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-CW1424 **Weekly Summary for April 15 - April 21** **Released: April 22, 2024**

Note: This is a revised version.

Crops progress continued to improve despite some dry and windy conditions. Rainfall ranged from trace amounts to 6 inches, with the Blacklands, North East Texas, and South East Texas receiving the most rain. Drought conditions ranged from none to extreme drought with areas in the Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau being the driest. There was an average of 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork.

Small Grains: Winter wheat and oats progress remained steady. In the Blacklands, the Cross Timbers, and South East Texas, winter wheat continued to head out. Leaf rust and hot spots were reported in the northern portion of the state. Some producers throughout the state were cutting wheat for hay, while more rain was needed in the Edwards Plateau and the Coastal Bend. Winter wheat headed reached 50 percent, up 2 points from the previous year. Oats headed reached 66 percent, up 2 points from the previous year.

Row Crops: Row crop producers across the state were making good headway on plantings. In the Blacklands and South Central Texas, some corn fields were emerging. Corn planted reached 68 percent, down 2 points from the previous year. Corn emerged reached 55 percent, down 4 points from the previous year. Sorghum planting was underway in the Southern Low Plains. In the Blacklands, some sorghum producers were holding off on planting sorghum due to recent rainfall. Sorghum was emerging in South Central Texas and the Edwards Plateau. Sorghum planted reached 60 percent, unchanged from the previous year. Sorghum emerged reached 6 percent, up 6 points from the previous year. In the Northern High Plains and the Edwards Plateau, cotton producers were busy preparing their fields for planting. Cotton planted reached 16 percent, down 1 point from the previous year. In the Upper Coast, rice planting continued as some began to emerge. Rice planted reached 72 percent, up 3 points from the previous year. Rice emerged reached 56 percent, up 3 points from the previous year.

Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops: In the Lower Valley, vegetables and citrus trees were being irrigated. Watermelons were growing well in the Southern High Plains and the Lower Valley. Peach trees were setting fruit in the Cross Timbers. Pecan trees were showing signs of flowering and pollination. In South Texas, some strawberries were harvested.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Pastures remained in good condition. Dry and windy conditions began to affect forages in parts of the state, while other areas continued to green up from additional rainfall. Pasture and range conditions were rated good to very poor. Livestock producers continued supplemental feeding.

Crop Progress by Percent
For Week Ending April 21, 2024

Stage	Percentage of Acreage			
	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
Corn				
Planted	68	63	70	65
Emerged	55	50	59	52
Cotton				
Planted	16	13	17	16
Rice				
Planted	72	63	69	75
Emerged	56	42	53	58
Sorghum				
Planted	60	51	60	60
Emerged	6	5	(NA)	8
Winter Wheat				
Headed	50	40	48	47
Oats				
Headed	66	53	68	64

(NA) Not available.

Crop Condition by Percent
For Week Ending April 21, 2024

Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index [1]	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2024	2023
Corn	15	40	33	9	3	75	81
Wheat	7	39	33	13	8	66	42
Oats	5	28	45	14	8	61	42
Range and Pasture	5	22	33	18	22	50	40

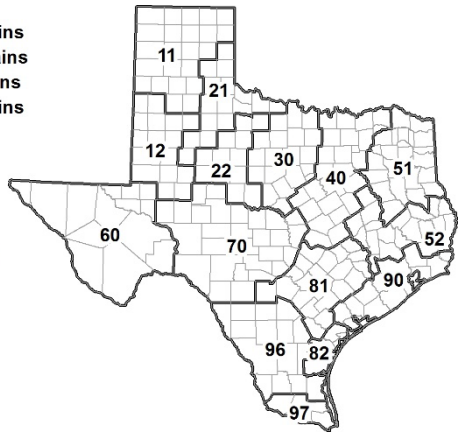
[1] The formula for the condition index is I = (5V + 25P + 60F + 90G + 110E)/100 where I = crop condition index and V, P, F, G, E = percentage of crop rated very poor, poor, fair, good, excellent.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable by District
For Week Ending April 21, 2024

