



# Texas Crop Progress and Condition

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Weekly Summary for February 17-23

Released: February 24, 2020

Most of the state received from trace amounts to upwards of 5.0 inches of precipitation. Isolated areas of North East Texas received up to 6.0 inches. There were 4.9 days suitable for fieldwork.

**Small Grains:** Winter wheat conditions improved in areas of the Northern High Plains that had received moisture last week. Meanwhile, producers in the Northern High and Low Plains continued to apply top dress fertilizer. Small grains progressed in the Southern High Plains and Northern Low Plains. Winter wheat in the Blacklands and North East Texas showed signs of stress due to standing water that resulted from heavy precipitation last week. Small grain crops in the Edwards Plateau and South Texas benefitted from precipitation last week, however most areas will need more soon.

**Row Crops:** North East Texas producers were waiting for drier conditions in order to begin planting corn and sorghum. In the Upper Coast cold and wet weather halted planting of row crops. Corn planting got underway in South Texas, meanwhile producers prepared to plant cotton in the Lower Valley.

**Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops:** Early variety peaches began to bloom in the Cross Timbers while other fruit trees also bloomed. North East Texas watermelon growers waited for drier conditions in order to begin planting. Spinach and cabbage harvest continued in South Texas. Meanwhile vegetables continued to progress in South Texas and the Lower Valley.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Livestock were rated in fair to good condition. Supplemental feeding continued across the state. Pasture and range condition was rated mostly fair to good, though pasture conditions varied greatly across the state. Producers in the South Texas continued culling herds as range and pasture conditions declined. Early spring lambing and kidding operations were underway in the Edwards Plateau. North East Texas and the Blacklands reported feral hog damage in several areas.

## Crop Progress

Stage	Percent of Acreage			
	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
Winter Wheat				
Headed	23	7	1	(NA)
Oats				
Headed	9	8	1	(NA)

(NA) Not available.

## Crop Condition

Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index <sup>1</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2020	2019
Wheat	7	24	40	23	6	59	65
Oats	4	26	42	18	10	58	58
Range and Pasture	4	26	38	21	11	56	61

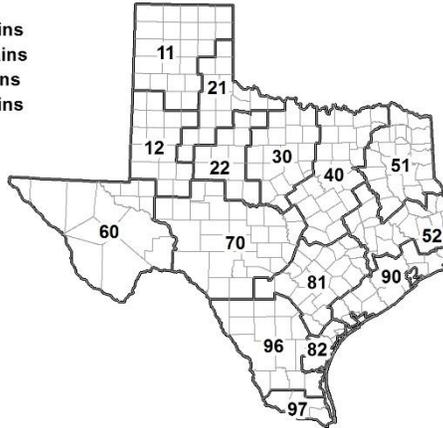
<sup>1</sup> The formula for the condition index is  $I = (5V + 25P + 60F + 90G + 110E)/100$  where I = crop condition index and V, P, F, G, E = percentage of crop rated very poor, poor, fair, good, excellent.

