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-CW3223 **Weekly Summary for August 21- August 27** **Released: August 28 2023**

Throughout Texas, rain fall ranged from none to 6 inches with the northern part of Texas receiving almost no rain while the southern part receiving up to 6 inches. In the Northern High Plains, rain has been staying to the west of the counties leaving crops in desperate need of some moisture. Drought conditions ranged from none to exceptional drought with areas in the Edwards Plateau being the driest. There was an average of 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork.

Row Crops:
Corn harvest continued across the state with 53 percent harvested. Corn mature reached 67 percent, down 4 points from the previous year. The Northern High Plains reported problems with sorghum aphids. Sorghum mature reached 73 percent, down 1 point from the previous year. In the Blacklands cotton crop was steadily deteriorating and beyond the point where rainfall can help. Cotton bolls opening reached 30 percent for the state, down 4 points from the previous year. Sunflowers harvest reached 52 percent, up 2 points from the previous year. In the Upper Coast, some rice fields were showing heat stress. Rice harvested reached 70 percent, down 5 points from the previous year. Soybean setting pods reached 85 percent, down 4 points from the previous year, with 47 percent dropping leaves. In South Texas, peanuts continued to progress with received rainfall. Peanuts pegging reached 92 percent, unchanged from the previous year.

Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops:
South Texas received about three more inches of rain due to the tropical storm which helped progress watermelons and cantaloupes. In the Lower Valley, citrus, sugarcane, and hay meadows continued to be irrigated. In the Cross Timbers and in the Edwards Plateau, pecan trees were drought stressing and dropping nuts.

Livestock, Range and Pasture:
Pasture conditions continued to decline with high temperatures and limited moisture. Range and pasture condition was rated very poor to poor. Producers were culling herds and selling calves early due to the poor pasture and water conditions. Stock tanks depths were steadily decreasing. Grasshoppers were still a nuisance on anything that is green although in the Cross Timbers, grasshopper and cricket numbers were tailing off.

Crop Progress

Stage	Percent of Acreage			
	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
Corn				
Dough	93	86	93	94
Dented	83	78	83	85
Mature	67	62	71	61
Harvested	53	45	52	50
Cotton				
Setting Bolls	87	74	91	87
Bolls Opening	30	22	34	28
Harvested	13	9	NA	4
Peanuts				
Pegging	92	85	92	92
Mature	8	NA	5	6
Rice				
Harvested	70	60	75	69
Sorghum				
Coloring	85	80	89	85
Mature	73	65	74	73
Harvested	63	53	61	64
Soybeans				
Setting Pods	85	77	89	83
Dropping Leaves	47	35	59	45
Sunflowers				
Harvested	52	49	50	51

(NA) Not available.

Crop Condition

Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index [1]	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2023	2022
Corn	12	37	27	15	9	67	42
Cotton	1	11	21	30	37	33	41
Peanuts	2	32	47	13	6	63	64
Rice	8	55	35	2	0	80	79
Sorghum	16	29	22	17	16	62	48
Soybeans	13	21	29	33	4	59	51
Range and Pasture	1	3	18	35	43	26	31

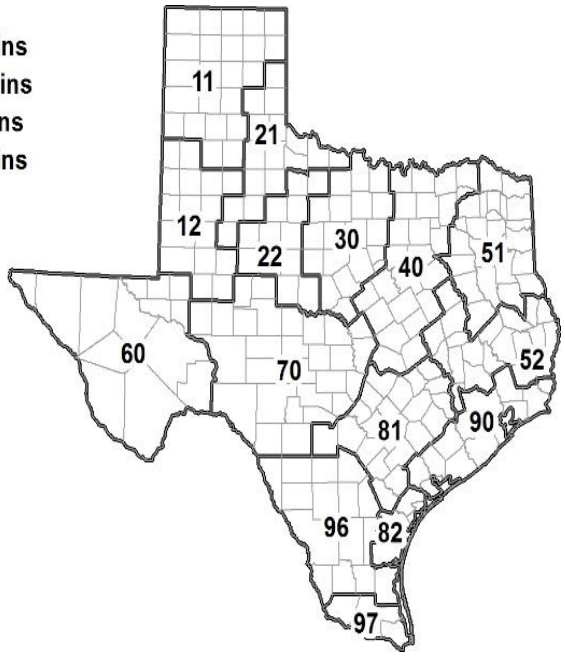
[1] The formula for the condition index is I = (5V + 25P + 60F + 90G + 110E)/100 where I = crop condition index and V, P, F, G, E = percentage of crop rated very poor, poor, fair, good, excellent.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable by District

