



# Texas Crop Progress and Condition

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**Weekly Summary for August 14- August 20**

**Released: August 21 2023**

Across Texas, triple digit temperatures continued with concerns of wildfires. Isolated parts in the Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau received up to 1 inch of rain. The Northern High Plains reported receiving rain that was accompanied by hail that damaged crops. Drought conditions ranged from none to exceptional drought with areas in Edwards Plateau being the driest. There was an average of 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork.

## **Row Crops:**

The Northern High Plains extreme heat and wind have caused the condition of the corn crop to decline quickly. Corn denuded reached 78 percent, up 3 points from the previous year. Sorghum was in very poor condition due to extreme drought conditions. Sorghum mature reached 65 percent, down 1 point from the previous year. Throughout Texas, cotton growing conditions were rapidly deteriorating. Cotton setting bolls reached 74 percent for the state, down 10 points from the previous year. Sunflowers harvest reached 49 percent, up 4 points from the previous year. In the Upper Coast, many farmers were cutting and baling rice straw due to the drought with the possibility of having no hay this fall. Rice harvested reached 60 percent, down 4 points from the previous year. Soybean setting pods reached 77 percent, down 7 points from the previous year, with 35 percent dropping leaves. In the Upper Coasts, peanuts were under a considerable amount of stress. Peanuts pegging reached 85 percent, down 1 point from the previous year.

## **Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops:**

Watermelon harvest was coming to an end due to drought. The Southern High Plains reports pecans were looking good with a decent load on them, but the Edwards Plateau reports pecan trees were dying. In South Texas, prickly pear were turning yellow and laying over. Vegetable peas were drying up on the vines and some vines were dying.

## **Livestock, Range and Pasture:**

Range and pasture condition was rated very poor to poor. There was a severe need of rain to improve soil moisture and range conditions across the state. Pastures have been burned up for weeks and those still holding onto their cows were feeding a lot of hay and supplements.

### Crop Progress

Stage	Percent of Acreage			
	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
<b>Corn</b>				
Dough	86	83	85	90
Dented	78	75	75	79
Mature	62	58	66	58
Harvested	45	28	42	39
<b>Cotton</b>				
Setting Bolls	74	64	84	80
<b>Peanuts</b>				
Pegging	85	75	86	87
<b>Rice</b>				
Harvested	60	40	64	56
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Headed	95	92	97	93
Coloring	80	75	80	79
Mature	65	60	66	68
Harvested	53	48	51	56
<b>Soybeans</b>				
Setting Pods	77	70	84	80
Dropping Leaves	35	25	46	36
<b>Sunflowers</b>				
Harvested	49	45	45	47

(NA) Not available.

### Crop Condition

Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index <sup>1</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2023	2022
Corn	13	41	27	11	8	71	43
Cotton	2	8	19	36	35	32	37
Peanuts	0	33	56	9	2	66	65
Rice	8	55	35	2	0	80	79
Sorghum	16	29	22	17	16	62	48
Soybeans	16	30	27	25	2	67	49
Range and Pasture	1	6	16	36	41	27	21

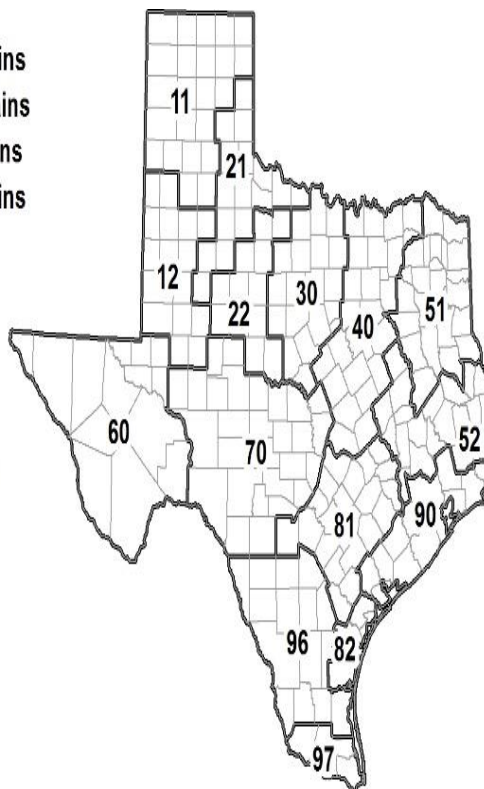
<sup>1</sup> The formula for the condition index is  $I = (5V + 25P + 60F + 90G + 110E)/100$  where I = crop condition index and V, P, F, G, E = percentage of crop rated very poor, poor, fair, good, excellent.

