Southern Plains Regional Field Office
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Issue: TX-CW1019   **Weekly Summary for April 1- 7**   **Released: April 8, 2019**

Most of the state experienced warmer temperatures last week. Windy conditions combined with warmer daytime temperatures, caused an overall loss of topsoil moisture. The High Plains and the Trans-Pecos received little to no precipitations, while rainfall in the rest of the state ranged from 0.2 to 3 inches, with areas in the Blacklands and South Central Texas getting upwards of 5 inches. Hail was reported in the Northern High Plains and South Central Texas. Growers were assessing crops for damage. There were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork.

Small Grains: Wheat conditions in the Northern High Plains improved due to timely rain, but some areas of the Northern Low Plains were still in need of moisture. Wheat was heading in the Southern Plains. Small grains kept progressing in the Cross Timbers, the Blacklands, the Edwards Plateau, South Texas and the Lower Valley. Wheat irrigation was active in South Texas.

Row Crops: Cotton planting was ongoing in the Blacklands, South Texas, the Lower Valley, the Upper Coast, the Coastal Bend and South Central Texas. Corn planting was nearing completion in the Southern Low Plains, the Cross Timbers and the Blacklands. Corn and sorghum progress was somewhat delayed by cool nighttime temperatures in areas of the Edwards Plateau. Rice planting was delayed in the Upper Coast due to excessive soil moisture.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops: Watermelons and vegetables were being planted in the Cross Timbers. Spinach harvest was completed, while cabbage harvest continued in South Texas. Pecan trees were budding in the Cross Timbers, the Edwards Plateau and the Southern High Plains.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Livestock condition across the state was mostly good to fair. Use of supplemental feed dropped from the previous week. Pasture and range condition benefitted from precipitation and warmer temperatures, and was rated mostly fair to good.

Crop Condition

Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index [1]	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2019	2018
Wheat	8	39	34	14	5	68	37
Oats	4	38	39	11	8	65	59
Range and Pasture	6	36	40	15	3	--	--

[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.
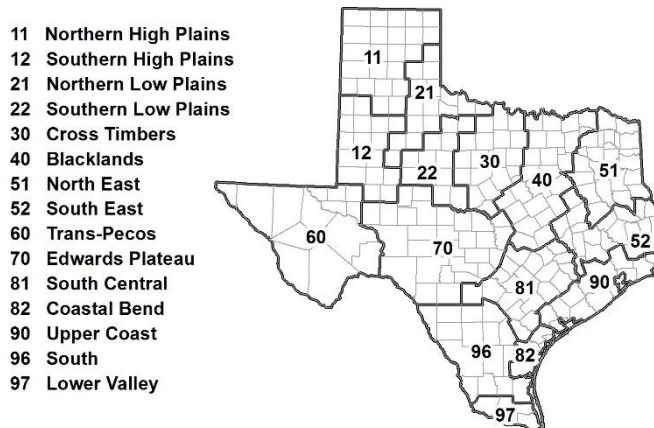
Crop Progress

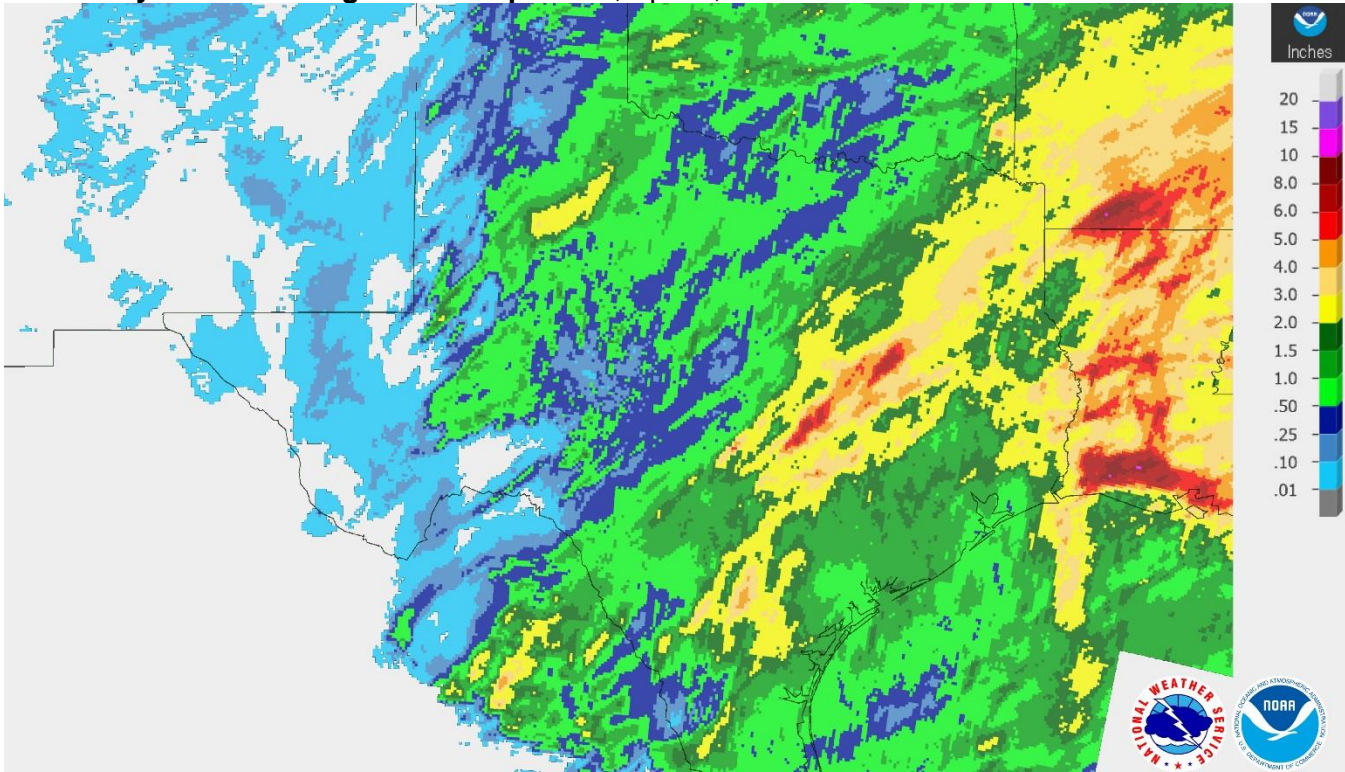| Stage	Percent of Acreage			
	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
Corn				
Planted	53	51	58	51
Emerged	32	25	38	28
Cotton				
Planted	9	7	12	8
Rice				
Planted	38	17	64	49
Emerged	9	0	40	23
Sorghum				
Planted	47	43	53	41
Winter Wheat				
Headed	15	8	16	18
Oats				
Headed	26	16	42	22

