United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Texas Crop Progress and Condition

Southern Plains Regional Field Office
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Issue: TX-CW1423 **Weekly Summary for April 17 - April 23** **Released: April 24, 2023**

Most of the state received from trace amounts to one inch of precipitation last week. Areas of South East Texas, South Central, the Upper Coast and the Coastal Bend received between 1 to 3 inches of rain. Drought conditions ranged from none to exceptionally dry, with isolated parts of the High Plains, Northern Low Plains, and the Trans-Pecos being the driest. There was an average of 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork.

Small Grains: The Northern Plains and the Cross timbers experienced extremely dry and windy conditions. In some areas, producers have begun to cut their wheat for hay and silage or have turned livestock on it for grazing. In the Blacklands, winter wheat continued to show improvement. Winter wheat condition throughout the state was rated fair to poor. Winter wheat headed reached 53 percent, 10 points up from the previous year. Oats headed reached 73 percent, 1 point up from the previous year. Oats condition was rated very poor to poor.

Row Crops: In the Edwards Plateau, South Texas and South Central Texas, both corn and sorghum continued to show progress. Corn emerged reached 60 percent, up 2 points from the previous year. Sorghum planted reached 63 percent, one point up from the previous year. In the Northern Plains and the Blacklands, cotton planting continued to be slow, while in South Texas and the Coastal Bend, planting was underway. Cotton planted reached 18 percent, down one point from the previous year. Rice emerged reached 58 percent, same as the previous year.

Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops: In South Texas, water melon and cantaloupe were planted.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Supplemental feeding continued throughout the state. Range and pasture condition was rated poor to very poor.

Crop Progress

Stage	Percent of Acreage			
	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
Corn				
Planted	72	65	68	65
Emerged	60	56	58	51
Cotton				
Planted	18	13	19	16
Rice				
Planted	74	55	76	78
Emerged	58	41	58	63
Sorghum				
Planted	63	52	62	65
Winter Wheat				
Headed	53	35	43	52
Oats				
Headed	73	55	72	69

Crop Condition

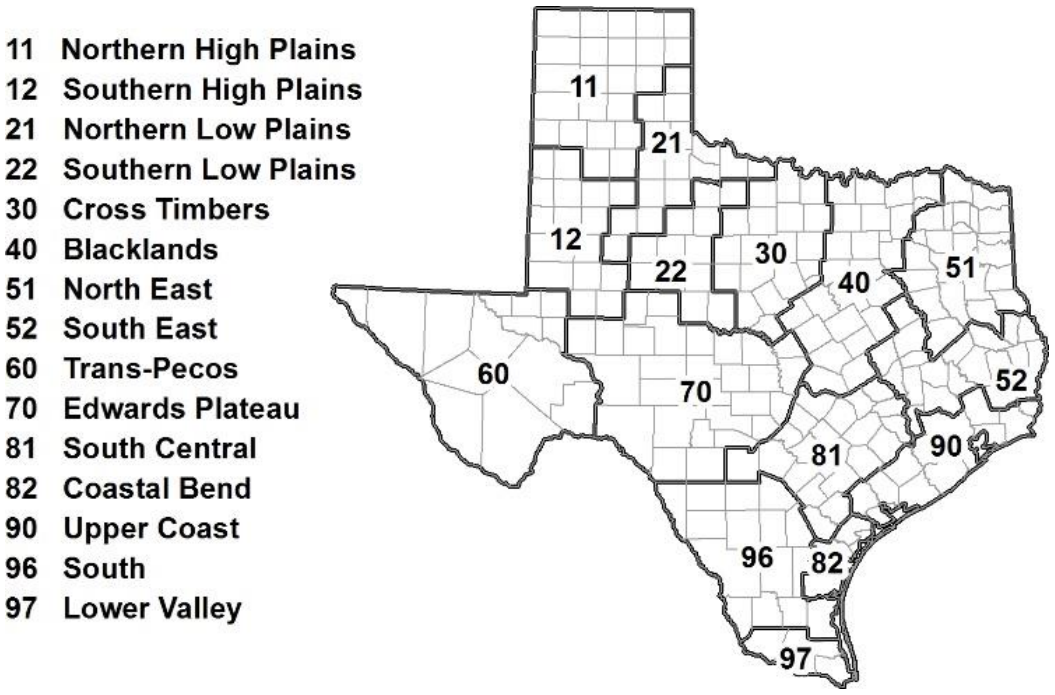
Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index [1]	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2023	2022
Corn	19	55	12	13	1	81	65
Wheat	1	13	31	31	24	42	24
Oats	3	16	30	22	29	42	20
Range and Pasture	3	17	24	28	28	40	27

