



# Texas Crop Progress and Condition

Southern Plains Regional Field Office  
Post Office Box 70 Austin, Texas 78767  
(800) 626-3142 · FAX (855) 270-2725 · www.nass.usda.gov/tx

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**Weekly Summary for April 19-April 25**

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Most of the state received from trace amounts to upwards of 2.0 inches of precipitation. Some areas in South Central Texas, East Texas, and the Upper Coast received up to 6.0 inches. Precipitation was needed throughout the state as drought conditions persisted in many areas. There were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork.

**Small Grains:** Small grains needed more moisture in many areas of the state. Wheat producers in the Northern High Plains were waiting to see the damage done by below freezing mornings throughout the week. Small grains in areas of the Southern High Plains, the Upper Coast, and Edwards Plateau were being baled for hay. Freeze damage on wheat prompted farmers to start baling operations in the Southern Low Plains. Small grains were progressing well in the Blacklands. First cuttings of hay were underway in South East Texas. Wheat was nearing maturity in South Central Texas, with harvest set to begin soon.

**Row Crops:** In the Northern Low Plains, preparations were underway for corn planting. Farmers continued pre-irrigation on cotton fields in the Southern High Plains. Grain sorghum was reportedly impacted by the freeze in the Southern Low Plains. Planting of grain sorghum, soybeans, and cotton was delayed in the Blacklands due to weather conditions. Cotton was being planted in the Trans-Pecos. Corn under pivots progressed well in the Edwards Plateau. Corn in South Central Texas continued to show signs of drought stress. Producers sprayed weeds and replanted some cotton fields in the Upper Coast. Cotton planting in South Texas continued. Corn and grain sorghum producers were applying side dress fertilizer and cotton producers began fertilizing fields in the Lower Valley.

**Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops:** Pecan producers in the Southern High Plains and the Trans-Pecos had begun irrigation on some orchards. Insect problems were increasing in the Cross Timbers in vegetable gardens and on fruit trees. Meanwhile, in the Cross Timbers, pecans were progressing well. Watermelons progressed well and vegetable planting was underway in North East Texas. Irrigated vegetable fields in South Texas were growing well. Onion harvest continued in the Lower Valley.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Supplemental feeding continued across the state. Rainwater runoff was needed in the Northern Low Plains, the Edwards Plateau, and the Cross Timbers to fill tanks for livestock. Feral hog and horn fly sightings were reported in East Texas. Pastures, especially irrigated, were progressing well in the Lower Valley. Pasture and range condition was rated mostly poor to very poor, though pasture conditions varied greatly across the state.

### Crop Condition

Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index <sup>1</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2021	2020
Corn	4	41	40	12	3	68	77
Rice	10	58	31	1	0	82	82
Wheat	3	15	39	25	18	47	75
Oats	0	15	32	33	20	42	78
Range and Pasture	1	12	26	34	27	37	72

<sup>1</sup> 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

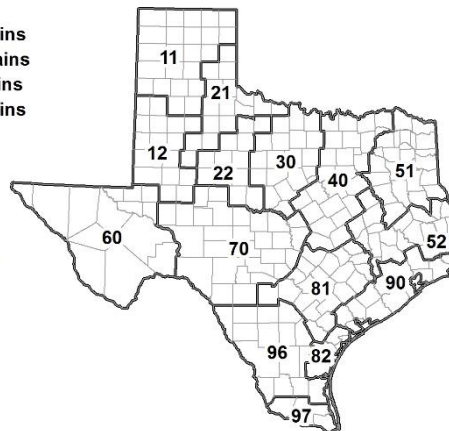
Stage	Percent of Acreage			
	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
Corn				
Planted	66	60	67	64
Emerged	54	51	52	51
Cotton				
Planted	17	16	18	14
Rice				
Planted	85	79	90	76
Emerged	68	60	84	66
Sorghum				
Planted	65	51	67	65
Soybeans				
Planted	25	15	30	28
Winter Wheat				
Headed	57	41	66	61
Oats				
Headed	74	56	70	74