### Soil Moisture and Days Suitable by District

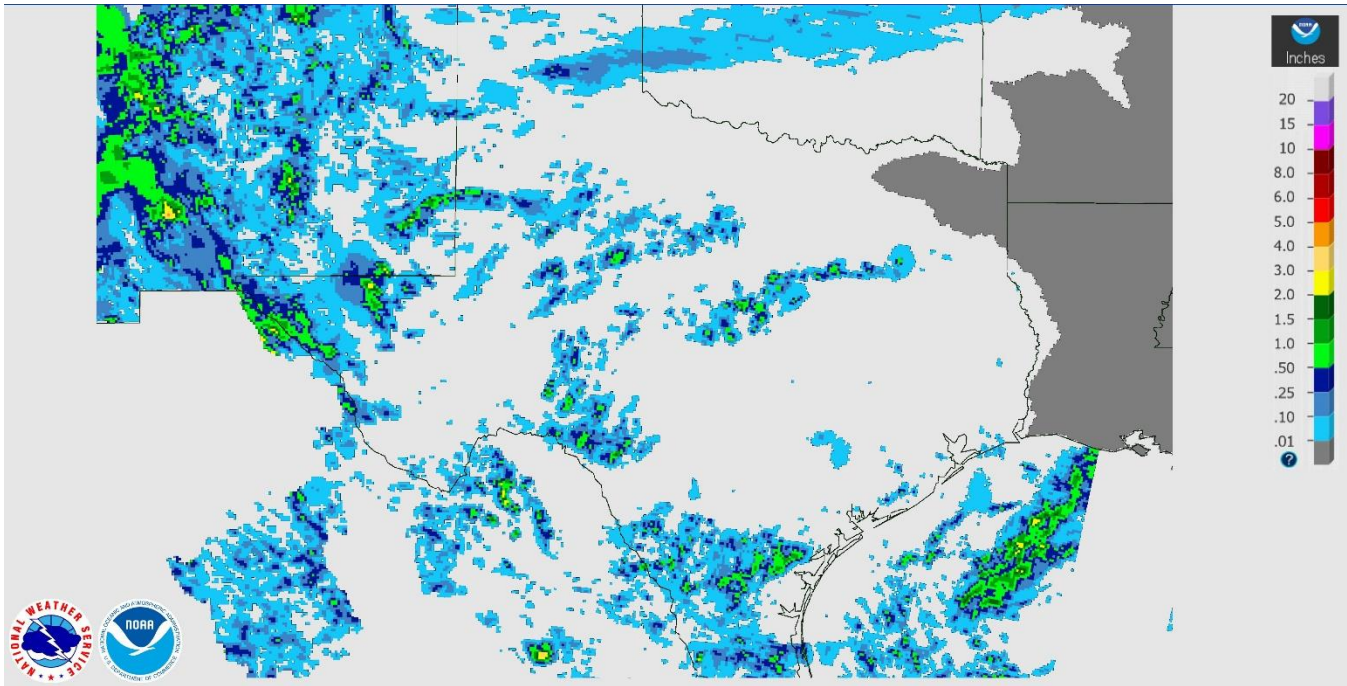
District	Subsoil Moisture Condition by District				Topsoil Moisture Condition by District				Days Suitable for Fieldwork
	Percentage of Acreage				Percentage of Acreage				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
11	35	36	27	2	46	38	13	3	6.4
12	90	7	3	0	92	5	3	0	6.8
21	60	36	4	0	56	40	4	0	6.9
22	41	52	7	0	63	37	0	0	6.5
30	67	32	1	0	76	24	0	0	5.9
40	72	20	8	0	78	20	2	0	6.8
51	45	46	7	2	55	38	5	2	6.8
52	59	23	8	10	53	26	17	4	6.6
60	29	30	34	7	28	31	34	7	6.1
70	80	20	0	0	93	7	0	0	6.5
81	81	19	0	0	81	19	0	0	6.7
82	75	21	4	0	86	14	0	0	7.0
90	69	24	7	0	78	16	6	0	7.0
96	70	26	4	0	72	24	4	0	5.3
97	21	71	8	0	72	25	3	0	7.0
State	62	28	9	1	70	24	5	1	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

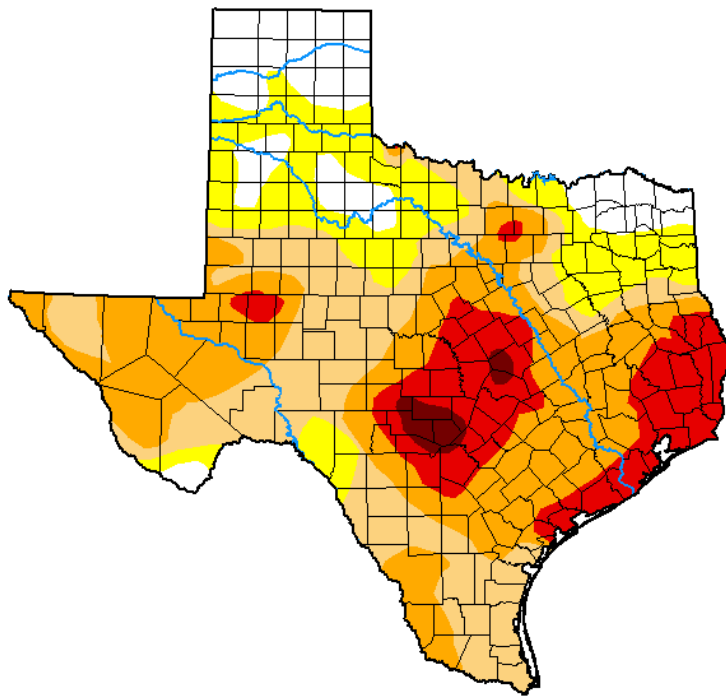


**Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, August 20, 2023.**



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

**Drought Monitor, August 21, 2023.**



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	11.85	88.15	71.37	46.46	15.75	1.49
<b>Last Week</b> 08-08-2023	13.97	86.03	68.76	34.27	7.87	1.18
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 05-16-2023	38.22	61.78	49.31	27.76	11.73	1.58
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-03-2023	28.84	71.16	49.90	26.60	7.41	1.60
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-27-2022	14.96	85.04	61.36	31.61	8.82	1.06
<b>One Year Ago</b> 08-16-2022	2.79	97.21	93.40	85.05	61.91	26.49

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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[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

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