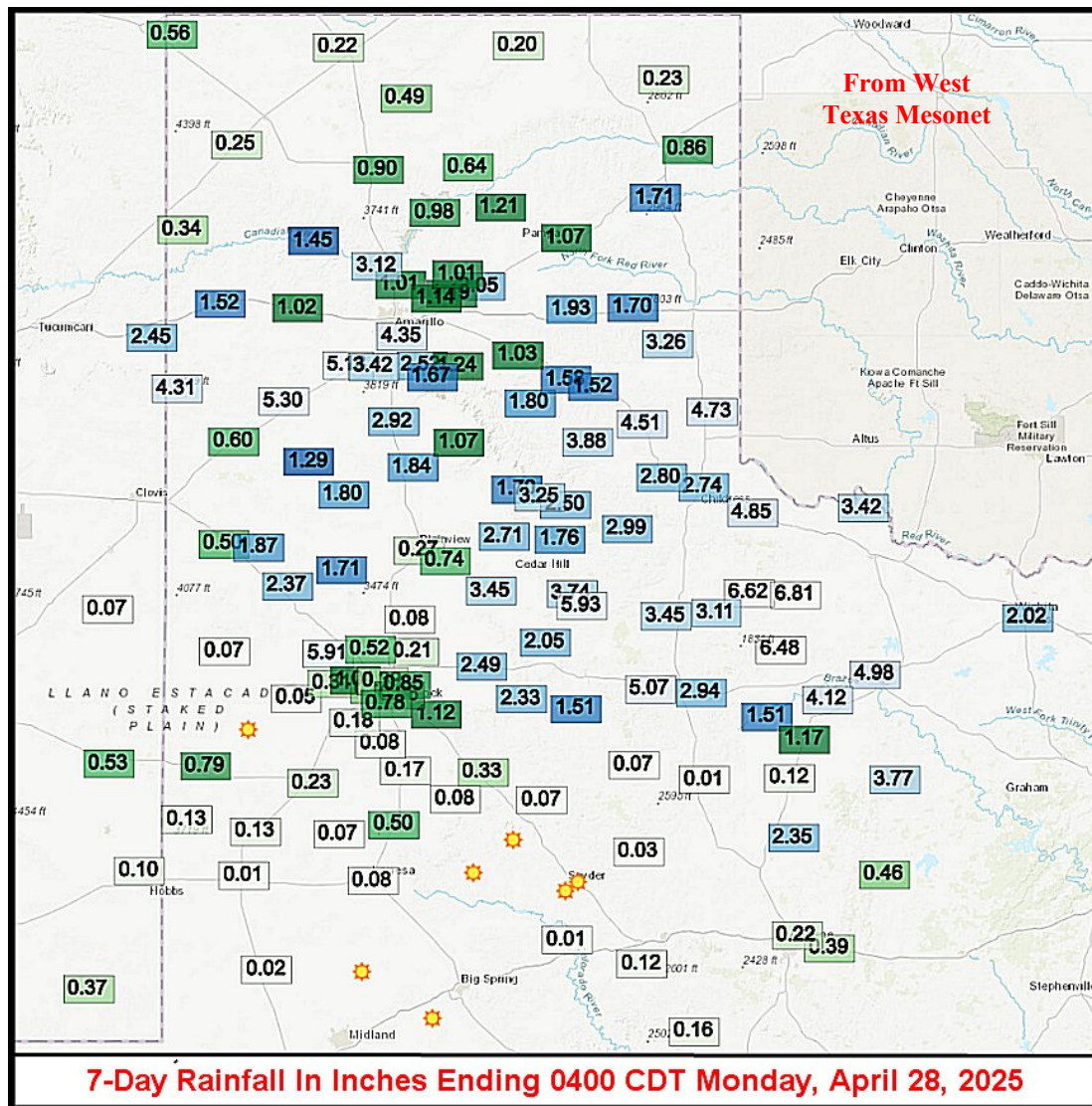


Parts of Texas Panhandle, Rolling Plains Get Significant Rain

By Drew Lerner

Kansas City, April 28 (World Weather Inc.) – Another round of rain fell across the Texas Panhandle, the Rolling Plains and northern portions of West Texas during the Friday through Sunday period. Some of the rain was heavier than expected bringing seven-day rain totals in the 4.00 to 6.81-inch range in several areas and 1.00 to 3.00 inches in others. The moisture has greatly improved spring planting prospects for corn, sorghum and cotton in the wetter areas, although many other locations in West Texas and the northern Texas Panhandle still have need for greater moisture.