### Soil Moisture and Days Suitable by District

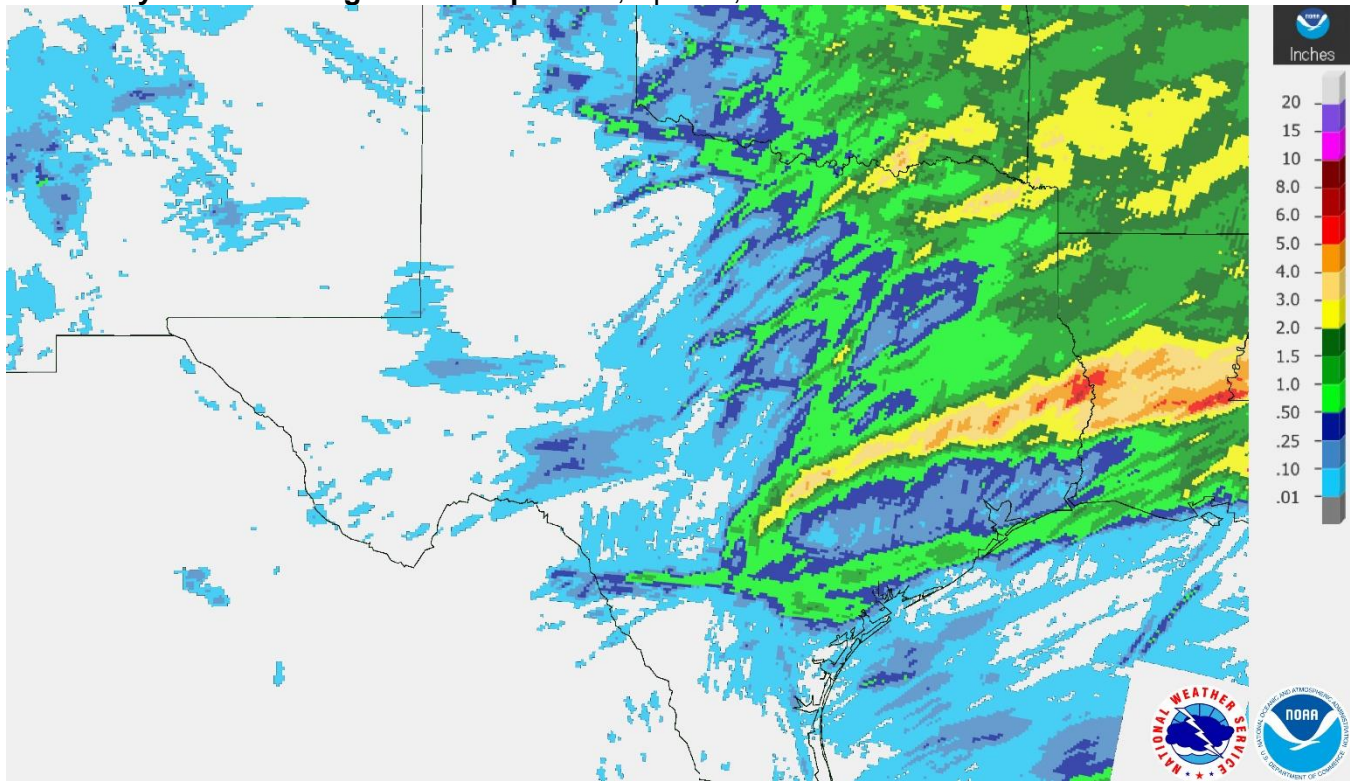
District	Topsoil Moisture Condition by District				Subsoil Moisture Condition by District				Days Suitable for Fieldwork
	Percentage of Acreage				Percentage of Acreage				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
11	30	55	14	1	32	44	24	0	6.5
12	64	20	16	0	28	63	9	0	6.3
21	4	30	66	0	2	34	64	0	5.5
22	30	50	20	0	28	53	19	0	6.2
30	4	27	69	0	5	27	68	0	5.3
40	4	30	64	2	20	20	59	1	5.3
51	1	20	62	17	1	21	65	13	6.5
52	0	31	53	16	0	33	66	1	6.2
60	39	19	42	0	40	18	42	0	5.6
70	23	67	10	0	24	66	10	0	6.3
81	50	40	9	1	39	42	18	1	6.8
82	37	47	16	0	30	39	31	0	6.8
90	3	47	50	0	5	16	78	1	6.2
96	68	29	3	0	67	31	2	0	6.3
97	78	18	4	0	70	21	9	0	5.4
State	30	37	31	2	25	40	34	1	6.1

### 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

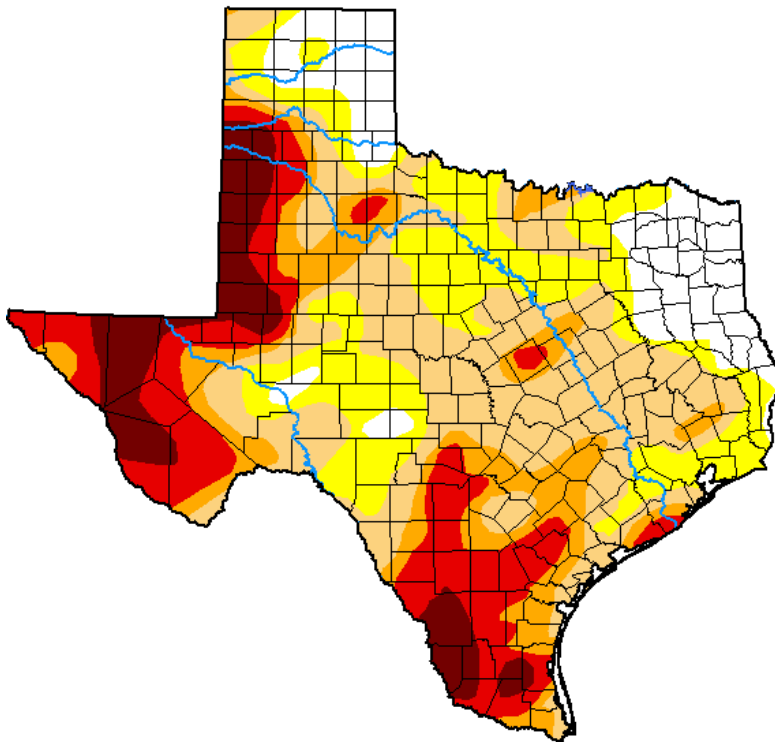


**Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, April 25, 2021.**



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

**Drought Monitor, Valid April 20, 2021.**



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	12.43	87.57	67.10	37.55	24.07	8.95
<b>Last Week</b> <i>04-13-2021</i>	8.22	91.78	75.19	39.61	24.29	8.53
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>01-19-2021</i>	31.44	68.56	48.56	33.06	19.82	6.08
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>12-29-2020</i>	8.80	91.20	81.10	50.33	30.09	13.03
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>09-29-2020</i>	57.35	42.65	31.96	20.91	12.02	3.29
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>04-21-2020</i>	72.28	27.72	16.05	7.16	1.92	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- 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. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

Author:

Richard Heim  
NCEI/NOAA



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