United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Texas Crop Progress and Condition

Southern Plains Regional Field Office
Post Office Box 70 Austin, Texas 78767
(800) 626-3142 · FAX (855) 270-2725 · www.nass.usda.gov/tx

Issue: TX-CW0824 **Weekly Summary for March 4 - March 10** **Released: March 11, 2024**

Early in the week seasonal temperatures allowed crops to progress. Cooler temperatures returned to the state later in the week. Rainfall ranged from trace amounts to 4.0 inches with the Blacklands and North East Texas receiving the most rain. Drought conditions ranged from none to extreme drought with areas in the Trans-Pecos and South Central districts being the driest. There was an average of 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork.

Small Grains: Mild weather conditions and scattered rainfall allowed small grains to progress in parts of the state, while other areas were in need of additional rainfall. In the Southern High Plains, some freeze damage was spotted on winter wheat. In the Blacklands, rust was found in some fields. In the Edwards Plateau, more rainfall was needed for the crop to continue to progress. In the southern part of the state, winter wheat continued to head out. Winter wheat headed reached 10 percent, down 10 points from the previous year. Oats headed reached 9 percent, down 15 points from the previous year.

Row Crops: Corn and sorghum planting continued to progress across the state as conditions were favorable for planting, as some early planted corn began emerging. In the Coastal Bend, Upper Coast, and Lower Valley, some producers began planting cotton. Corn planted reached 20 percent, down 7 points from the previous year. Sorghum planted reached 18 percent, unchanged from the previous year.

Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops: In the Edwards Plateau and South Central districts, pecan trees were budding out and producing some flowers, while orchards in the Trans-Pecos district were being prepared for irrigation. In South Texas, spring vegetable planting and spinach harvesting continued to progress.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: In parts of the state that received rainfall, pasture and range forages responded to adequate growing conditions, while other parts of the state were in need of additional rainfall. Pasture and range conditions were rated poor to fair. Some livestock producers continued supplemental feeding, while others were able to stop due adequate forage growth.

Crop Progress by Percent
For Week Ending March 10, 2024

Stage	Percentage of Acreage			
	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
Corn				
Planted	20	14	27	22
Sorghum				
Planted	18	9	18	18
Winter Wheat				
Headed	10	9	20	15
Oats				
Headed	9	8	24	16

Crop Condition by Percent
For Week Ending March 10, 2024

Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index [1]	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2024	2023
Wheat	4	40	30	17	9	63	44
Oats	4	15	47	20	14	53	46
Range and Pasture	1	11	33	37	18	41	33

[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.

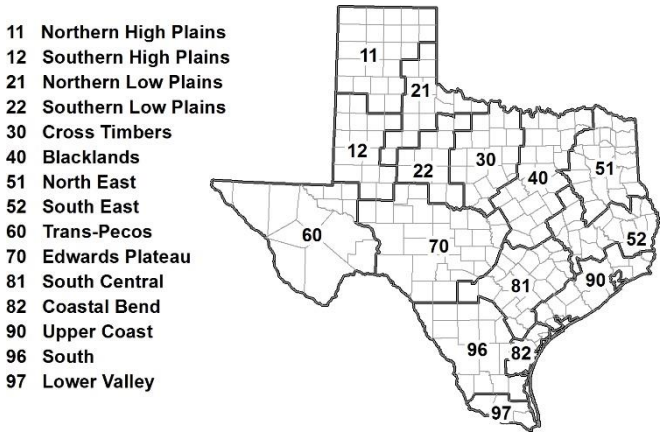
Texas Crop Progress and Condition (March 2024)
USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Southern Plains Regional Field Office