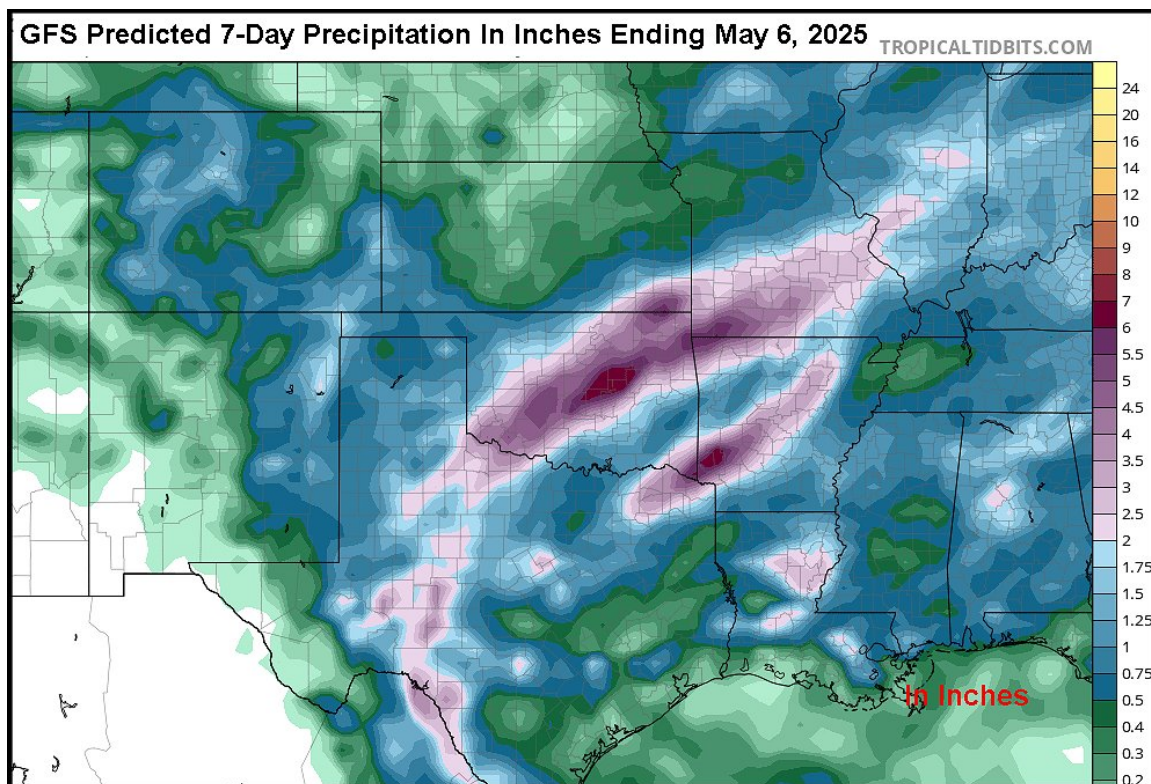
Some impressive weekend rain totals occurred in various counties in central and southern parts of the Texas Panhandle and in some northern counties of West Texas. Some weekend rain totals in central and southern parts of the Panhandle ranged from 1.00 to 3.00 inches with several totals of 3.00 to 5.30 inches. Lighter rain fell to the south and southeast, although some of the counties in northern West Texas and especially the Rolling Plains had

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reported significant rain during the latter part of last week. The combined weekly rain totals have been most significant from the southeastern Texas Panhandle into a part of the Rolling Plains where 2.74 to more than 6.00 inches occurred through 0400 CDT today. Crowell, Texas reported 6.81 inches while Anton, received 5.91 inches. Guthrie Pitchfork recorded 5.07 inches. Areas from southwestern Amarillo to Hereford, Texas was one of the greatest impacted areas of the weekend with 2.50 to 5.30 inches resulting in some local flooding.

Outside of the Rolling Plains and the Texas Panhandle, Anton, Texas reported an unconfirmed 5.91 inches of rain which may not be an accurate rain amount. Other northern counties of West Texas received 1.00 to 3.74 inches of rain during the past week. Rain in the remainder of the high Plains region of West Texas was not much more than 0.50 inch with the southwestern dryland production areas failing to get much meaningful rain. Plains Texas was the only location in the southern High Plains receiving more than 0.50 inch of moisture with its total reaching 0.79 inch. Many areas in the far south were dry.

Northern portions of the Low Plains in West Texas reported 1.00 to 3.45 inches, although Roaring Springs reported 5.93 inches.