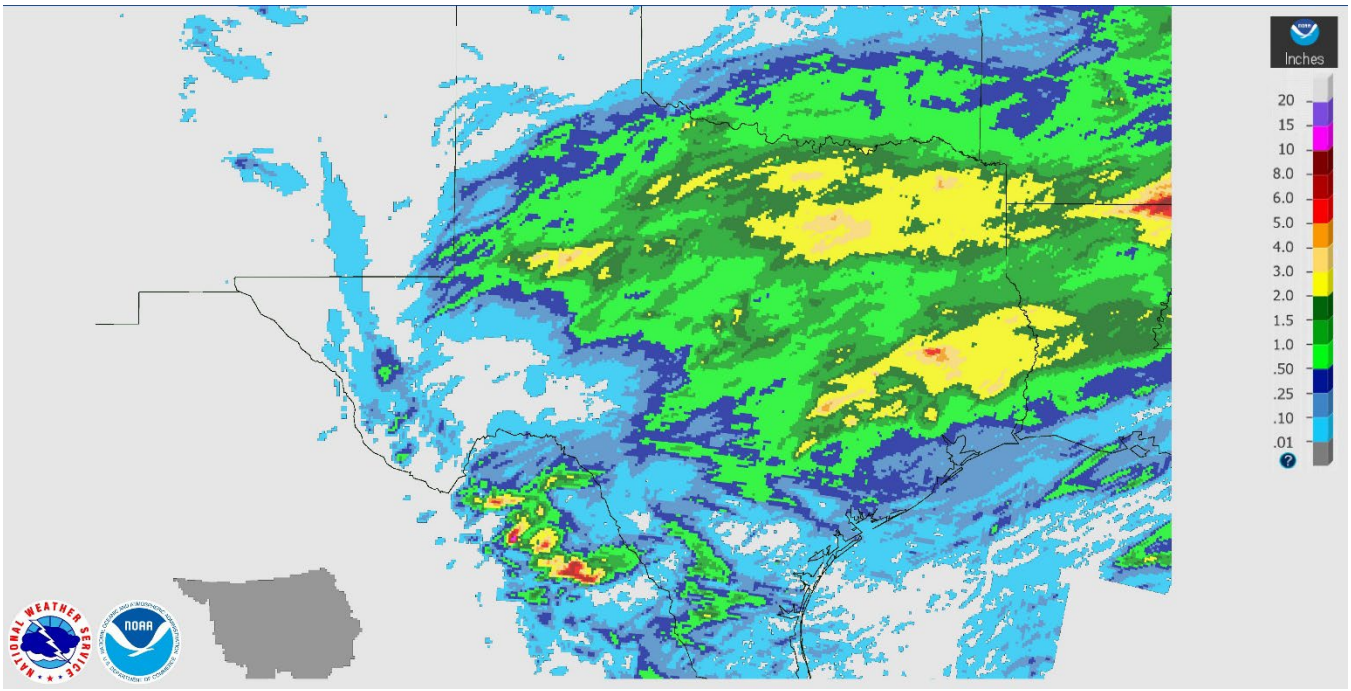
District	Subsoil Moisture Condition by District				Topsoil Moisture Condition by District				Days Suitable for Fieldwork
	Percentage of Acreage				Percentage of Acreage				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
11	10	33	55	2	12	48	39	1	5.7
12	42	22	32	4	41	21	28	10	5.4
21	1	60	39	0	1	44	55	0	5.9
22	0	34	60	6	0	20	74	6	5.3
30	5	23	67	5	1	12	65	22	5.4
40	1	8	51	40	1	2	55	42	4.5
51	1	1	61	37	1	1	61	37	5.4
52	0	23	58	19	0	18	64	18	5.6
60	20	69	10	1	20	69	10	1	4.0
70	36	53	11	0	50	39	11	0	5.2
81	0	36	60	4	4	27	64	5	6.2
82	10	15	72	3	10	13	71	6	5.5
90	2	28	63	7	4	29	58	9	5.7
96	12	33	54	1	13	31	55	1	6.5
97	14	41	45	0	33	40	27	0	5.4
State	13	28	50	9	14	27	47	12	5.4

