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-CW3323 **Weekly Summary for August 28 - September 3** **Released:September 5, 2023**

Hot and dry weather continued with temperatures averaging about 103 degrees Fahrenheit last week. Throughout Texas, rainfall ranged from none to 1.5 inches with the central part of Texas receiving almost no rain while the Edwards Plateau received up to 1.5 inches of rain. Drought conditions ranged from none to exceptional drought with areas in the Edwards Plateau, South East Texas, and the Upper Coast being the driest. There was an average of 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork.

Row Crops:
In the Northern High Plains, late corn was irrigated while early corn matured and has begun to head and dry down. There were rising concerns in the Blacklands about lack of elevator storage available to handle the big corn crop this year. Corn harvest continued across the state with 56 percent harvested. Corn mature reached 9 percent, down 6 points from the previous year. In the Lower Valley, rising hay prices caused many producers to bale grain sorghum stubble in order to fill in the void and help ranchers hold on to their cattle. Sorghum mature reached 77 percent, down 2 points from the previous year. The overall cotton crop continued to decline. Bolls were been prematurely opening due to the extreme heat over the past couple of weeks. Cotton bolls opening reached 33 percent for the state, down 7 points from the previous year. Sunflowers harvest reached 55 percent, unchanged from the previous year. Rice harvested reached 80 percent, unchanged from the previous year. In the Blacklands and North East Texas, some farmers bailed soybeans for hay. Soybean setting pods reached 89 percent, down 5 points from the previous year, with 52 percent dropping leaves. In the South Texas, the peanut crop progressed under irrigation and continue to mature. Peanuts pegging reached 96 percent, unchanged from the previous year.

Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops:
In the Lower Valley, citrus, and sugarcane crops continued to be irrigated along with hay meadows. In the Southern High Plains, pecans are looking good, though some trees have not filled out as much as others, primarily due to the amount of water the trees got.

Livestock, Range and Pasture:
Continued hot and dry conditions have created poor pasture conditions and wildfire concerns. Range and pasture condition was rated very poor to poor. Feeding hay was becoming scarce in many areas which led producers to supplement feed for livestock.

Crop Progress

Stage	Percent of Acreage			
	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
Corn				
Dough	96	93	97	97
Dented	86	83	87	89
Mature	69	67	75	66
Harvested	56	53	58	55
Cotton				
Setting Bolls	92	87	95	94
Bolls Opening	33	30	40	33
Harvested	16	13	9	8
Peanuts				
Pegging	96	92	96	96
Mature	12	8	10	10
Rice				
Harvested	80	70	80	80
Sorghum				
Coloring	89	85	94	89
Mature	77	73	79	77
Harvested	67	63	67	68
Soybeans				
Setting Pods	89	85	94	88
Dropping Leaves	52	47	68	54
Sunflower				
Harvested	55	52	55	54

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	10	28	32	29	36	45
Peanuts	3	30	41	18	8	60	65
Rice	8	55	35	2	0	80	79
Sorghum	16	29	22	17	16	62	48
Soybeans	9	25	36	27	3	61	48
Range and Pasture	1	4	23	33	39	29	43

[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.

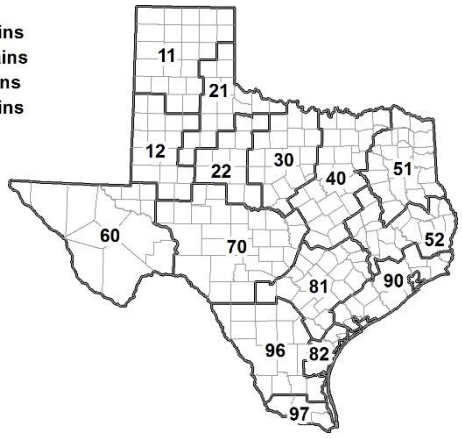
Texas Crop Progress and Condition (September 2023)
USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Southern Plains Regional Field Office