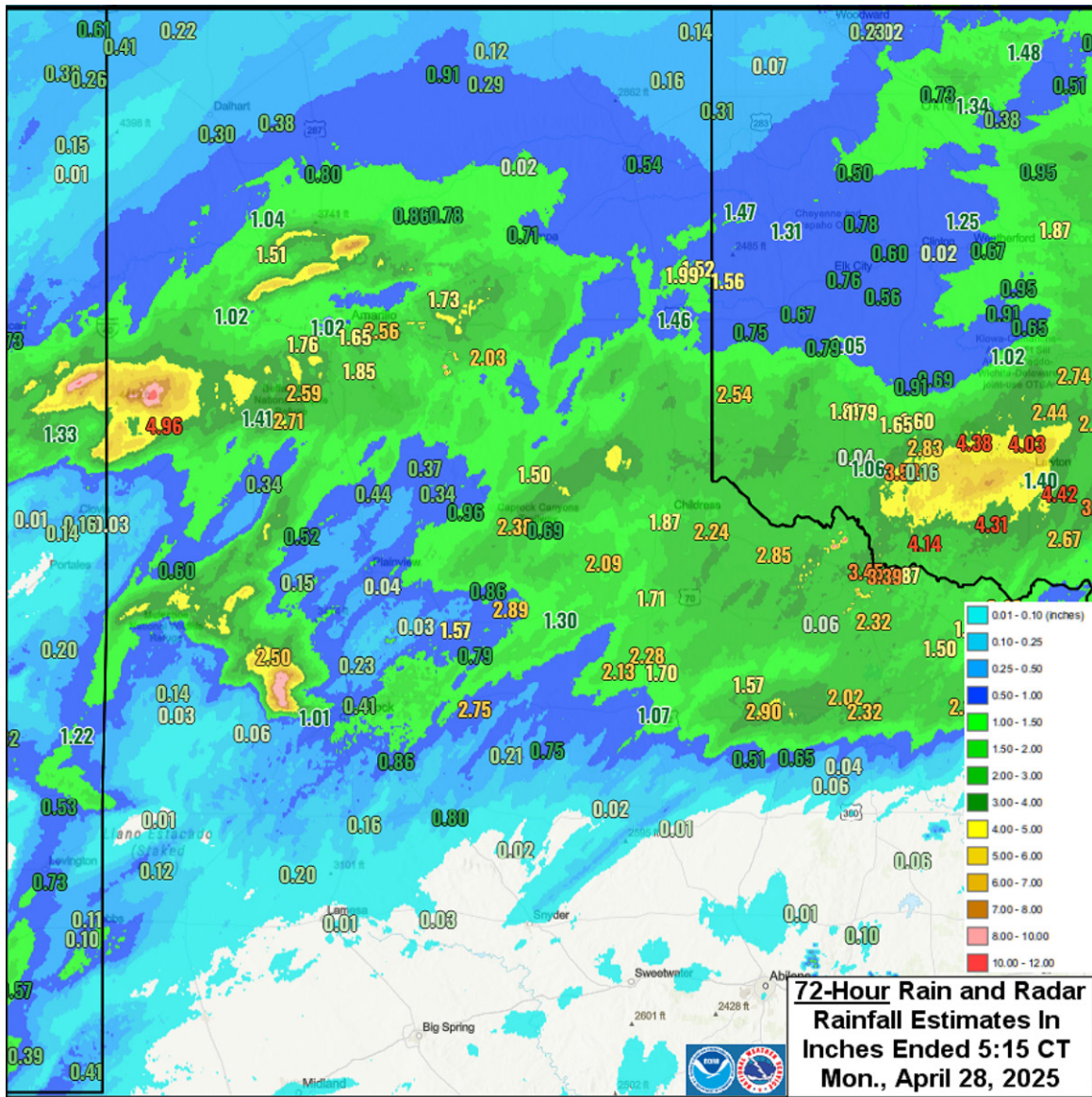


Additional rain is predicted for West Texas cotton, sorghum, corn and wheat production areas during the coming week. Most of the additional rain will vary from 0.40 to 1.50 inches in the high Plains region and 1.00 to 3.00 inches in the Low Plains while the Rolling Plains and southwestern Oklahoma get another 2.00 to more than 4.00 inches of rain.

All of this rain in West Texas and the southwestern U.S. Plains is improving both short and long term moisture conditions. The outlook for dryland planting in many areas has improved greatly for this spring and that trend of improvement should continue into the first week of May. A short term break in the precipitation is then likely before more precipitation

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falls later in the first half of May. *Temperatures are expected to be near to below normal over the next two weeks and that will help conserve the moisture that falls allowing it to soak deeply into the soil.*



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