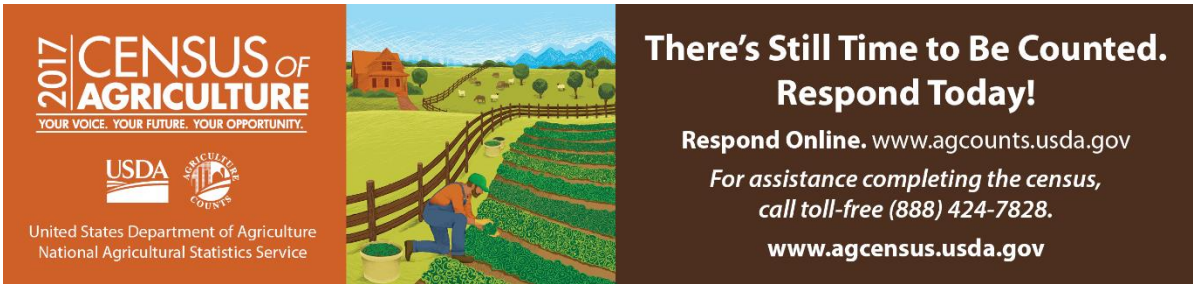


Source: National Weather Service, www.nws.noaa.gov.

Drought Monitor, Valid March 20, 2018.




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



The banner is divided into three vertical sections. The left section has an orange background with white text and logos. The middle section is a colorful illustration of a farm scene. The right section has a dark brown background with white text.

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