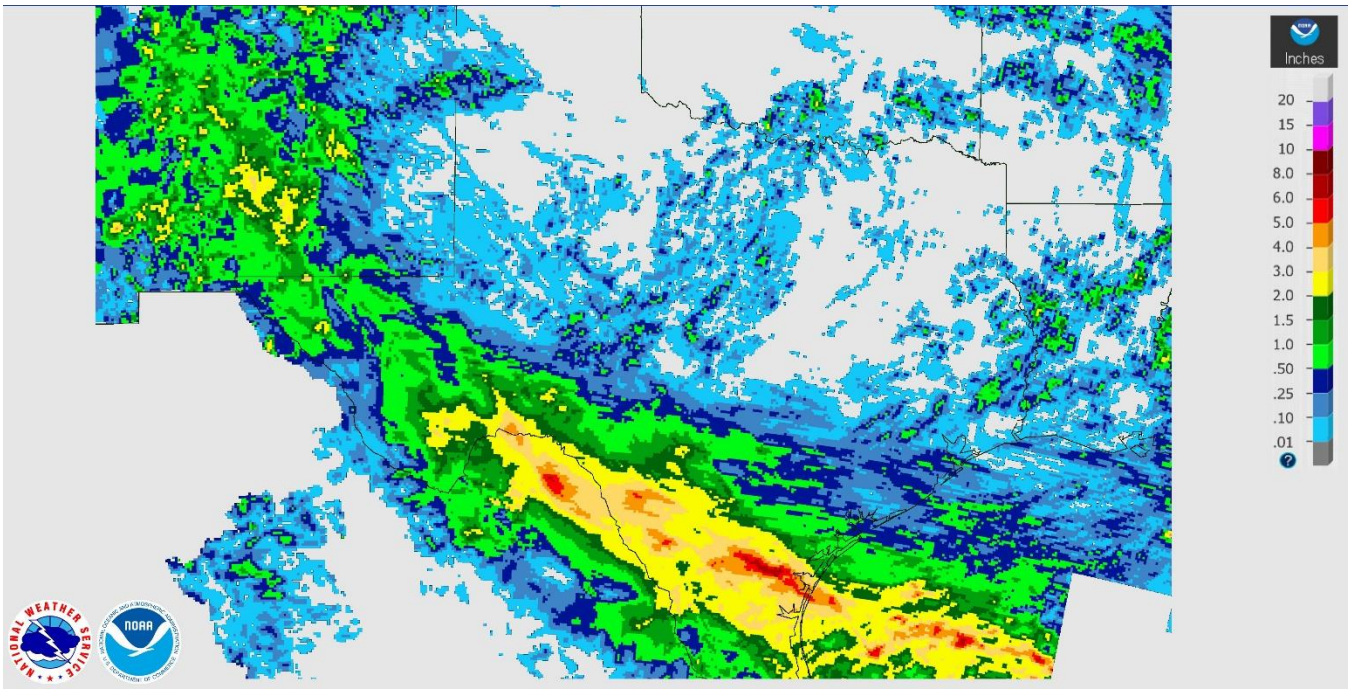
District	Subsoil Moisture Condition by District				Topsoil Moisture Condition by District				Days Suitable for Fieldwork
	Percentage of Acreage				Percentage of Acreage				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
11	34	36	30	0	44	46	10	0	6.5
12	85	15	0	0	88	12	0	0	6.7
21	80	16	4	0	74	22	4	0	7.0
22	58	42	0	0	80	20	0	0	6.4
30	82	18	0	0	83	17	0	0	5.8
40	74	23	3	0	78	17	5	0	6.8
51	66	33	1	0	81	18	1	0	7.0
52	72	28	0	0	70	30	0	0	6.4
60	10	13	77	0	12	11	77	0	5.3
70	77	22	1	0	90	7	3	0	6.5
81	60	32	7	1	71	21	5	3	6.2
82	10	19	65	6	0	20	72	8	3.0
90	78	21	1	0	88	11	1	0	5.5
96	28	22	45	5	23	24	48	5	4.7
97	21	71	8	0	73	24	3	0	5.8
State	62	27	11	0	70	23	7	0	6.4

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

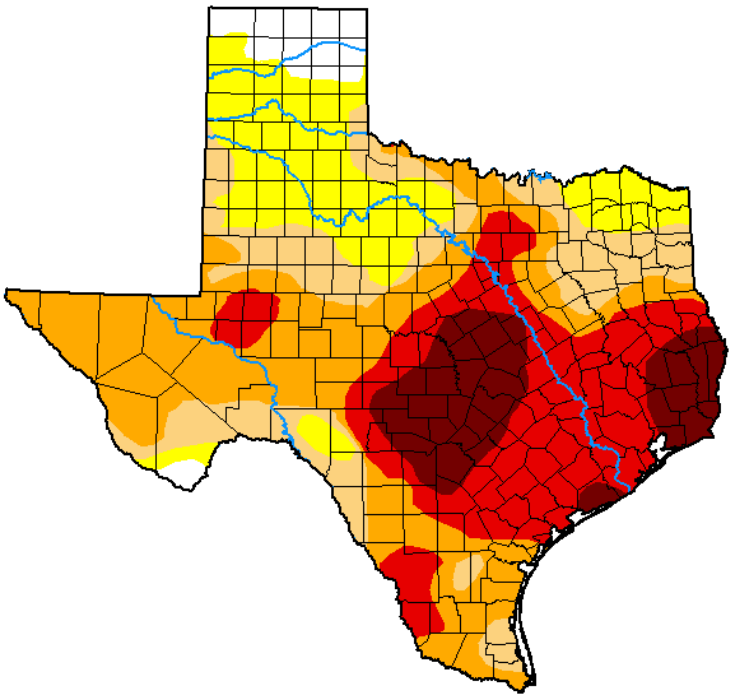


Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, August 27, 2023.



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

Drought Monitor, August 28, 2023.



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	4.13	95.87	78.71	62.10	33.99	11.67
Last Week *08-15-2023*	11.85	88.15	71.37	46.46	15.75	1.49
3 Months Ago *05-23-2023*	39.03	60.97	42.30	21.48	7.79	0.51
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 *08-23-2022*	5.21	94.79	87.18	71.11	43.13	12.42

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*