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

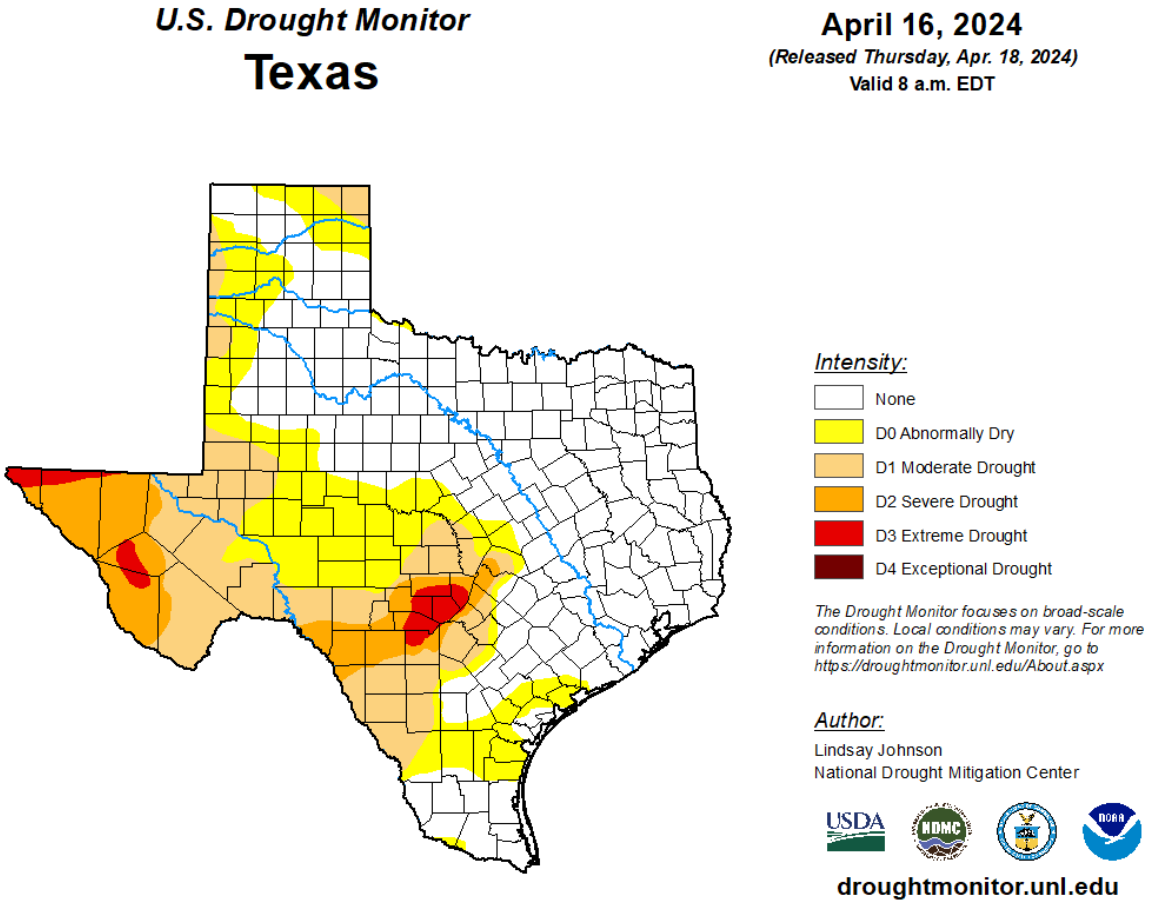


Seven Day Observed Regional Precipitation, April 21, 2024



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

Drought Monitor, Map Released: April 18, 2024



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