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable by District

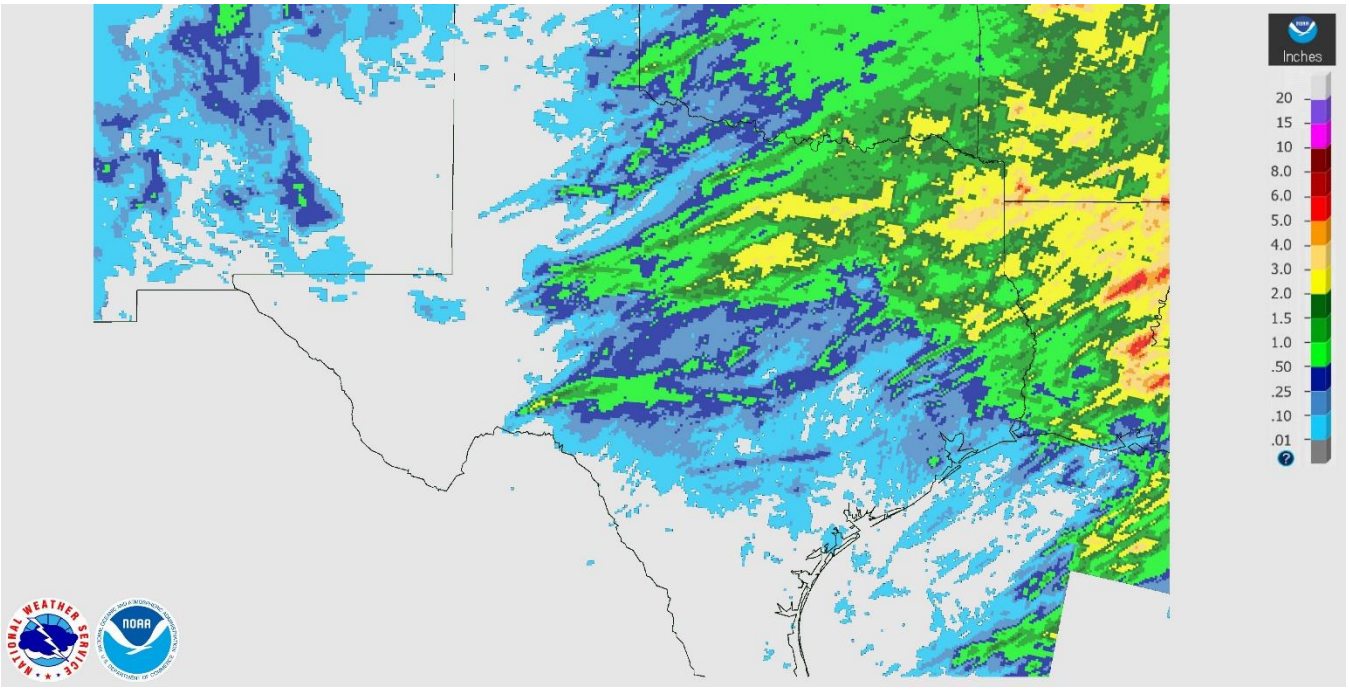
For Week Ending March 10, 2024

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	12	38	50	0	12	52	36	0	5.8
12	19	65	16	0	23	67	10	0	7.0
21	0	54	46	0	0	56	44	0	6.6
22	4	41	55	0	2	49	46	3	5.5
30	9	34	57	0	3	22	75	0	5.0
40	3	19	67	11	11	18	60	11	5.5
51	0	6	77	17	0	8	80	12	4.4
52	1	31	65	3	0	30	66	4	6.4
60	0	0	100	0	0	12	88	0	7.0
70	19	32	49	0	19	56	25	0	6.3
81	9	34	56	1	12	40	47	1	5.9
82	0	12	88	0	4	11	85	0	7.0
90	0	14	83	3	0	16	82	2	6.5
96	14	35	50	1	20	35	45	0	6.8
97	8	15	74	3	6	22	70	2	7.0
State	9	37	52	2	10	42	46	2	6.1

Texas Agricultural Districts

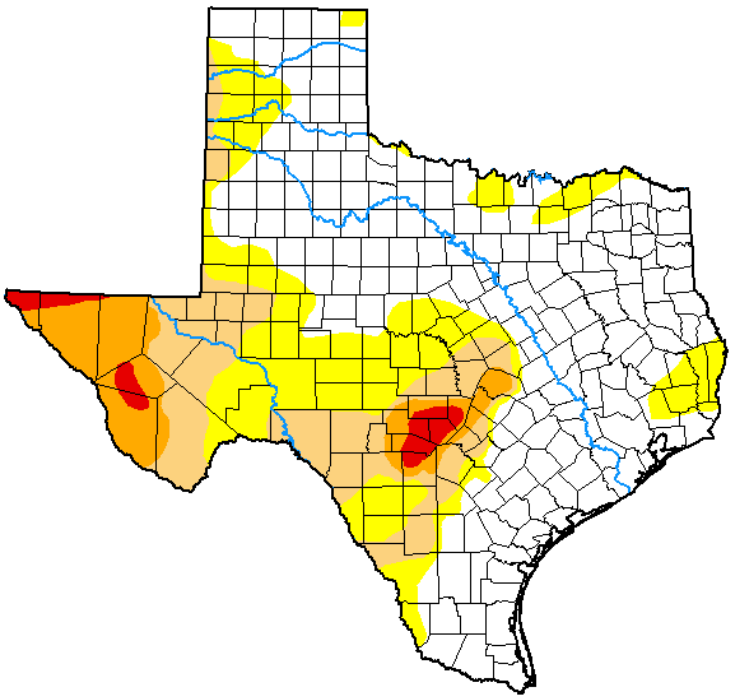


Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, March 10, 2024



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

Drought Monitor, Map Released: March 7, 2024



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	55.96	44.04	22.67	8.94	1.97	0.00
Last Week 02-27-2024	57.31	42.69	22.67	8.94	1.97	0.00
3 Months Ago 12-05-2023	33.88	66.12	42.99	18.14	6.38	0.86
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	39.60	60.40	39.47	17.78	5.68	0.68
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	3.03	96.97	80.64	59.66	38.06	12.68
One Year Ago 03-07-2023	20.52	79.48	64.01	35.54	13.41	1.84

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

Author:
Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

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