### Soil Moisture and Days Suitable by District

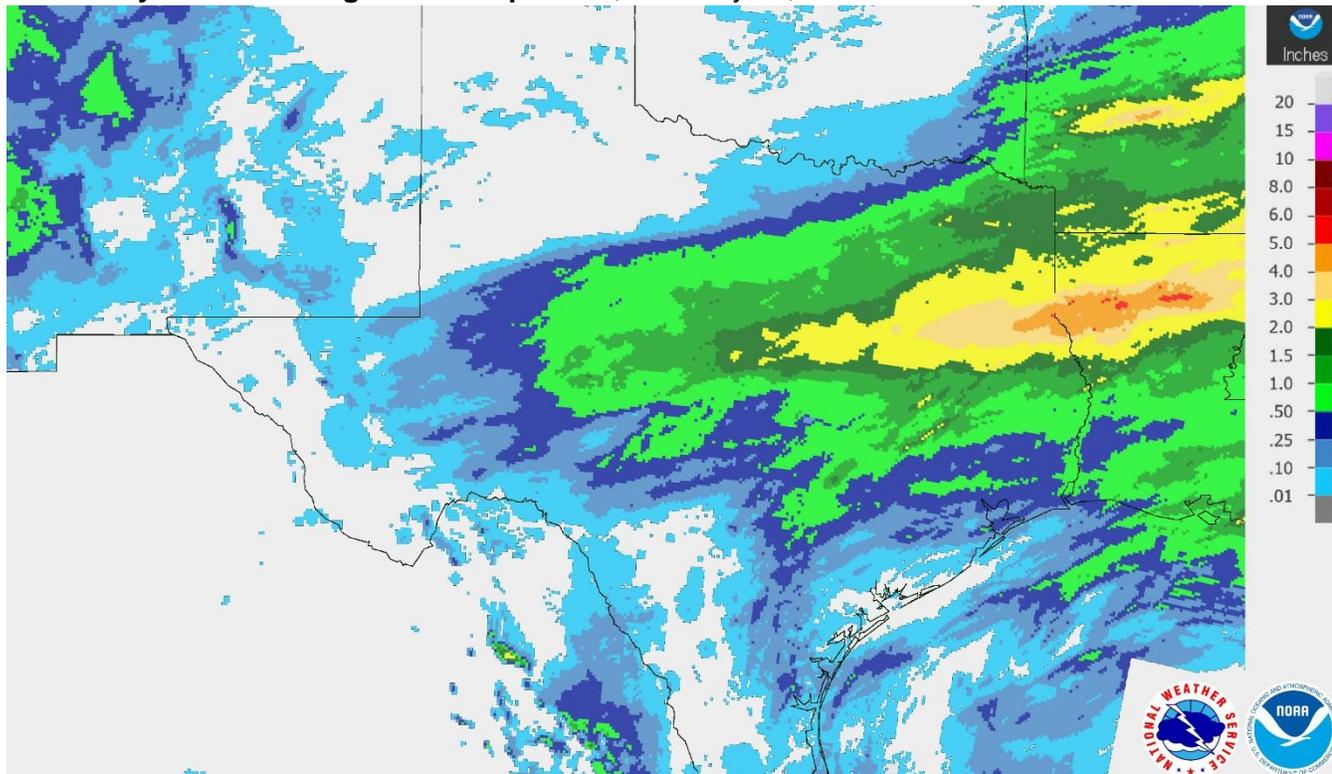
District	Topsoil Moisture Condition by District				Subsoil Moisture Condition by District				Days Suitable for Fieldwork
	Percentage of Acreage				Percentage of Acreage				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
11	13	27	54	6	12	29	52	7	5.3
12	17	40	40	3	19	39	38	4	6.3
21	2	25	72	1	5	39	55	1	5.5
22	2	26	55	17	3	30	59	8	4.6
30	0	2	82	16	1	6	86	7	3.5
40	0	1	45	54	0	1	56	43	2.3
51	0	0	37	63	0	1	36	63	4.1
52	0	8	48	44	0	11	53	36	4.5
60	15	35	40	10	15	30	45	10	6.2
70	13	27	60	0	14	45	41	0	5.3
81	8	42	42	8	14	42	44	0	5.6
82	2	46	52	0	5	22	73	0	6.5
90	3	14	67	16	35	16	15	34	4.9
96	36	59	5	0	40	59	1	0	6.2
97	33	42	23	2	20	42	35	3	4.9
State	9	25	50	16	11	27	48	14	4.9

### 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

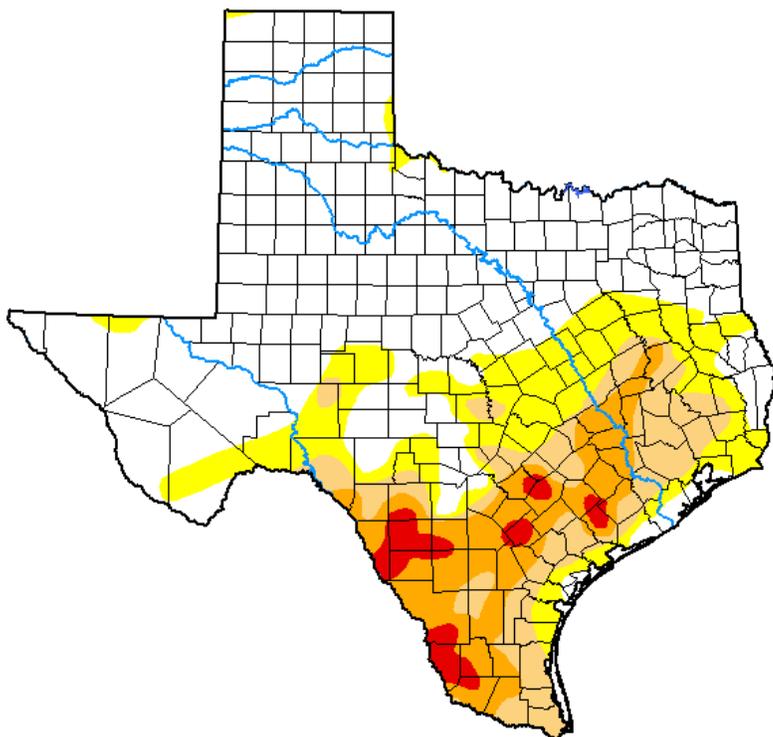


**Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, February 18, 2020.**



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

**Drought Monitor, Valid February 18, 2020.**



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	59.37	40.63	23.84	12.73	2.66	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 02-11-2020	52.03	47.97	32.68	13.95	1.87	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 11-19-2019	47.81	52.19	31.96	10.46	0.53	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 12-31-2019	44.69	55.31	36.12	9.19	0.74	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 10-01-2019	31.74	68.26	46.05	22.33	6.32	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 02-19-2019	59.54	40.46	6.63	0.00	0.00	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>

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