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	4	42	50	4	3	37	58	2	6.9
12	1	59	40	0	1	50	46	3	6.7
21	11	60	27	2	7	45	48	0	6.1
22	0	25	73	2	0	13	85	2	6.1
30	8	35	57	0	2	25	73	0	6.2
40	1	13	68	18	0	5	76	19	5.4
51	0	3	68	29	0	0	71	29	5.0
52	0	8	58	34	0	5	61	34	5.6
60	30	30	40	0	36	27	37	0	6.7
70	8	53	38	1	5	21	72	2	6.7
81	0	50	49	1	0	44	54	2	5.9
82	0	0	38	62	0	5	70	25	5.4
90	1	39	49	11	0	4	44	52	4.9
96	28	21	50	1	32	13	55	0	5.1
97	20	60	20	0	20	60	20	0	7.0
State	4	38	50	8	4	28	59	9	6.2

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

Texas Crop Progress and Condition (8 April 2019)
USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Southern Plains Regional Field Office
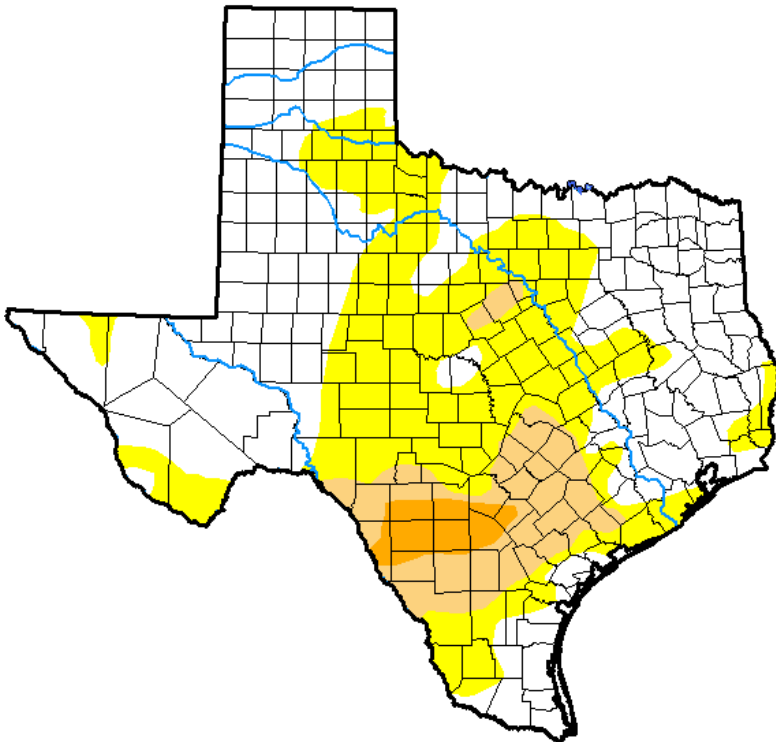
Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, April 7, 2019.

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

Drought Monitor, Valid April 2, 2019.

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	54.27	45.73	12.20	2.61	0.00	0.00
Last Week 03-26-2019	61.92	38.08	11.44	2.38	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 01-01-2019	92.99	7.01	1.32	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2019	92.99	7.01	1.32	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-25-2018	57.46	42.54	20.19	7.03	0.96	0.00
One Year Ago 04-03-2018	33.29	66.71	49.43	21.57	13.21	1.47

Intensity:

D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Moderate Drought
D2 Severe Drought
D3 Extreme Drought
D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions.
Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary
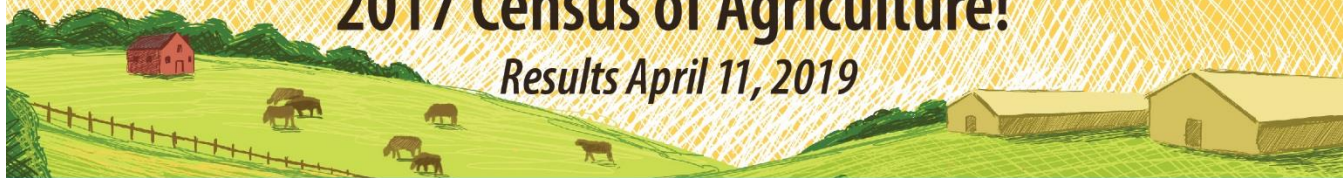for forecast statements.

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National Drought Mitigation Center

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

Texas Crop Progress and Condition (8 April 2019)
USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Southern Plains Regional Field Office

Thank You for responding to the
2017 Census of Agriculture!

Results April 11, 2019

For more information about the census and its special studies, visit www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus