



## Texas Crop Progress and Condition

Southern Plains Regional Field Office  
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Issue: TX-CW1025

Weekly Summary for March 17 - March 23

Released: March 24, 2025

Note: This is a revised version.

Windy and dry days were affecting crop progress in most parts of the state. Rainfall ranged from trace amounts up to 2 inches, with the Upper Coast and South Central Texas districts receiving the most rain. Drought conditions ranged from none to exceptional drought with areas in the Trans-Pecos, the Edwards Plateau, and South Central Texas districts being the driest. There was an average of 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork.

**Small Grains:** In the Northern High Plains, the Cross Timbers, and the Edwards-Plateau, winter wheat was in need of moisture to continue progress. In the Southern Low Plains, some winter wheat was yellowing due to lack of moisture. In the Blacklands, strong winds were affecting the progress of winter wheat and oats. Winter wheat headed reached 17 percent, up 1 point from the previous year, but down 3 points from normal. Oats headed reached 17 percent, unchanged from the previous year, but down 4 points from normal.

**Row Crops:** In South Texas and South Central Texas districts, producers were planting corn and sorghum. In the Coastal Bend, producers paused corn and sorghum planting due to lack of moisture. In the Upper Coast, the Blacklands, and South Texas districts, corn was emerging. Corn planted reached 45 percent, up 1 point from the previous year, and up 2 points from normal. Corn emerged reached 23 percent, down 11 points from the previous year, but up 2 points from normal. Sorghum planted reached 37 percent, up 1 point from the previous year, and up 2 points from normal. Sorghum emerged reached 20 percent. In the Upper Coast and South Central Texas districts, producers were planting rice. Rice planted reached 36 percent, up 16 points from the previous year, and up 23 points from normal. In the Coastal Bend, the Upper Coast, and South Texas districts, producers were planting cotton.

**Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops:** In the Southern High Plains, producers were preparing to plant melons. In North East Texas district, fruit trees were blooming. Producers were irrigating pecan trees in the Trans-Pecos and citrus trees in the Lower Valley.

**Range and Pasture:** There were range fires in Northern High Plains, North East Texas, and South East Texas districts. More moisture was needed to support the greening of pastures across the state. Producers continued supplemental feeding of livestock. Pasture and range conditions were rated at 71 percent, very poor to poor.

**New Feature:** A root zone soil moisture map for the week ending March 16, 2025, one week prior to the current Crop Progress and Condition report, is now available on the following page.

The Soil Moisture Active Passive (SMAP) provides measurements of soil moisture in the root zone as a weekly average, represented by pixels. Each pixel represents 9 by 9 kilometer plot or about 20,000 acres. The SMAP data measures soil moisture in cubic centimeters of water/cubic centimeters of soil. The scale represents the percent of water in a given volume of soil. More information and additional mapping is available on Crop-CASMA at <https://cloud.csiss.gmu.edu/Crop-CASMA/>.

Please provide any feedback or suggestions for this new feature of the Crop Progress and Condition report to Karla Lester by emailing [Karla.Lester@usda.gov](mailto:Karla.Lester@usda.gov) or calling (512) 501-3200.

**Crop Progress by Percent  
For Week Ending March 23, 2025**

Stage	Percentage of Acreage			
	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
<b>Corn</b>				
Planted	45	32	44	43
Emerged	23	(NA)	34	22
<b>Rice</b>				
Planted	36	(NA)	20	13
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Planted	37	26	36	35
Emerged	20	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Headed	17	15	16	20
<b>Oats</b>				
Headed	17	14	17	21

(NA) Not available.

**Crop Condition by Percent  
For Week Ending March 23, 2025**

Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index <sup>1</sup>	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2025	2024
Winter Wheat	5	26	32	26	11	55	72
Oats	1	9	25	28	37	33	61
Range and Pasture	1	7	21	32	39	30	49

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

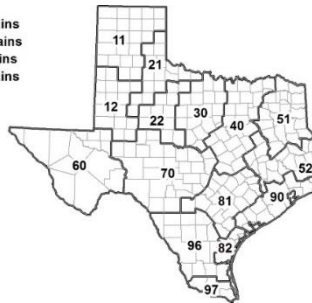
**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable by District  
For Week Ending March 23, 2025**

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	14	54	32	0	17	70	13	0	4.6
12	66	31	3	0	63	31	6	0	4.5
21	32	62	6	0	30	50	20	0	5.0
22	55	38	7	0	65	29	6	0	5.9
30	17	46	37	0	25	40	35	0	6.1
40	17	41	39	3	15	44	38	3	6.3
51	0	18	77	5	1	35	57	7	6.6
52	4	23	66	7	4	34	49	13	6.2
60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
70	60	38	2	0	79	19	2	0	5.5
81	41	41	15	3	34	37	26	3	6.3
82	42	54	4	0	42	54	4	0	5.9
90	3	12	82	3	6	29	63	2	6.8
96	52	45	3	0	54	42	4	0	6.6
97	25	42	33	0	40	60	0	0	5.4
State	32	41	26	1	34	44	21	1	5.4

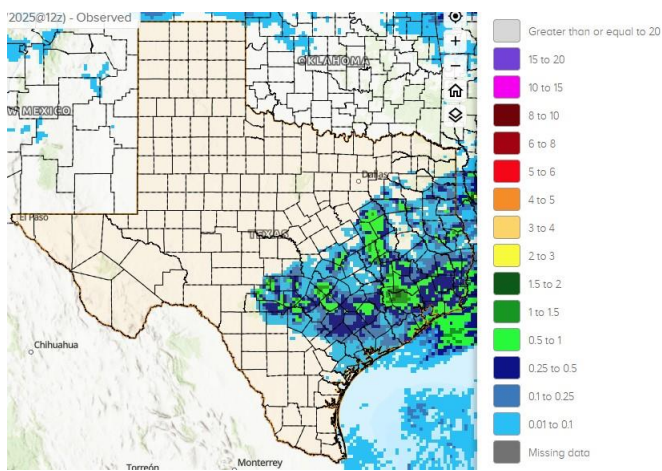
- Represents unpublished data due to lack of usable reports.