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable by District

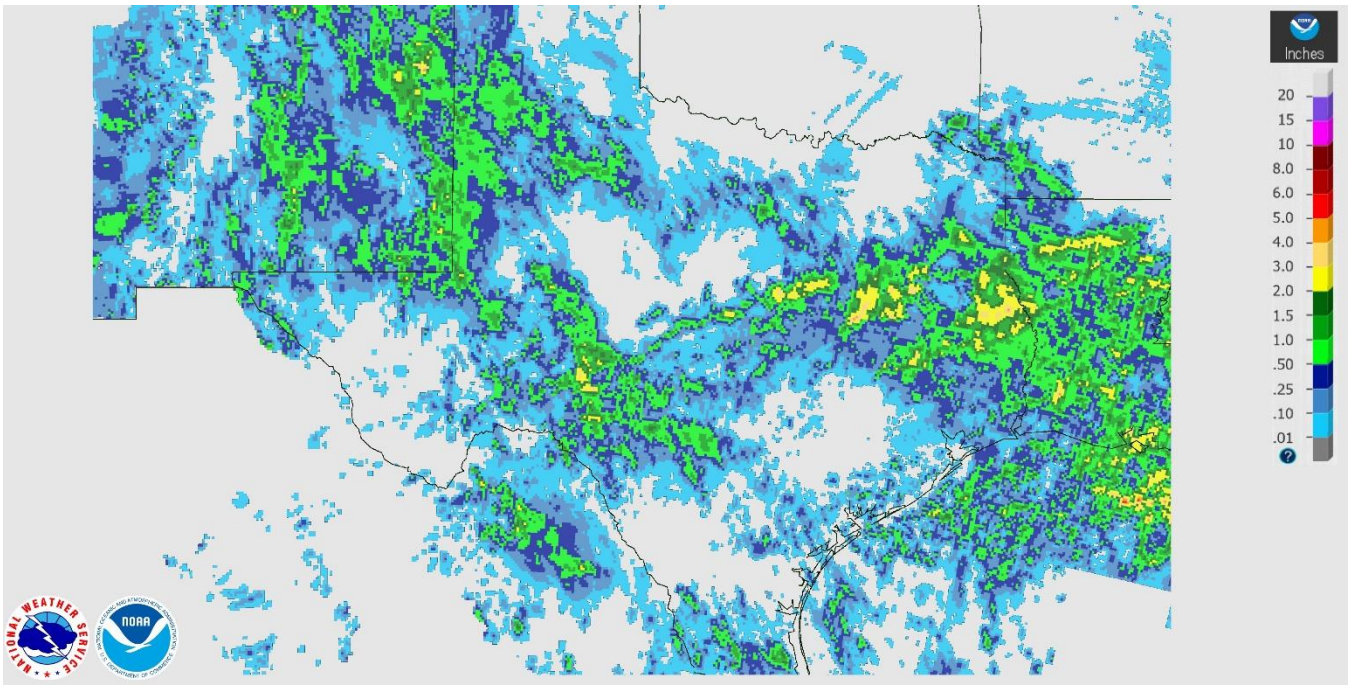
District	Subsoil Moisture Condition by District				Topsoil Moisture Condition by District				Days Suitable for Fieldwork
	Percentage of Acreage				Percentage of Acreage				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
11	19	39	42	0	46	46	8	0	6.5
12	76	21	3	0	68	29	3	0	6.8
21	46	46	8	0	48	47	5	0	7.0
22	59	38	3	0	64	36	0	0	6.8
30	72	28	0	0	77	23	0	0	6.6
40	68	29	3	0	73	24	3	0	6.9
51	51	39	9	1	58	37	4	1	7.0
52	70	30	0	0	68	32	0	0	6.5
60	3	41	49	7	3	41	49	7	6.2
70	90	9	1	0	91	6	3	0	6.8
81	64	26	10	0	73	22	5	0	6.6
82	50	50	0	0	75	25	0	0	7.0
90	73	25	2	0	78	20	2	0	6.2
96	31	28	40	1	30	32	37	1	6.6
97	7	83	10	0	81	17	2	0	7.0
State	54	33	13	0	63	32	5	0	6.7

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

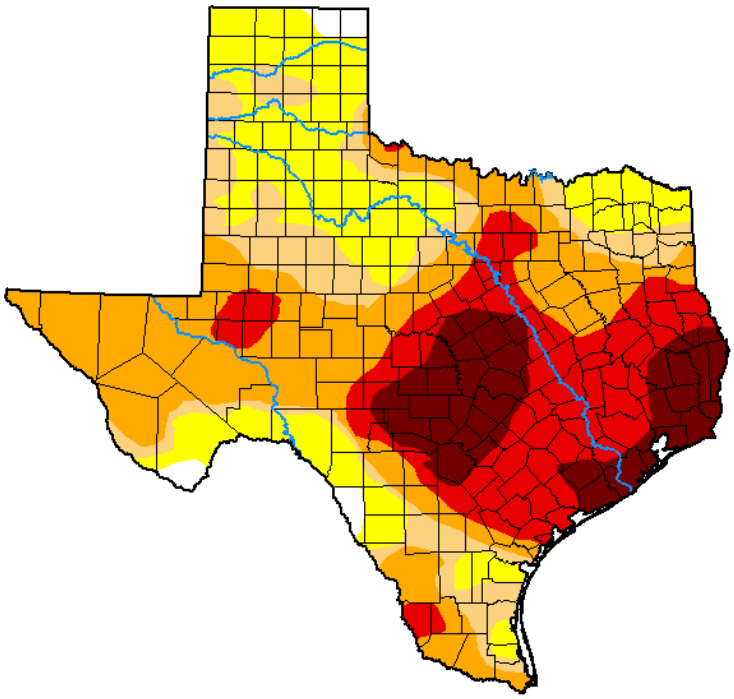


Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, September 03, 2023.



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

Drought Monitor, September 03, 2023.



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	1.55	98.45	75.83	61.41	32.33	12.64
Last Week *08-22-2023*	4.13	95.87	78.71	62.10	33.99	11.67
3 Months Ago *05-30-2023*	39.95	60.05	33.52	16.16	4.71	0.29
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 *08-30-2022*	9.53	90.47	76.03	52.48	26.38	5.28

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*