[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

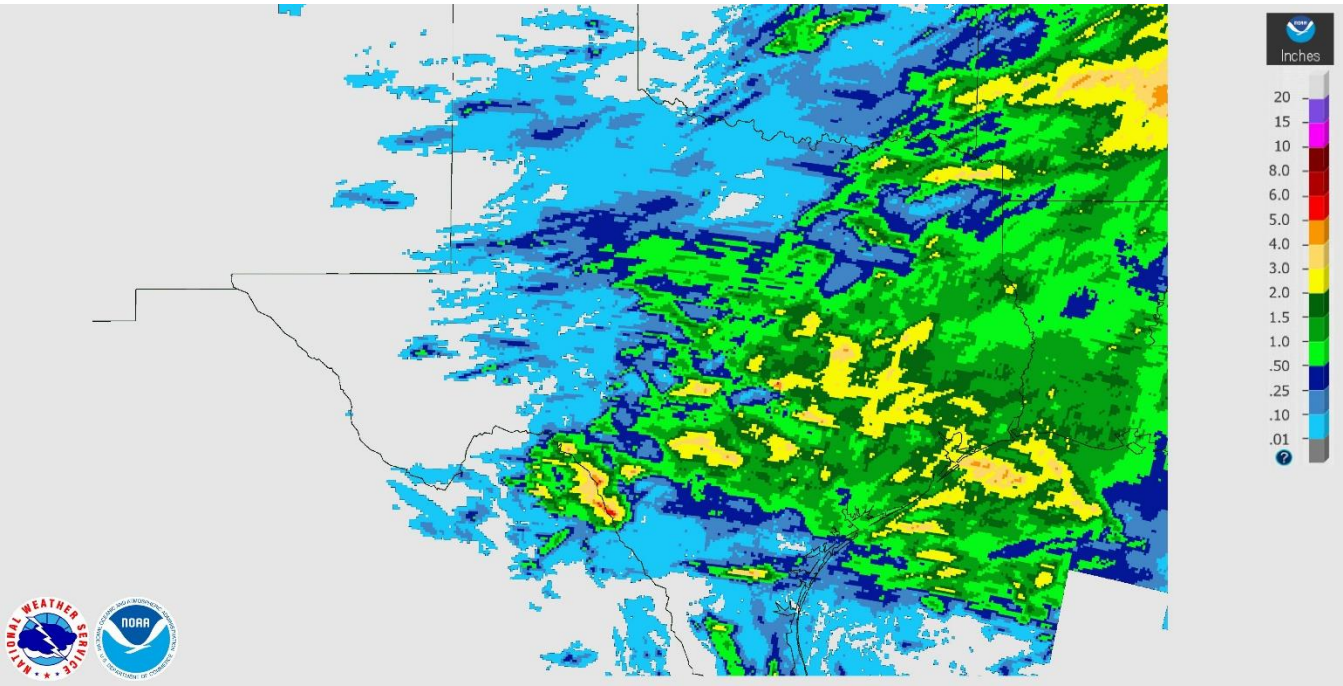
District	Subsoil Moisture Condition by District				Topsoil Moisture Condition by District				Days Suitable for Fieldwork
	Percentage of Acreage				Percentage of Acreage				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
11	57	33	10	0	63	33	4	0	6.8
12	78	22	0	0	62	38	0	0	6.8
21	28	51	21	0	54	36	10	0	6.5
22	35	63	2	0	25	71	4	0	5.6
30	23	32	44	1	22	30	43	5	6.4
40	10	25	47	18	6	25	57	12	5.4
51	2	10	50	38	1	8	61	30	5.4
52	3	7	72	18	1	8	64	27	4.8
60	24	44	32	0	24	44	32	0	6.5
70	37	47	14	2	54	27	19	0	6.8
81	3	30	67	0	1	22	77	0	5.1
82	8	3	76	13	9	1	64	26	3.7
90	2	36	31	31	0	20	42	38	3.5
96	18	23	55	4	12	14	70	4	5.5
97	2	10	82	6	4	11	80	5	4.1
State	36	31	27	6	35	31	28	6	5.9

Texas Agricultural Districts



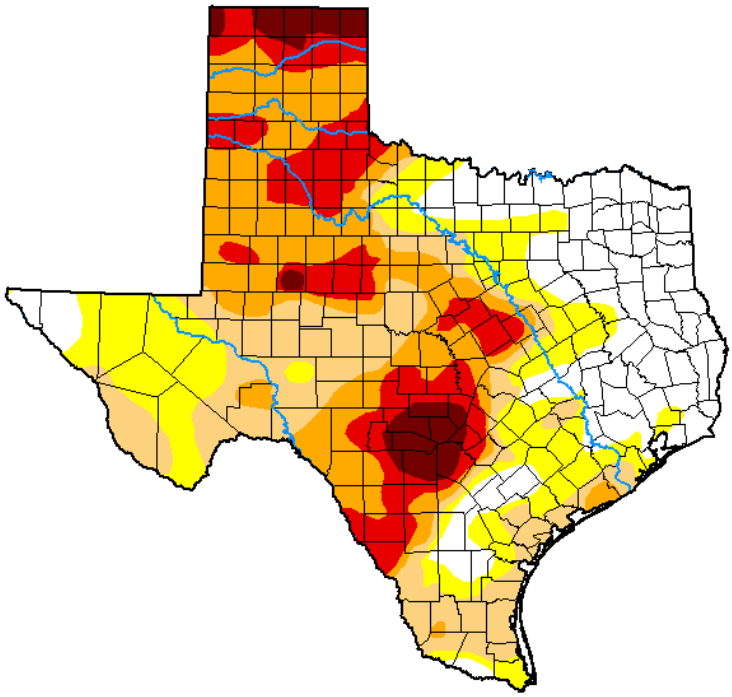
Texas Crop Progress and Condition (April 2023)
USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Southern Plains Regional Field Office

Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, April 23, 2023.



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

Drought Monitor, Valid April 18, 2023.



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	22.37	77.63	58.15	38.98	17.67	4.14
Last Week *04-11-2023*	22.13	77.87	58.63	37.64	16.24	4.07
3 Months Ago *01-17-2023*	22.34	77.66	54.68	29.62	7.70	1.80
Start of Calendar Year *01-03-2023*	28.84	71.16	49.90	26.60	7.41	1.60
Start of Water Year *09-27-2022*	14.96	85.04	61.36	31.61	8.82	1.06
One Year Ago *04-19-2022*	3.87	96.13	87.38	72.46	53.54	15.91

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

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