**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

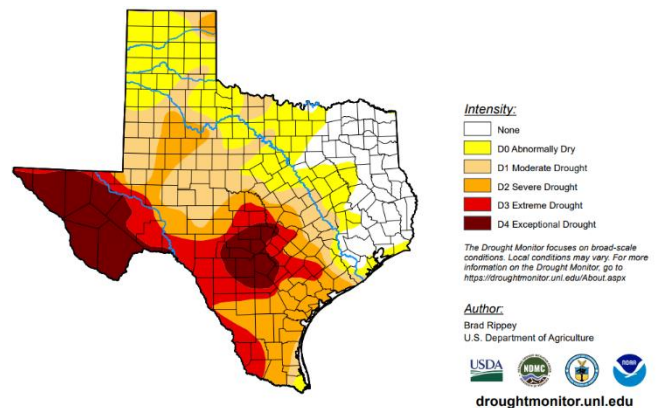


**Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, March 23, 2025**



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

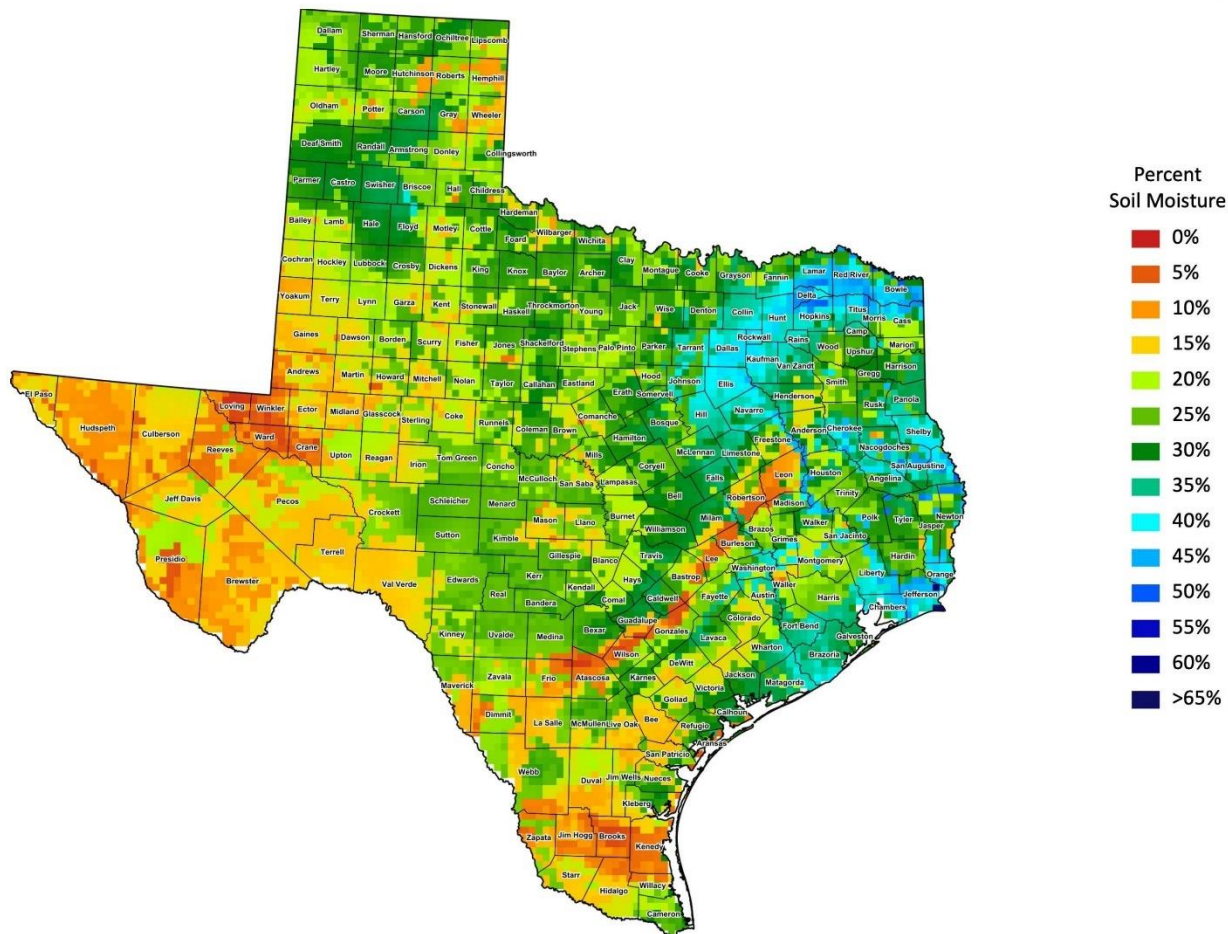
**Drought Monitor, Map Released: March 20, 2025**



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



## Texas Root Zone Soil Moisture: Week Ending March 16, 2025



The Soil Moisture Active Passive (SMAP) provides measurements of soil moisture in the root zone as a weekly average, represented by pixels. Each pixel represents 9 by 9 kilometer plot or about 20,000 acres. The SMAP data measures soil moisture in cubic centimeters of water/cubic centimeters of soil. The scale represents the percent of water in a given volume of soil. More information and additional mapping is available on Crop-CASMA at <https://cloud.csiss.gmu.edu/Crop-CASMA/>.